



## **Farmed insects to create a circular bio-economy in the food and feed industry**

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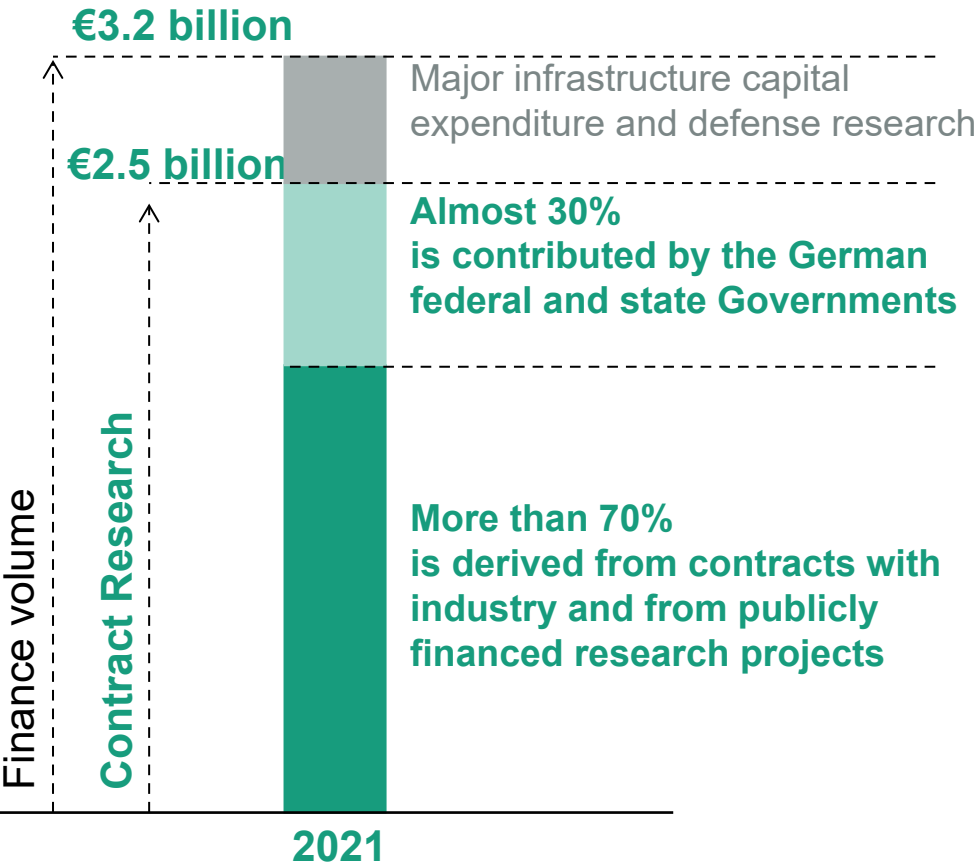
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30,000 staff



76 institutes and research units



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Fraunhofer Patents	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Active patent families *	6573	6762	6695	6874	7050
Invention disclosures reports p.a.	670	798	756	734	733
Patent applications p.a.	506	608	602	612	623

\* Portfolio of active rights (patents and utility models) and patent applications at year end.

2019: Fraunhofer was  
**Nr. 18** of the most active **patent applicants** and  
**Nr. 7** of the most active **trade mark registrations**  
*at the German Patent and Trade Mark Office*



2019: Fraunhofer was  
**No. 32** of the most active **patent applicants**  
*at the European Patent and Trade Mark Office*



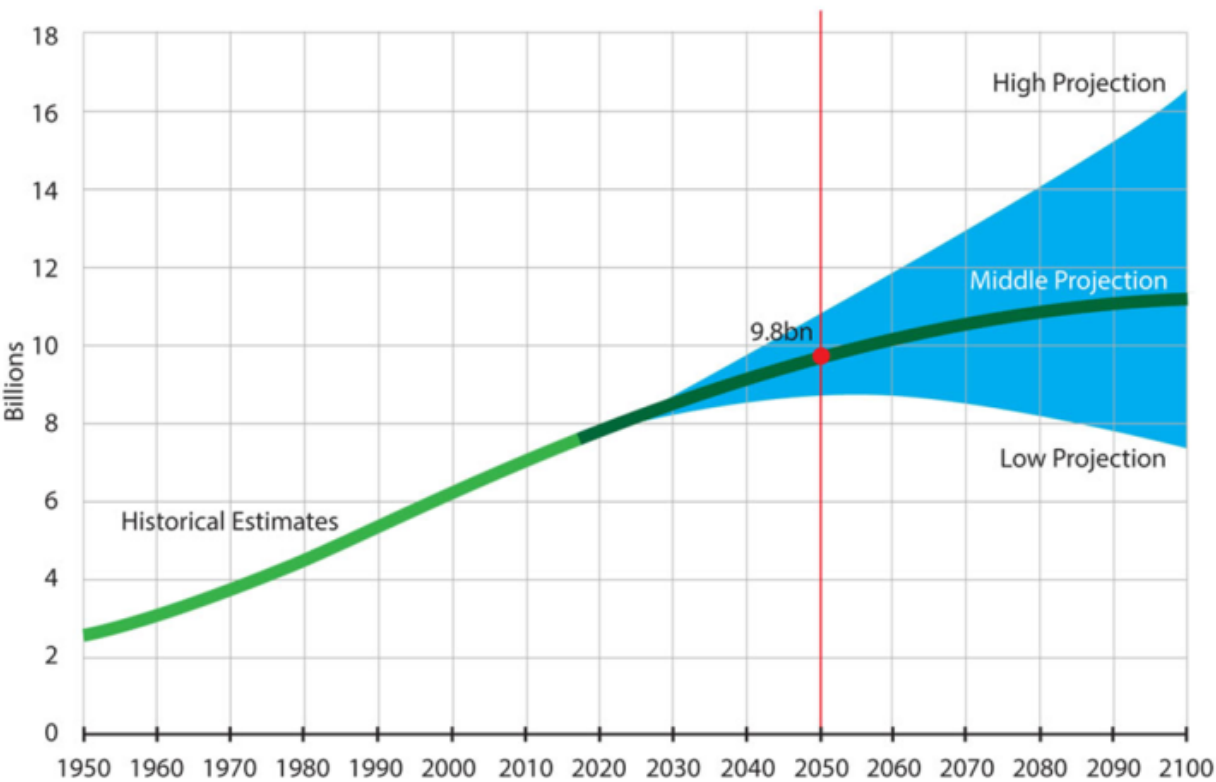
2020: Fraunhofer has been awarded as **Top 100 Global Innovator** for the years  
2014-2020 *according to Clarivate Analytics / Thomson Reuters*





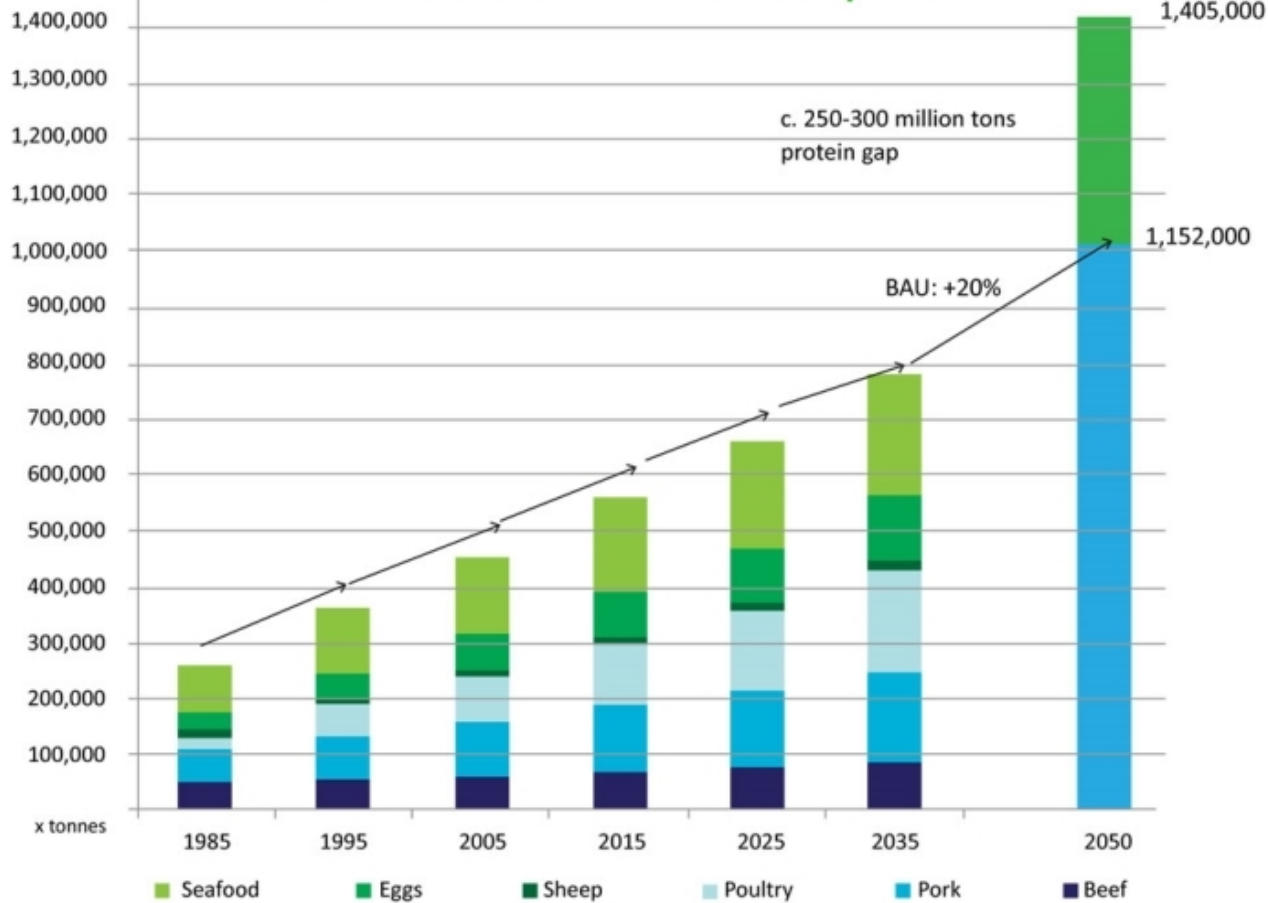
# The projected world population demands increasing animal protein supply

Projected World Population



Data Source: United Nations, "World Population Prospects: 2015 Revision"

Global demand for animal protein



Data Source: Rabobank analysis, FAO, OECD, FAPRI, 2016



# The Black soldier fly as the economically most important species in insect farming

- Insects such as the Black soldier fly are world-wide used for the bioconversion of organic side streams into protein, lipids and chitin.
- Insect farming is an environmentally sustainable alternative to address the rapidly growing demand for animal-protein.

