

SPECIALTY FOOD INGREDIENTS: INNOVATING TO MEET CONSUMER NEEDS

specialtyfoodingredients.eu

Delivering nutritional, technological and health benefits, specialty food ingredients play a key role in the creation of safe, nutritious, tasty and convenient food and drink products. The world is facing multiple issues, from feeding a growing population in a sustainable way to tackling public health concerns, as well as meeting individual nutritional needs and dietary choices.

Therefore, a continued focus on science-driven innovation is necessary in order to find solutions to the challenges of today and tomorrow.

Change towards achieving sustainable and resilient food systems must be based on a holistic and systemic approach, and underpinned by research and innovation.¹

¹ Draft Council Conclusions on the EU's priorities for the 2021 United Nations Food Systems Summit

FACTS AND FIGURES ON RESEARCH & INNOVATION



EUR 40 BILLION

The annual turnover of the EU ingredients industry



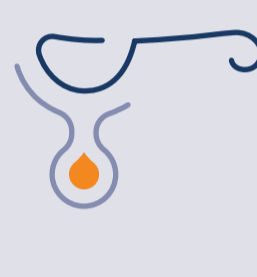
3-8%

The amount of this turnover reinvested in research and development



1-3 YEARS

The average time required to create a new formulation of an existing ingredient



4-10 YEARS

The typical research & development time for a food product

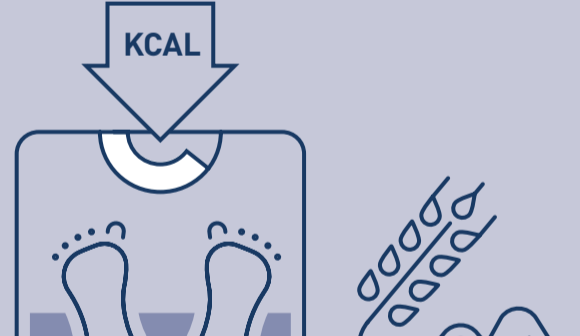
FOOD REFORMULATION & PROCESSING



= taste, texture, appearance

CONSUMER DEMANDS ARE VARIED AND EVOLVING. TASTE WILL ALWAYS BE KING BUT THESE KEY TRENDS DRIVE FOOD INNOVATION:

HEALTH & CALORIE REDUCTION



Consumers look out for products that...

- contain less sugar, fat and salt
- deliver more fibre
- are fortified with health supporting ingredients

How specialty food ingredients address these needs

With innovative solutions and technological expertise, our industry supports food and drink manufacturers in creating great-tasting, healthier products. For more information, check out this [infographic](#).

SUSTAINABILITY & FAIRNESS



Consumers look out for products that...

- are sourced and manufactured in a sustainable way
- have a transparent value chain
- contribute to reducing food waste and to circular economy

How specialty food ingredients address these needs

Our industry is on a sustainability journey, contributing to a sustainable future for people, the planet and business. For more information, check out this [infographic](#).

CONVENIENCE



Consumers look out for products that...

- are quick and easy to prepare at home
- can be kept in the cupboard, fridge or freezer
- have a long shelf life
- are ready-to-eat or drink
- are designed for on-the-go consumption

How specialty food ingredients address these needs

Specialty food ingredients allow for the large-scale processing of convenient food & drink products that suit consumer lifestyles and are:

- safe
- tasty & visually appealing
- affordable & varied
- wholesome & nutritious

FRAMEWORK FOR SUSTAINING INNOVATION

The ingredients industry is a trusted partner that helps manufacturers to innovate and bring healthier, more sustainable food & drink products to market.

It is therefore essential to have:

- rules and laws promoting innovation
- policies that are based on scientific evidence
- transparency and education to build consumer trust in ingredients, food processing and the science underpinning it