

Study of new protein ingredients for the development of new plant-based products (PROVEG)

Summary

Growing consumer interest in **health, sustainability and ethics** is driving the increase in popularity of **plant-based products** and ingredients. As a result, in recent years, a large number of **alternatives to animal-origin food products** have appeared in various formats, mainly in response to **meat analogues** and more recently, in its early stages, to **other products such as cheese and dairy products**.

The result of this growing interest is the emergence of **new players** and new companies entering the food market, positioning themselves as creators of new proteins, supporting or financing new initiatives. Among the **producers of new proteins** are those that use cell cultures, those that are plant-based (mostly used to obtain products similar to meat, eggs and seafood); those **that produce products from mushrooms and fungi**; and, those **that produce plant-based raw materials for further processing**.

The **PROVEG project will study several plant-based protein ingredients made by companies in the consortium using mushrooms and nuts**, among other sources of plant-based protein from other suppliers.

Objectives

The main objective of the **PROVEG project is to identify new sources of plant protein and characterise their technological behaviour for develop new plant-based foods**. This approach will contribute to the competitiveness of companies and cluster partners through the transfer of research results and the promotion of partnerships between companies and knowledge centres.

Description of the actions planned in the project

The activities planned during the project are:

ACTIVITY 1. Identifying new plant protein sources

ACTIVITY 2. Characterising the selected plant proteins

ACTIVITY 3. Developing new food products based on different plant proteins and/or their combinations

Expected results and practical recommendations

The expected results of the project are:

- Identification of plant-based protein ingredients and their applicability in food matrices
- Optimisation and improvement of a meat analogue
- Development of vegetable spreads
- Development of a cheese analogue
- Development of fermented vegetable desserts

Leader of the Operational Group

ORGANISATION: EMBOTITS SALGOT, SA

Coordinator of the Operational Group

ORGANISATION: INNOVACC CATALAN MEAT AND ALTERNATIVE PROTEIN CLUSTER

Other members of the Operational Group (grant recipients)

ORGANISATION: BETARA, SL

ORGANISATION: BORGES AGRICULTURAL & INDUSTRIAL NUTS, SA

ORGANISATION: LA FAGEDA FOUNDATION

Other members of the Operational Group (not recipients of the grant)

ORGANISATION: EURECAT FOUNDATION

Subject area(s) of application

- Agricultural production system
- Agricultural practice
- Agricultural equipment and machinery
- Livestock farming and animal welfare
- Vegetable production and horticulture
- Landscape / Territorial management
- Pest and disease control
- Fertilisation and nutrient management
- Soil management
- Genetic resources
- Forestry
- Water management
- Climate and Climate Change
- Energy management
- Waste and by-product management
- Biodiversity and environmental management
- Food quality/processing and nutrition
- Supply chain, marketing and consumption
- Competitiveness and agricultural and forestry diversification
- General

Geographical area(s) of application

PROVINCE(S)	REGION(S)
BARCELONA	Vallès Oriental
GIRONA	Osona
TARRAGONA	Garrotxa
	Baix Camp

Dissemination of the project (publications, conferences, multimedia, etc.)

<https://www.innovacc.cat/2022/07/27/7-projectes-aprovats-de-la-linia-grups-operatius-2021-projectes-amb-ajut-dacc/>

Project website

<https://www.innovacc.cat/2022/07/27/7-projectes-aprovats-de-la-linia-grups-operatius-2021-projectes-amb-ajut-dacc/>

More information on the project

PROJECT DATES	TOTAL BUDGET
Starting date: July 2021	Total budget: €240,745.08
	DACC funding: €111,333.24
Current status: Under way	EU funding: €83,988.24
	Own funding: €45,423.60

With funding from:

Project funded through Operation 16.01.01 (Cooperation for Innovation) through the Catalan Rural Development Programme 2014-2022.

Order ARP/113/2021 of 20 May, approving the regulatory bases for grants for cooperation for innovation by promoting the creation of European Association for Innovation operational groups in the areas of agricultural productivity and sustainability and the execution of innovative pilot projects by those groups, and Resolution ACC/1660/2021, of 27 May, announcing the call for the grant.



Fons Europeu Agrícola
de Desenvolupament Rural:
Europa inverteix en les zones rurals