Resources needed for 1000 kg protein production

	Cattle	Pigs	Broilers	Plant protein*	Insects**
Area needed	7,000 m <sup>2</sup>	3,000 m <sup>2</sup>	2,000 m <sup>2</sup>	4,000 m <sup>2</sup>	< 0 m <sup>2</sup>
Water needed	17,000 m <sup>3</sup>	5,500 m <sup>3</sup>	3,800 m <sup>3</sup>	2,500 m <sup>3</sup>	< 0 m <sup>3</sup>

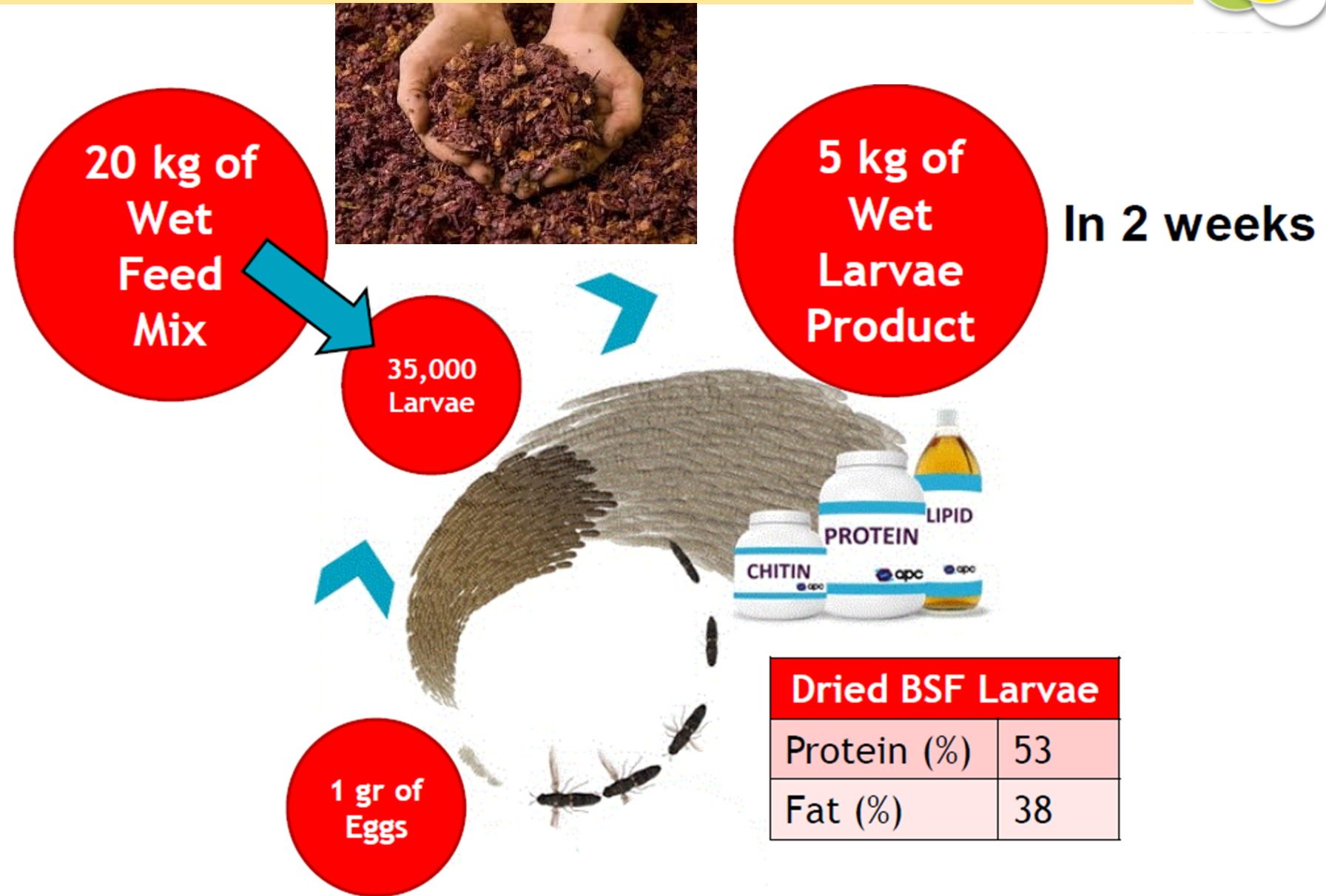
\* Soybean

\*\* Waste as feed





# Bioconversion with Black Soldier Fly



# Farmed insects to create a circular bio-economy in the food and feed industry



## Challenges in industrial production of insects

- Large-scale availability of insect feed
- How to prevent the outbreak of diseases?
- Optimization of industrial processes
- Economic competitiveness

## Integration of insect farming in the Controlled Environment Agriculture (CEA)

- Insect feed in sustainable crustacean aquaculture
- Insect feed in animal nutrition
- Insects as a missing link in the circular bio-economy of the food and feed industry
- Insect farming in Controlled Environment Agriculture





# Insects as a source of alternative Proteins: reduce costs

- Utilization of agricultural or industrial sides streams
- Large quantities with defined quality
- Challenge: seasonal availability
- EU-regulations
- Detoxification of side streams
- Diet mixtures for optimized growth of farmed insects



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apple pomace



cocoa bean shell



depectinised  
apple pomace





# Empty fruit bunches of the palm oil industry as a diet for BSF

- The palm oil industry of Malaysia produces app. 25 mio. tons and that of Indonesia 40 mio. tons of EFB per year
- This industrial waste, which is burned or used for land filling, causes tremendous environmental pollution
- The decay of empty fruit bunches results in methane production promoting climate change





# Empty fruit bunches of the palm oil industry as a diet for BSF

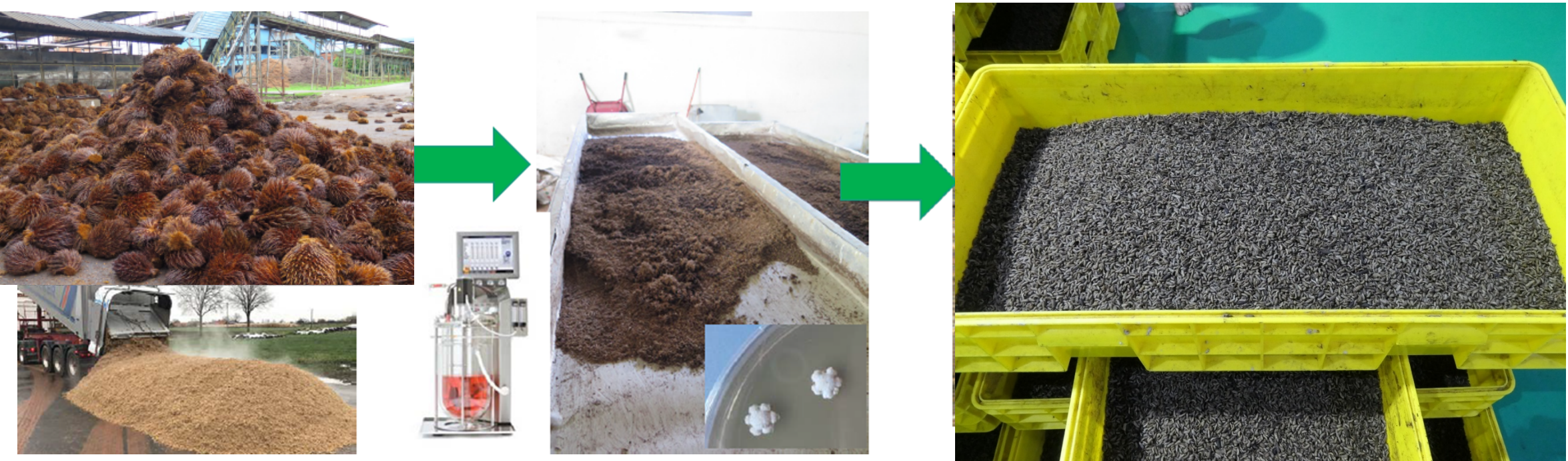
- The palm oil industry of Malaysia produces app. 25 mio. tons and that of Indonesia 40 mio. tons of EFB per year
- This industrial waste, which is burned or used for land filling, causes tremendous environmental pollution
- The decay of empty fruit bunches results in methane production promoting climate change





# Bioconversion of empty fruit bunches into Black Soldier fly diet

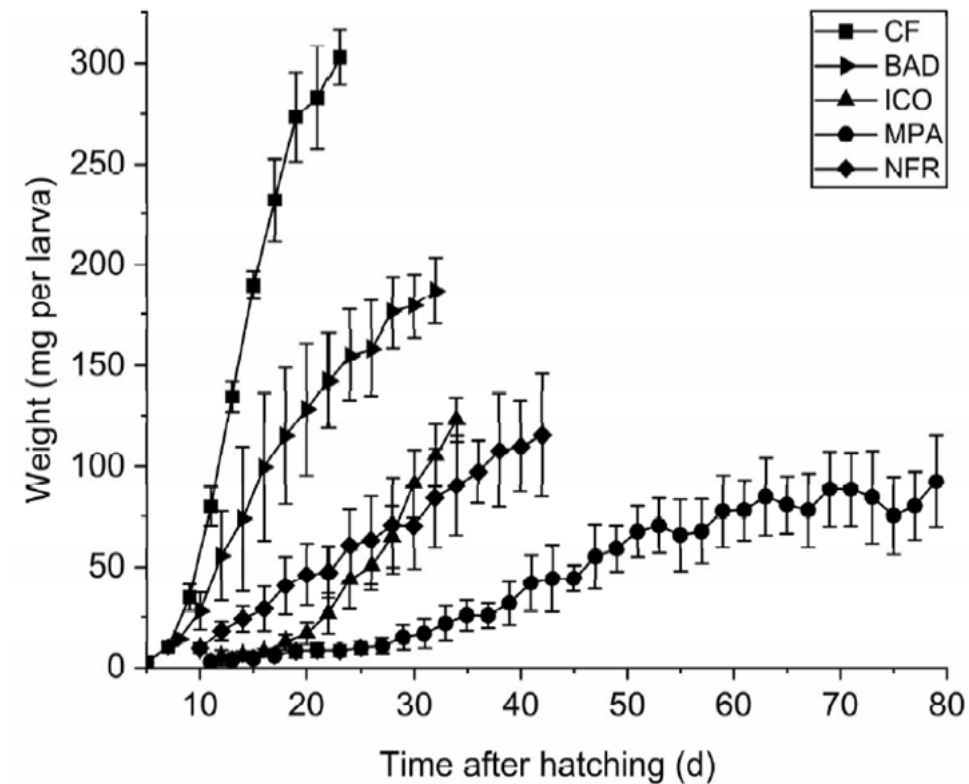
- Fraunhofer-IME has developed a fungus-based fermentation process for the digestion of empty fruit bunches
- and for the enrichment with nitrogen to provide a suitable diet for insect farming
- Enabling the bioconversion of EFB into insect-derived protein, lipids, chitin and frass at industrial scale





# Empty fruit bunches of the palm oil industry as a diet for BSF

- Fermentation of empty fruit bunches using specialized fungi
- Degradation of Cellulose and Lignin
- Enrichment of nitrogen and increase of protein content



**Figure 1.** Growth curves of BSF larvae reared on chicken feed (CF), *B. adusta* (BAD), *I. consors* (ICO), or *M. palmivorus* (MPA) fermented EFB + PKM (7:3) mixtures, as well as a corresponding non-fermented reference (NFR). Data are mean larval weights ( $\pm$ SD) of three replicate boxes per diet ( $n = 25$ ).



## Large-scale production of Black soldier fly larvae





# Empty fruit bunches of the palm oil industry as a diet for BSF

- Fermentation of empty fruit bunches using specialized fungi
- Degradation of Cellulose and Lignin
- Enrichment of nitrogen and increase of protein content

Klüber P, Zorn H, Rühl M, Bakonyi D, Pfeiffer J, and Vilcinskas A. Process for the production of an insect substrate, insect substrate and uses thereof. Application number EP22152265.9.



Article

## Diet Fermentation Leads to Microbial Adaptation in Black Soldier Fly (*Hermetia illucens*; Linnaeus, 1758) Larvae Reared on Palm Oil Side Streams

Patrick Klüber <sup>1</sup>, Dorothee Tegtmeier <sup>1</sup>, Sabine Hurka <sup>2</sup>, Janin Pfeiffer <sup>1</sup>, Andreas Vilcinskas <sup>1,2</sup>, Martin Rühl <sup>1,3</sup> and Holger Zorn <sup>1,3,\*</sup>



# Insect frass as biofertilizer

- Insect frass (a mixture of excrements, chitin and feed leftovers) represents a valuable biofertilizer
- which can for example double the rice yield
- The benefit of this biofertilizer can be expanded beyond providing nutrients to encompass bacteria that produce plant growth hormones
- Insect frass can replace chemical fertilizers in palm tree agriculture

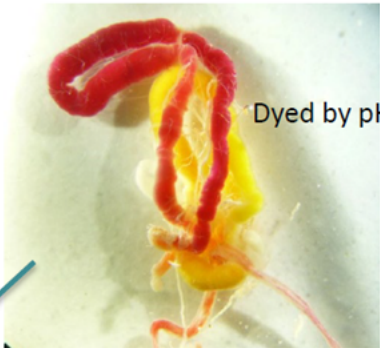




## Harvesting the gut microbiota of *Hermetia*

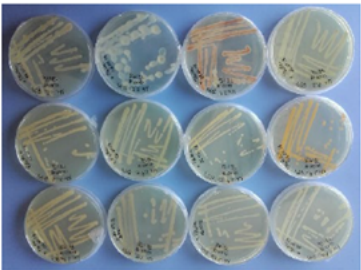
- Pre-digestion of industrial waste products
- Screening for natural products
- Strain collection (cryo bank)

Gut of *Hermetia illucens*

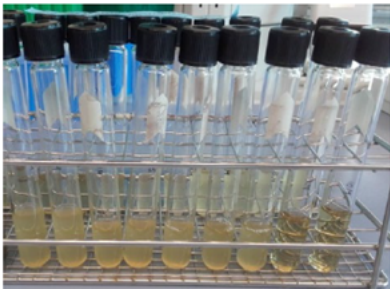


Dyed by pH indicator (phenol red)

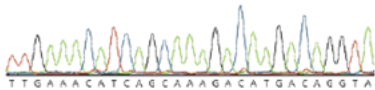
Aerobic cultivation



Anaerobic cultivation



Identification:  
16S rRNA sequencing



Dorothee Tegtmeier



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ORIGINAL RESEARCH  
published: 29 March 2021  
doi: 10.3389/fmicb.2021.634503



# Beneficial microbes from insect frass



microorganisms



Article

## Culture-Independent and Culture-Dependent Characterization of the Black Soldier Fly Gut Microbiome Reveals a Large Proportion of Culturable Bacteria with Potential for Industrial Applications

Dorothee Tegtmeier <sup>1,\*</sup> , Sabine Hurka <sup>2</sup> , Sanja Mihajlovic <sup>1</sup>, Maren Bodenschatz <sup>1</sup>, Stephan and Andreas Vilcinskas <sup>1,2,\*</sup>



Antonie van Leeuwenhoek  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10482-022-01735-7>

ORIGINAL PAPER

## Isolation of *Hermetia illucens* larvae core gut microbiota by two different cultivation strategies

Yina Cifuentes · Andreas Vilcinskas ·  
Peter Kämpfer · Stefanie P. Glaeser

## Cottonseed Press Cake as a Potential Diet for Industrially Farmed Black Soldier Fly Larvae Triggers Adaptations of Their Bacterial and Fungal Gut Microbiota

Dorothee Tegtmeier<sup>1\*</sup>, Sabine Hurka<sup>2</sup>, Patrick Klüber<sup>1</sup>, Karina Brinkrolf<sup>3</sup>, Philipp Heise<sup>1</sup> and Andreas Vilcinskas<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Bioresources, Fraunhofer Institute for Molecular Biology and Applied Ecology, Giessen, Germany, <sup>2</sup> Institute for Insect Biotechnology, Justus Liebig University Giessen, Giessen, Germany, <sup>3</sup> Department of Bioinformatics and Systems Biology, Justus Liebig University Giessen, Giessen, Germany



# Detoxification of diet substrates: Gossypol in Cottonseed press cake



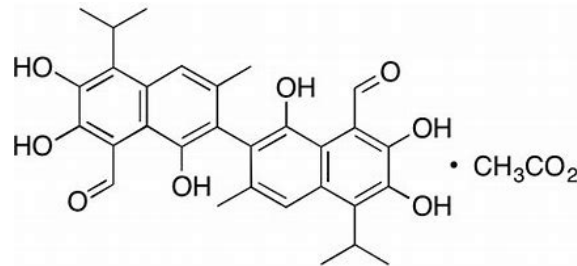
- Gossypol is a natural phenol derived from the cotton plant.
- Plant defense compound mediating infertility in insects.
- Toxic for humans



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frontiers  
in Microbiology

ORIGINAL RESEARCH  
published: 29 March 2021  
doi: 10.3389/fmicb.2021.634503

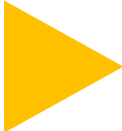


## Cottonseed Press Cake as a Potential Diet for Industrially Farmed Black Soldier Fly Larvae Triggers Adaptations of Their Bacterial and Fungal Gut Microbiota

Dorothee Tegtmeier<sup>1\*</sup>, Sabine Hurka<sup>2</sup>, Patrick Klüber<sup>1</sup>, Karina Brinkrolf<sup>3</sup>, Philipp Heise<sup>1</sup> and Andreas Vilcinskas<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Bioresources, Fraunhofer Institute for Molecular Biology and Applied Ecology, Giessen, Germany, <sup>2</sup> Institute for Insect Biotechnology, Justus Liebig University Giessen, Giessen, Germany, <sup>3</sup> Department of Bioinformatics and Systems Biology, Justus Liebig University Giessen, Giessen, Germany

# Molecular pathogen detection in insect farms



Pathogens responsible for more than half of insect production loss

Eilenberg *et al.* 2015



Pathogens detected in **> 80%** of 300 reviewed edible insects farms

**>30%** potentially pathogenic for **humans**

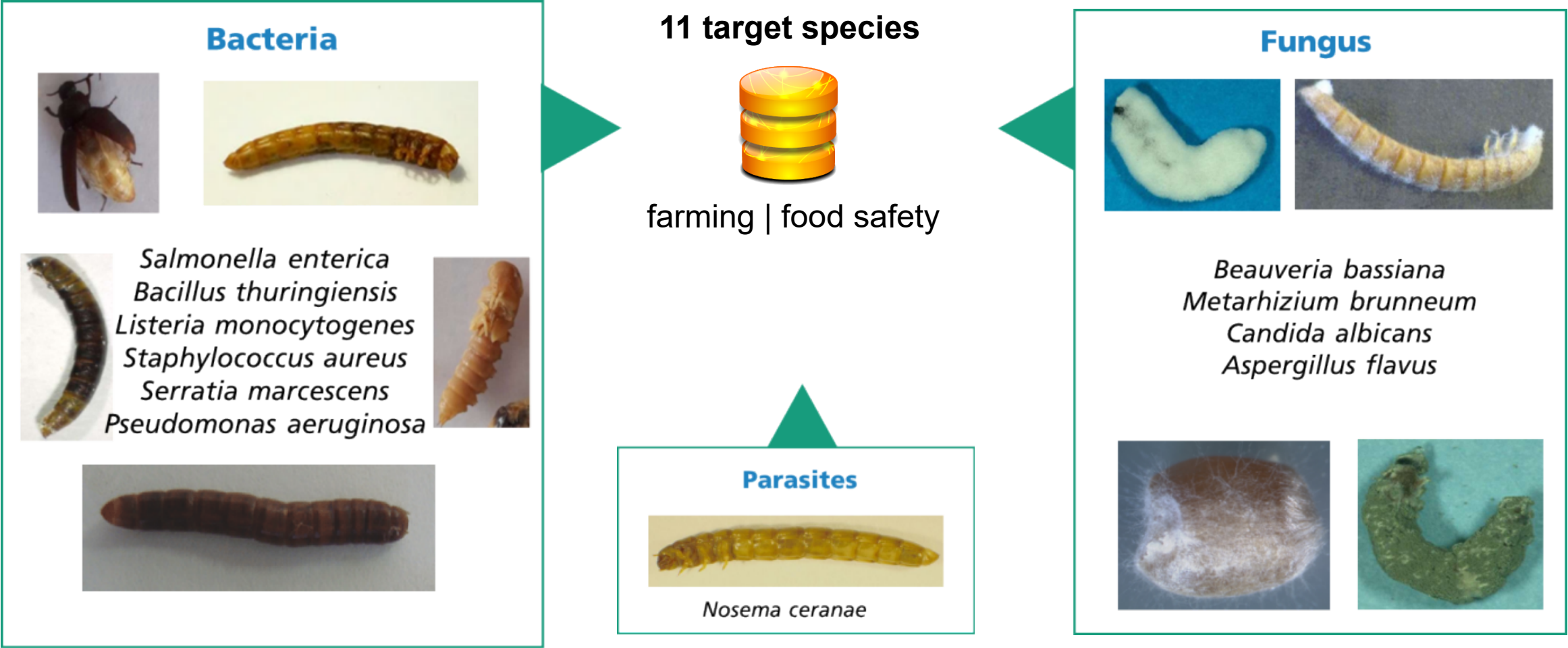
**>35%** potentially parasitic for **animals**

Galecki *et al.*, 2019



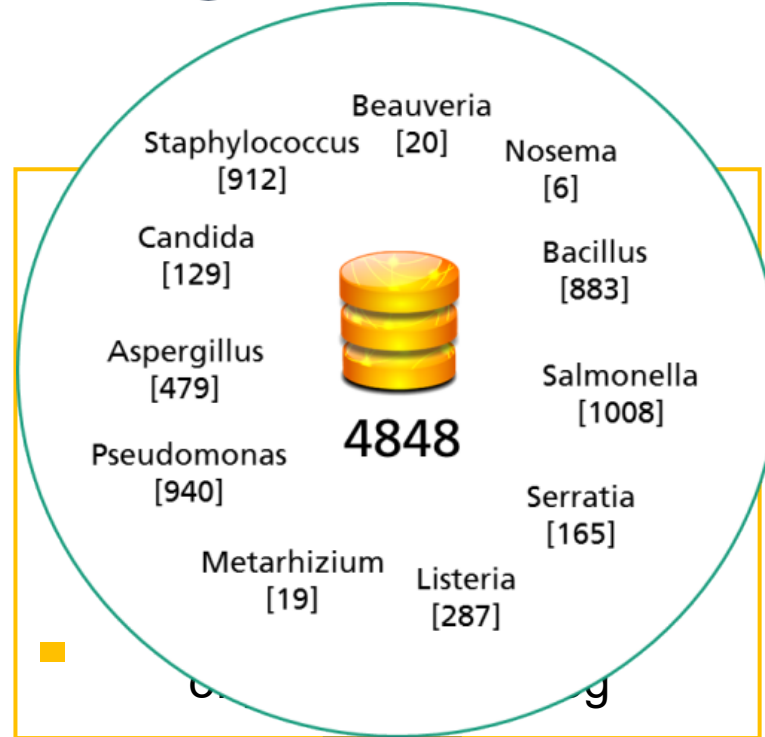
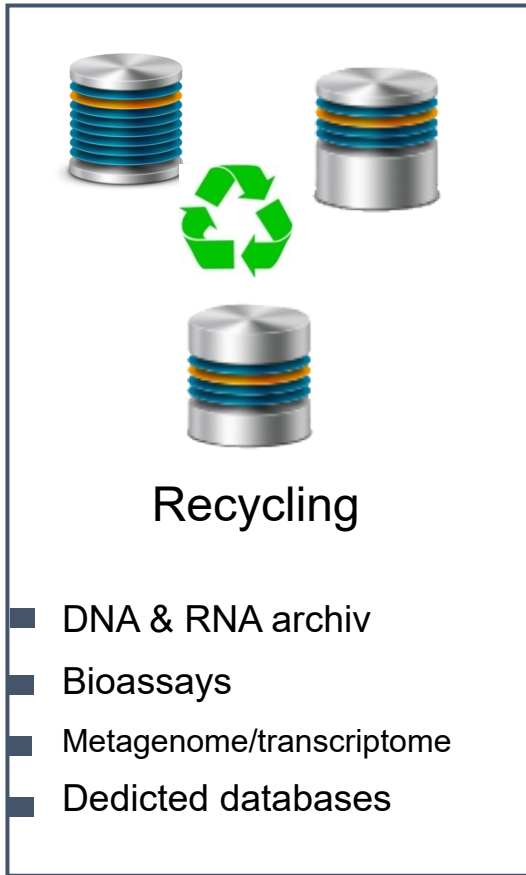
Expect new diseases to emerge in all insect production systems over time

# Insect and food borne pathogens



**A** + **B**

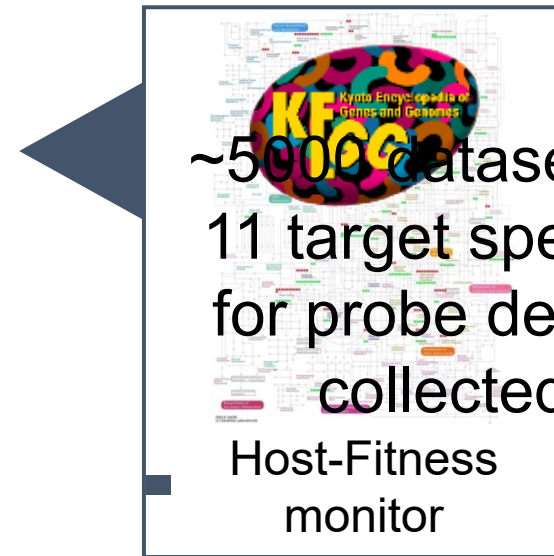
**A**



specific  
probe design

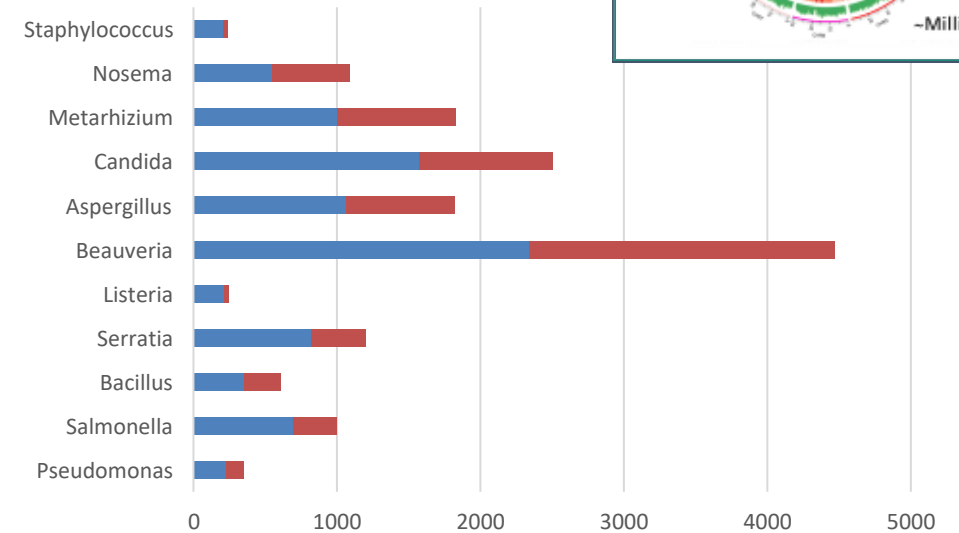
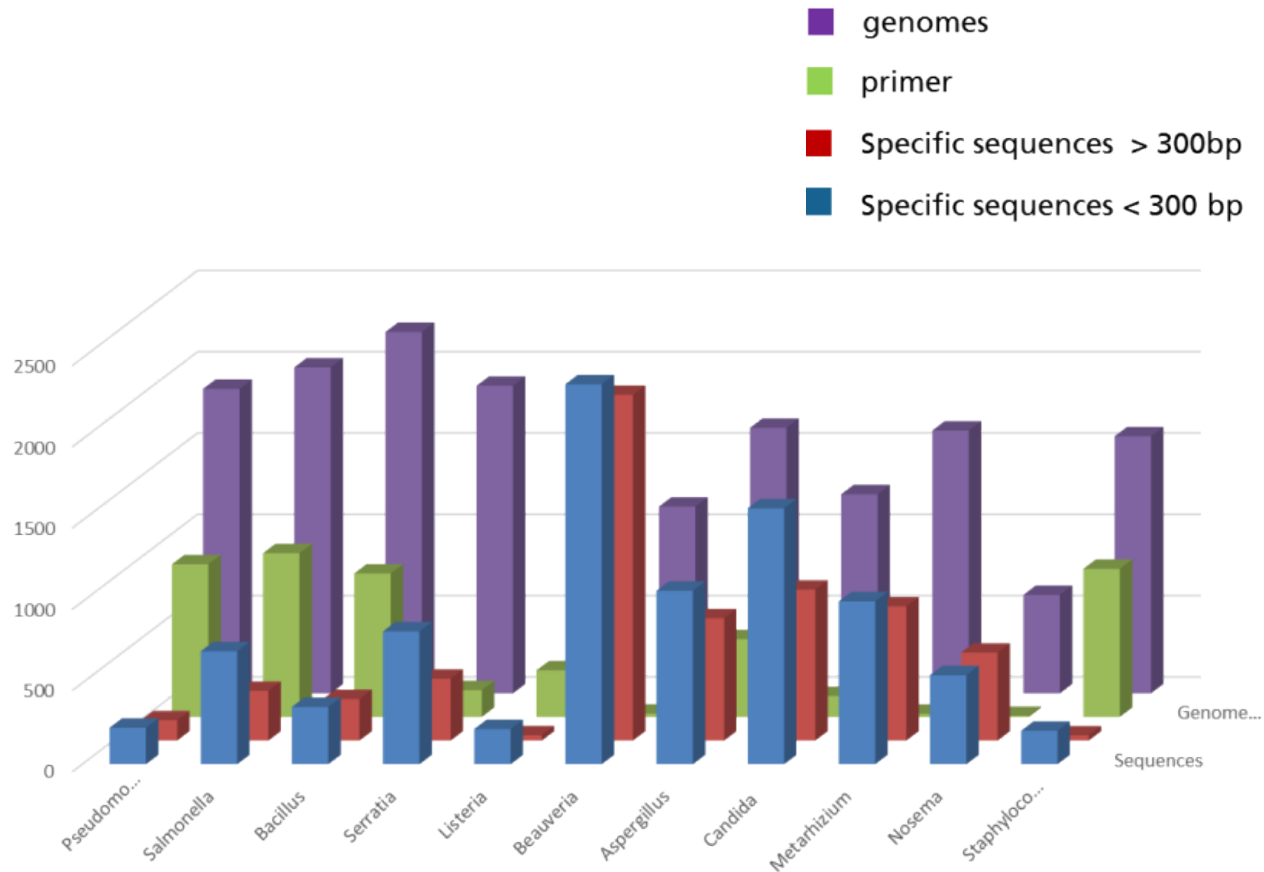


**B**



**C**

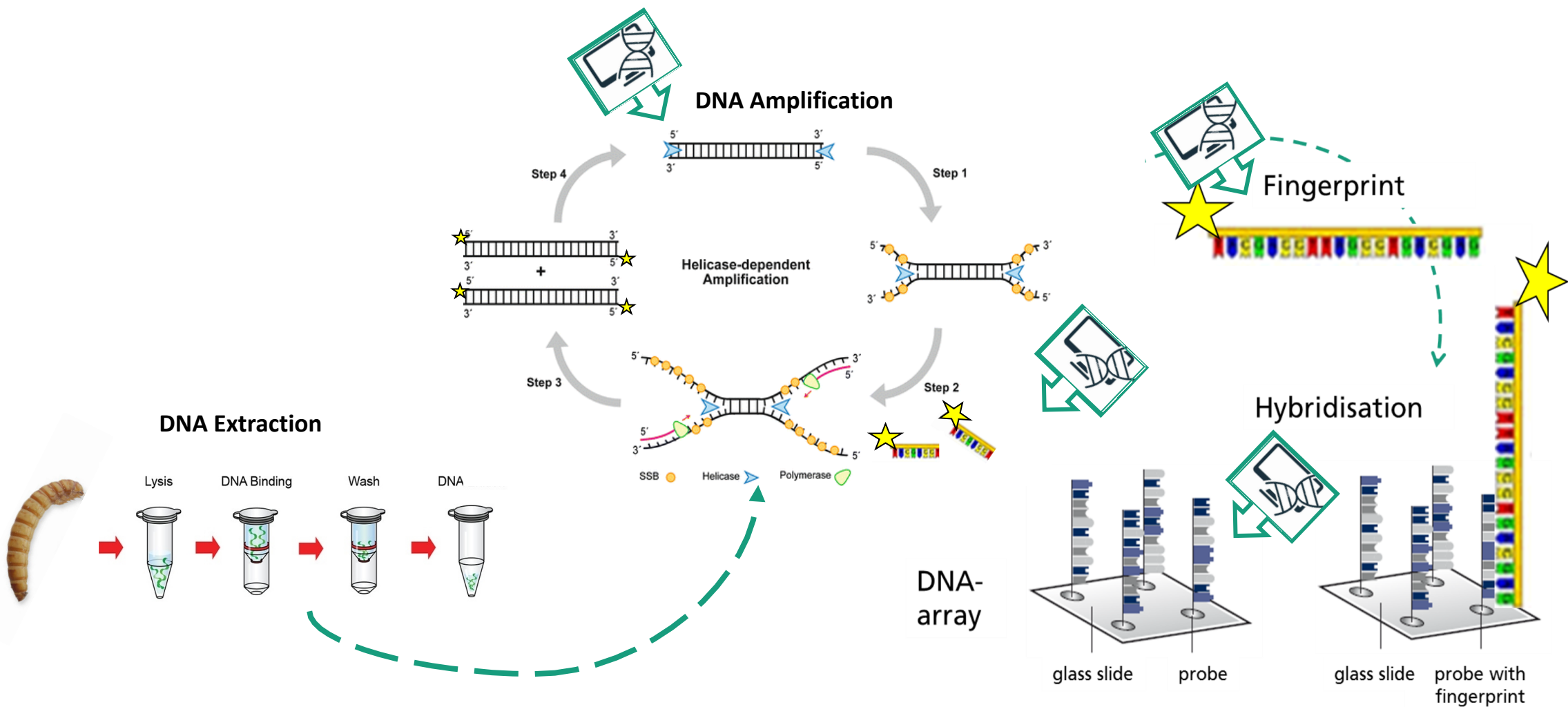
# Identification of target regions in genomes of pathogens



## Results

- > 6k specific probes > 300bp overall
- All species sufficient covered for detailed monitoring
- Lowest count on *Listeria*, less than 350 specific probes

# Detection of pathogens in automated insect production systems



# Detection of pathogens in automated insect production systems

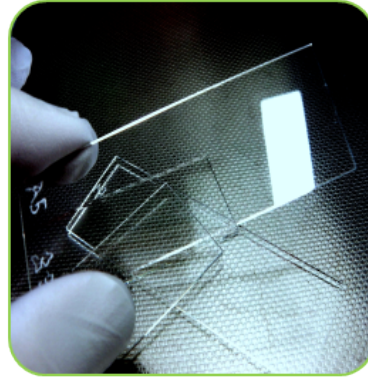
Proben-  
aufschluss



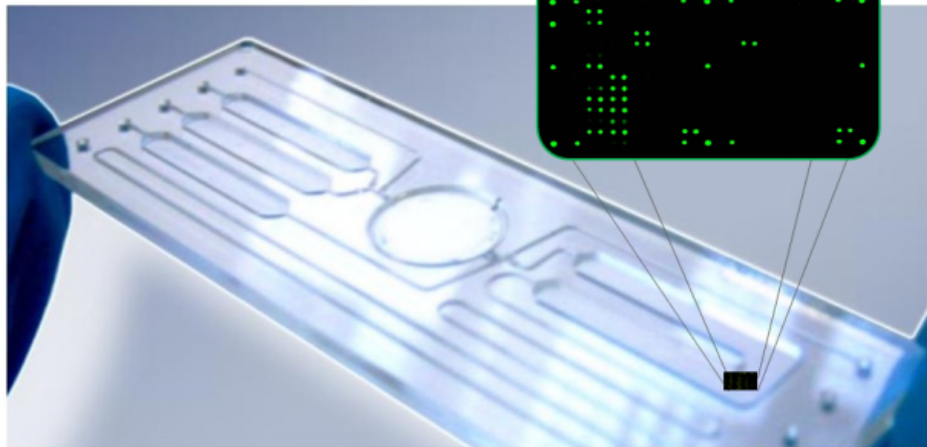
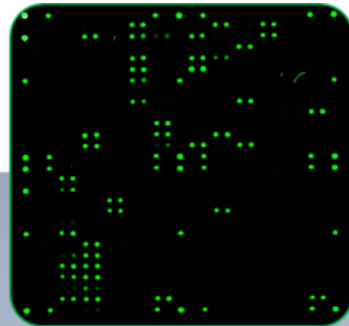
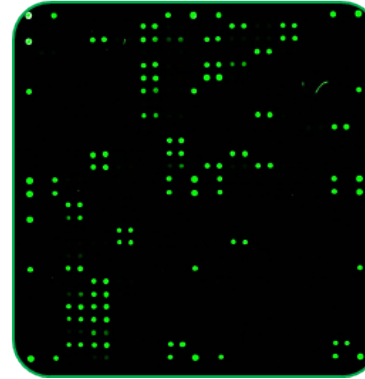
Target-  
Amplifikation



DNA-  
Array



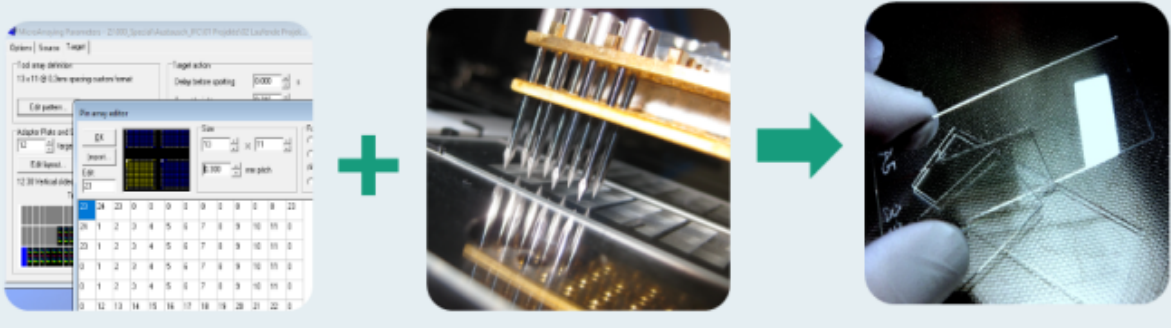
Readout  
Ergebnis



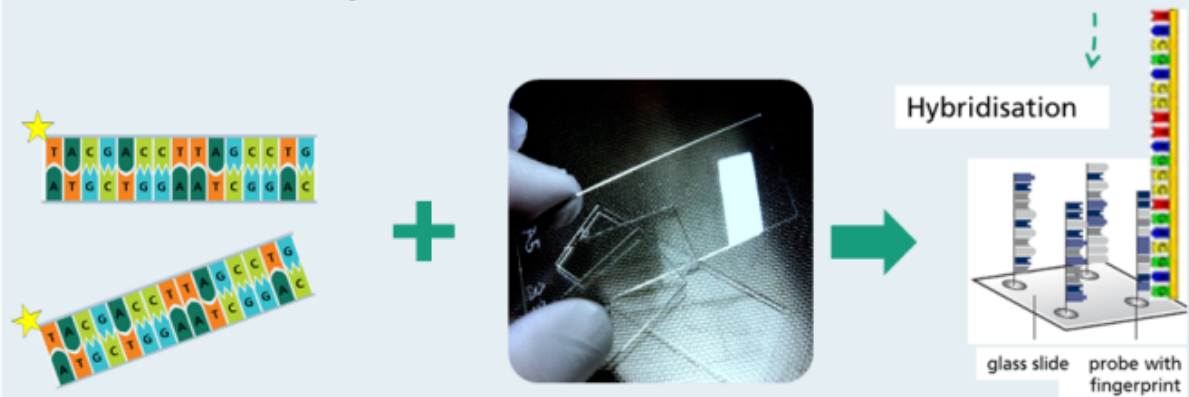
# Detection of pathogens in automated insect production systems

## Development of DNA $\mu$ -Arrays

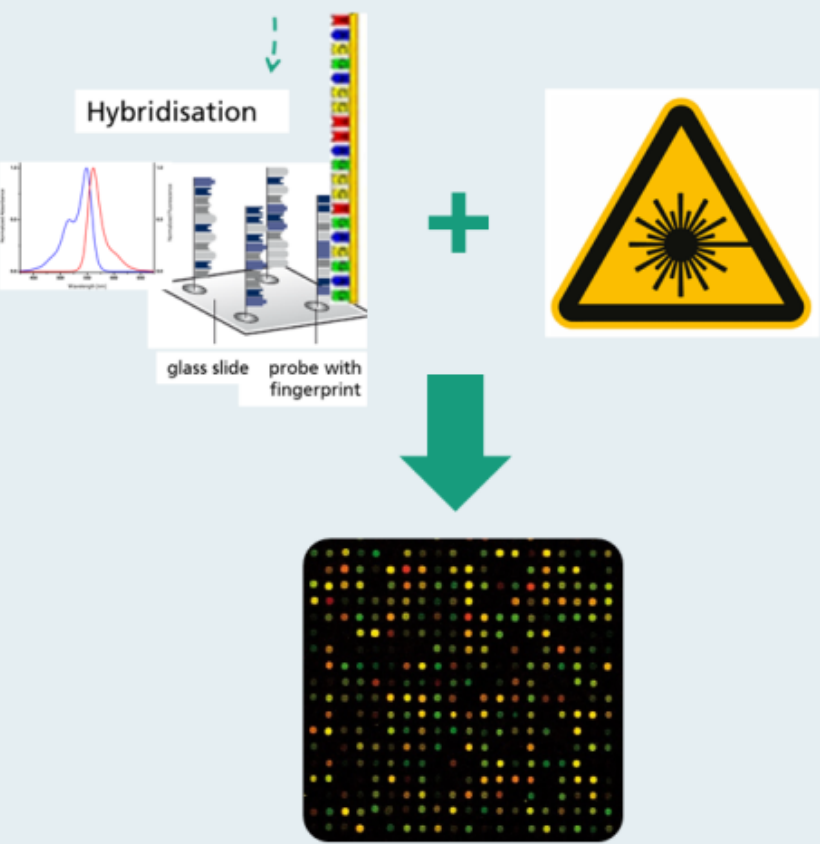
### Arraydesign and Spotting



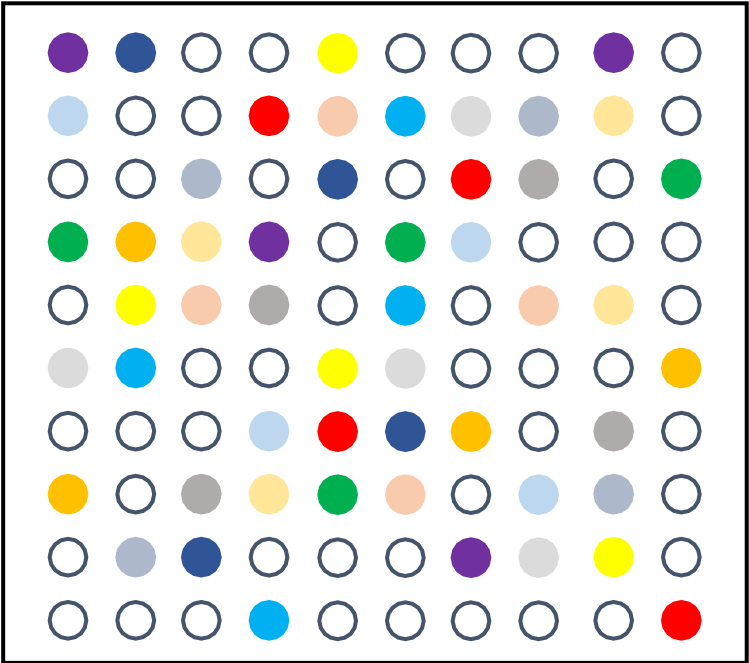
### Established Hybridisation—



### Signal Detection



# Pathogen diagnostic for insect farms



- *Salmonella enterica*
- *Bacillus thuringiensis*
- *Listeria monocytogenes*
- *Staphylococcus aureus*
- *Serratia marcescens*
- *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*
- *Nosema ceranae*

●

*Beauveria bassiana*

●

*Metarhizium brunneum*

●

*Candida albicans*

●

*Aspergillus flavus*

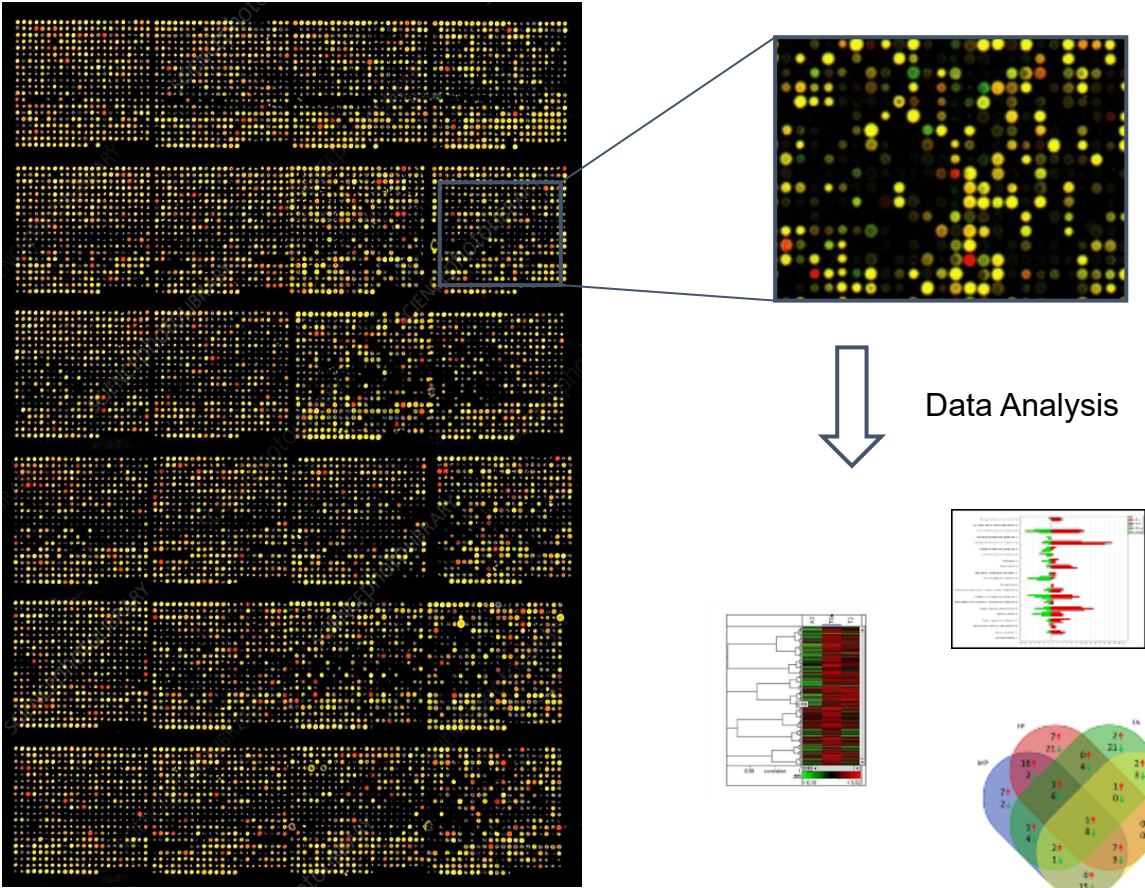
●

*Hybridization Control*

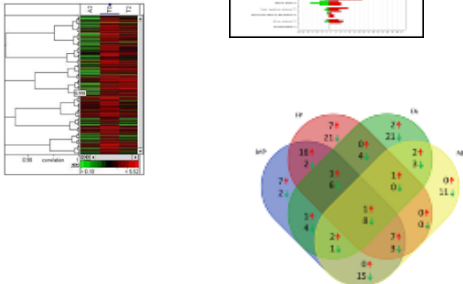
●

*Host Control*

○

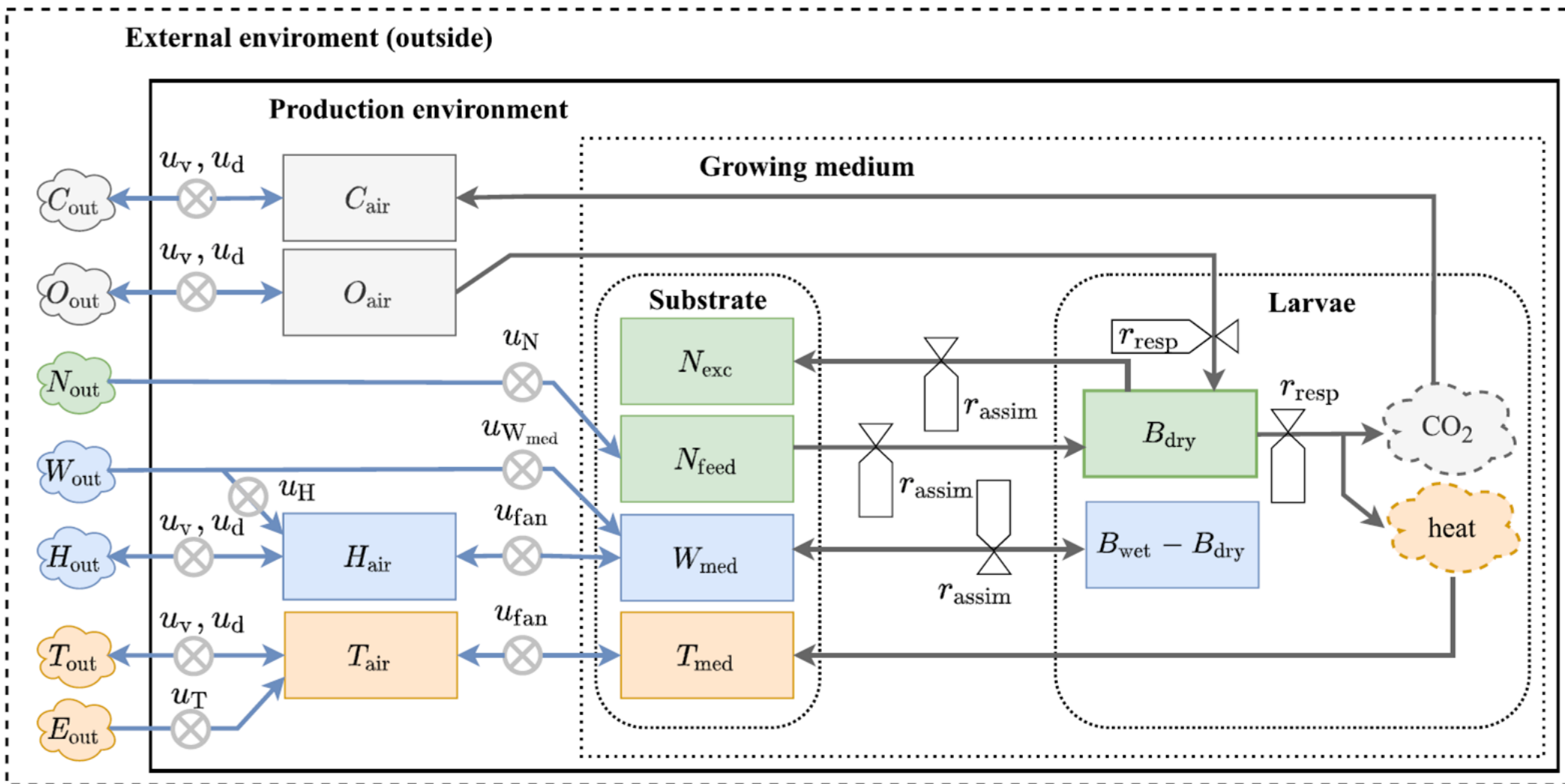
*Internal Control*

Data Analysis

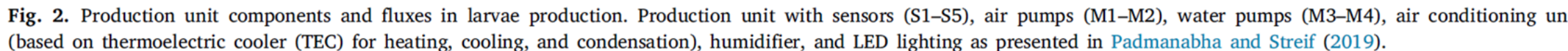




# Modelling and optimization of industrial BSF production




**Fig. 1.** Overview of the larvae production setup and the internal resource flows. It consists of a growing medium filled with larvae and feed, placed in either a closed or an open production environment. The valves representing the rates labelled as  $r_{resp}$  and  $r_{assim}$  are internally regulated by the larvae and the substrate states. Circular valves labelled  $u_{xyz}$  represent the control signals that control the flow of resources (fluxes).





RESEARCH ARTICLE

## A comprehensive dynamic growth and development model of *Hermetia illucens* larvae

Murali Padmanabha , Alexander Kobelski, Arne-Jens Hempel, Stefan Streif\*

Automatic Control and System Dynamics Lab, Technische Universität Chemnitz, Chemnitz, Germany

\* [stefan.streif@etit.tu-chemnitz.de](mailto:stefan.streif@etit.tu-chemnitz.de)

### Abstract

Larvae of *Hermetia illucens*, also commonly known as black soldier fly (BSF) have gained significant importance in the feed industry, primarily used as feed for aquaculture and other livestock farming. Mathematical models such as the Von Bertalanffy growth model and dynamic energy budget models are available for modelling the growth of various organisms but have their demerits for their application to the growth and development of BSF. Also, such dynamic models were not yet applied to the growth of the BSF larvae despite models proven to be useful for automation of industrial production process (e.g. feeding, heating/cooling, ventilation, harvesting, etc.). This work primarily focuses on developing a model based on the principles of the afore mentioned models from literature that can provide accurate mathematical description of the dry mass changes throughout the life cycle and the transition of development phases of the larvae. To further improve the accuracy of these models, various factors affecting the growth and development such as temperature, feed quality, feeding rate, moisture content in feed, and airflow rate are developed and integrated into the dynamic growth model. An extensive set of data was aggregated from various literature and used for the model development, parameter estimation and validation. Models describing the environmental factors were individually validated based on the data sets collected. In addition, the dynamic growth model was also validated for dry mass evolution and development stage transition of larvae reared on different substrate feeding rates. The developed models with the estimated parameters performed well, highlighting their potential application in decision-support systems and automation for large scale production.



### OPEN ACCESS

**Citation:** Padmanabha M, Kobelski A, Hempel A-J, Streif S (2020) A comprehensive dynamic growth and development model of *Hermetia illucens* larvae. PLoS ONE 15(9): e0239084. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0239084>

**Editor:** Ji-Zhong Wan, Qinghai University, CHINA

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### Original papers

## Modelling and optimal control of growth, energy, and resource dynamics of *Hermetia illucens* in mass production environment

Murali Padmanabha, Alexander Kobelski, Arne-Jens Hempel, Stefan Streif\*

Automatic Control and System Dynamics Lab, Technische Universität Chemnitz, Chemnitz, 09107, Germany

### ARTICLE INFO

#### Keywords:

*Hermetia illucens* mass production  
Mass and energy flux modelling  
Energy and resource optimization  
Process design and control  
Bioreactor optimal control



### ABSTRACT

Mass production of *Hermetia illucens* insect larvae is now being adopted in many countries and is taking an industrial production approach. Despite abundant literature on factors that affect larvae growth and the optimal static parameters identified in laboratory setup, for an industrial production process it is necessary to identify the trajectories such that the growth as well as the production process is optimal. To achieve this in this work, some of the important requirements and challenges involved thereof are identified and objectives of the automation process are formulated within a model based optimal control setup. Mechanistic models necessary for the optimization framework are derived as differential equations that describe the dynamic variation of resources (feed, water, O<sub>2</sub> etc.), energy, and larval biomass. In addition, the elevated metabolic activity of larvae corresponding to the final instar development is identified and also modelled based on the observation from experiments. The mass and energy balance approach used in modelling enables the quantification and distinction of the mass and energy flux components in various levels (e.g. larvae body, growing medium, production environment, and external environment) while holding its applicability for both open and closed/reactor based production setups. Finally, the trajectories generated using the synthesized optimal controller are tested under different scenarios showcasing significant reduction in resource consumption compared to a constant set-point operation of the production setup. Results presented in this work not only showcase the potential of the mechanistic models and their application in identifying the relevant process parameters (e.g. reactor properties such as volume, thermal conductivity, actuator capacities), but most importantly in optimizing the process dynamically and tuning the process objectives as desired (e.g. maximize larvae mass, reduce energy).

# Yellow Biotechnology



**We define Insect Biotechnology or Yellow Biotechnology as:**

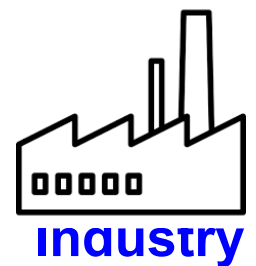
**The development and application of biotechnological methods to translate insects, their molecules, cells, organs or associated microorganism, respectively, into products or services for specific use in medicine, agriculture or industry.**



# Yellow Biotechnology



- Insects are the most diverse and, therefore, the evolutionarily most successful group of organisms
- Their biodiversity at species level can be expanded to the molecular level
- Insects represent an incredible compound library
- Insect Biotechnology aims to explore and to develop this compound library for human welfare.
- Consequent translational approach for value creation at industrial scale.



Industry



Medicine



Cosmetics



Food



Feed



Agriculture





# Health beneficial effects of insect meal



Prof. Klaus Eder

## 4-week feeding trial

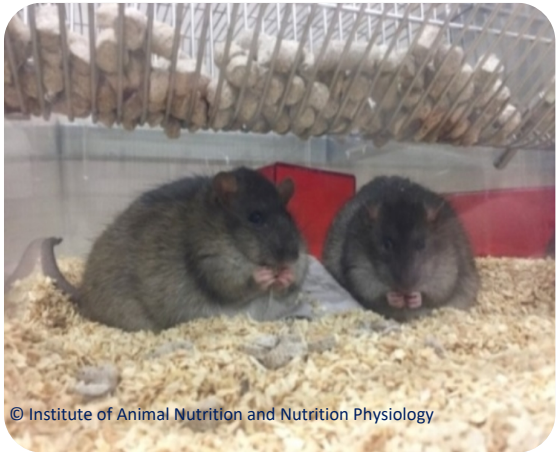
- 36 homozygous obese Zucker rats and 12 heterozygous lean Zucker rats (Crl:ZUC (Orl)-*Lepr<sup>fa</sup>*)
- housed in groups of two animals each under controlled conditions
- randomly divided into three obese groups (OC, OI50 and OI100) of 12 rats each; and lean rats served as lean control group (LC)
- insect meal from *Tenebrio molitor* L.

group	n	diet ( <i>ad libitum</i> )
LC	12	100% casein as protein source
OC	12	100% casein as protein source
OI50	12	50% of casein replaced isonitrogenously by insect meal
OI100	12	100% of casein replaced isonitrogenously by insect meal



insect meal  
(*Ynsect*)

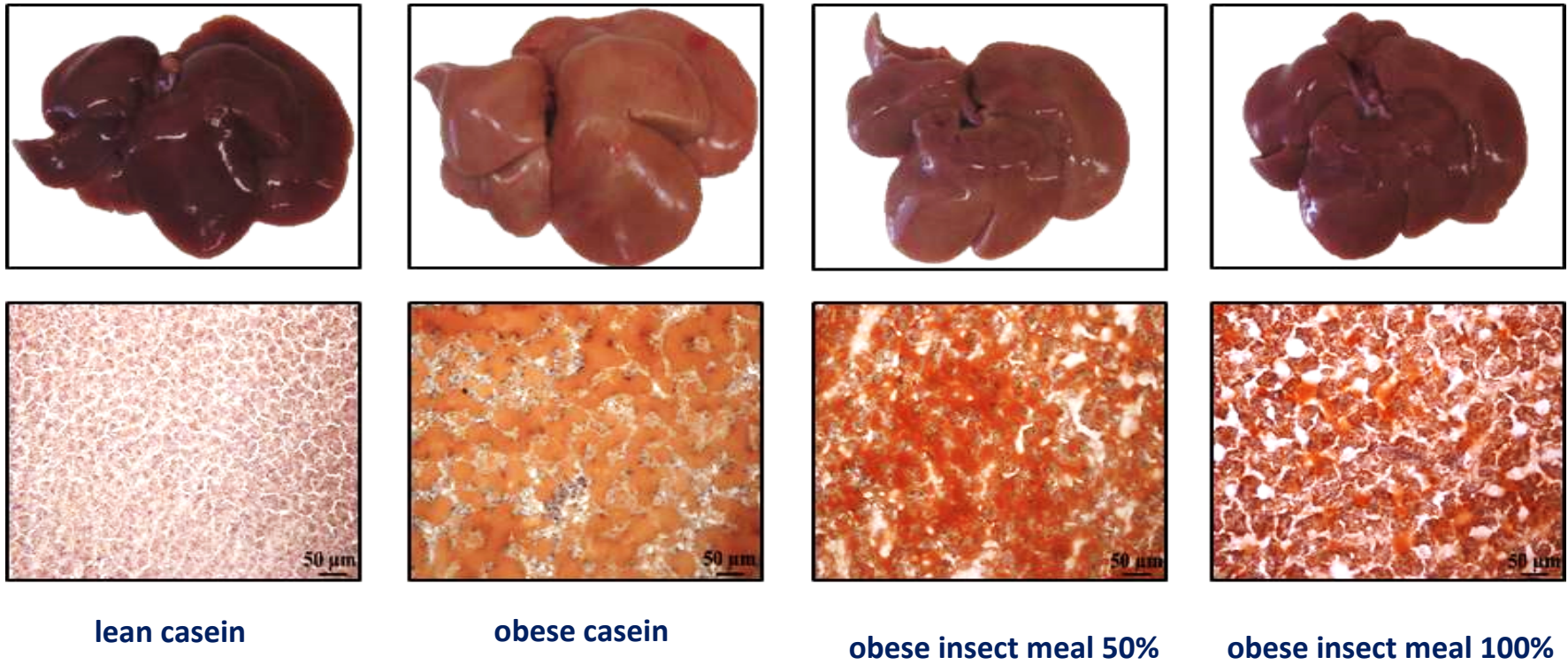
## effect of insect meal on lipid metabolism



© Institute of Animal Nutrition and Nutrition Physiology

crude nutrients (% DM)	
crude protein	76.6
crude fat	14.0
crude fibre	13.2
cude ash	4.3
chitin	12.8

# Health beneficial effects of insect meal



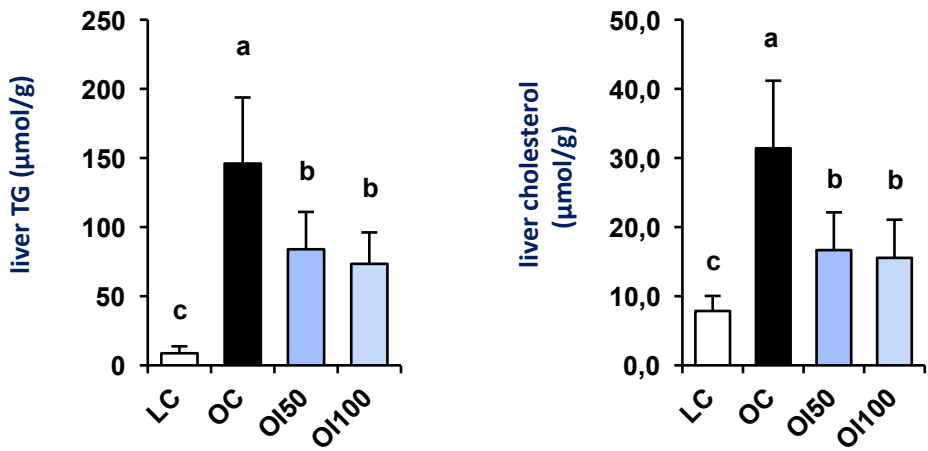
gene	fold change			lipid synthetic pathway
	OC vs. LC	OI50 vs. OC	OI100 vs. OC	
<i>Scd2</i>	14.11*	-6.21*	-9.59*	fatty acid
<i>G6pd</i>	1.24	-1.62	-2.41*	fatty acid
<i>Aacs</i>	2.28*	-1.50*	-2.28*	cholesterol
<i>Fads1</i>	1.27*	-1.32*	-2.01*	fatty acid
<i>Acacb</i>	1.47*	-1.38*	-1.80*	fatty acid
<i>Me1</i>	1.38	-1.37	-1.79*	fatty acid

Gessner *et al.*, J. Nutr. (2019)

total livers and oil red O-stained liver sections of rats

# Health beneficial effects of insect meal

A



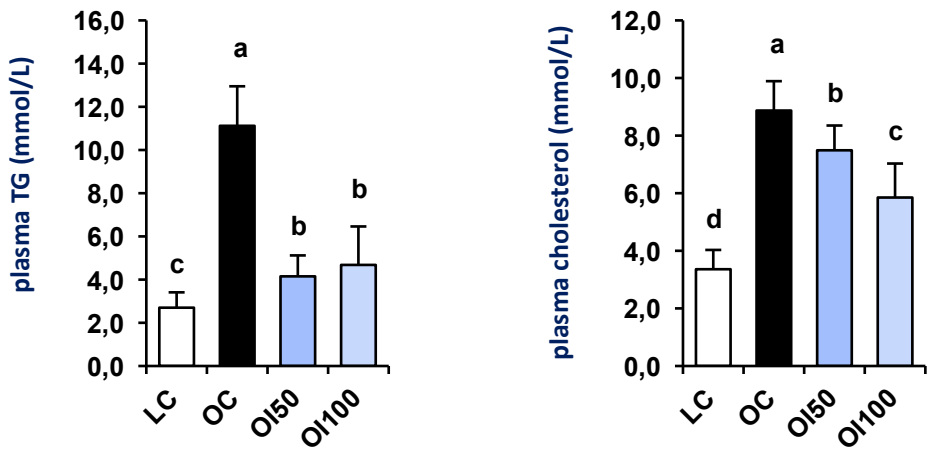
liver:

TG

Cholesterol



B



plasma:

TG

Cholesterol



means  $\pm$  SD.  $n = 12$ ; bars without a common letter differ,  $P < 0.05$ .

Gessner et al., J. Nutr. (2019)

concentrations of triacylglycerol (TG) and cholesterol in the liver (A) and plasma (B) of rats fed either casein (OC), casein and insect meal (OI50) or insect meal (OI100)

## **Insect Meal as Alternative Protein Source Exerts Pronounced Lipid-Lowering Effects in Hyperlipidemic Obese Zucker Rats**

Denise K Gessner,<sup>1</sup> Anne Schwarz,<sup>1</sup> Sandra Meyer,<sup>1</sup> Gaiping Wen,<sup>1</sup> Erika Most,<sup>1</sup> Holger Zorn,<sup>2</sup>  
Robert Ringseis,<sup>1</sup> and Klaus Eder<sup>1</sup>

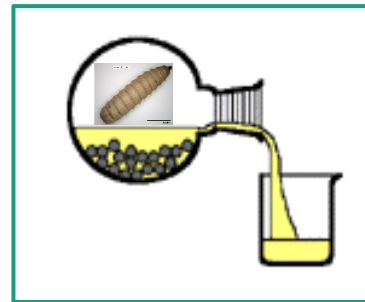
<sup>1</sup>Institute of Animal Nutrition and Nutrition Physiology and <sup>2</sup>Institute of Food Chemistry and Food Biotechnology,  
Justus-Liebig-University Giessen, Giessen, Germany



# Insect-derived AMPs for food and feed preservation



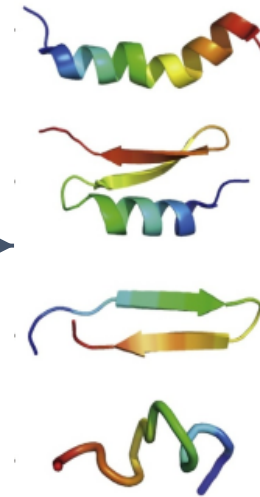
**AMP-Food**



**extraction**



**heterologous expression**



- **Purification**
- **Characterization**
- **application**



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CENTRE OF EXPERTISE FOR  
APPLIED FOOD MICROBIOLOGY



**VAN HEES**  
we know how





# *In Vitro* Evaluation of Antimicrobial Peptides from the Black Soldier Fly (*Hermetia Illucens*) against a Selection of Human Pathogens

Laurence Van Moll,<sup>a,b,c</sup> Jeroen De Smet,<sup>b,c</sup> Anne Paas,<sup>d,f</sup> Dorothee Tegtmeier,<sup>d</sup> Andreas Vilcinskas,<sup>d,e,f</sup> Paul Cos,<sup>a</sup>  
 Leen Van Campenhout<sup>b,c</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Laboratory for Microbiology, Parasitology and Hygiene (LMPH), Faculty of Pharmaceutical, Biomedical and Veterinary Sciences, University of Antwerp, Antwerp, Belgium

<sup>b</sup>Department of Microbial and Molecular Systems (M<sup>2</sup>S), Research Group for Insect Production and Processing, KU Leuven, Geel, Belgium

<sup>c</sup>Leuven Food Science and Nutrition Research Centre (LForCe), KU Leuven, Leuven, Belgium

<sup>d</sup>Fraunhofer Institute for Molecular Biology and Applied Ecology, Branch for Bioresources, Gießen, Germany

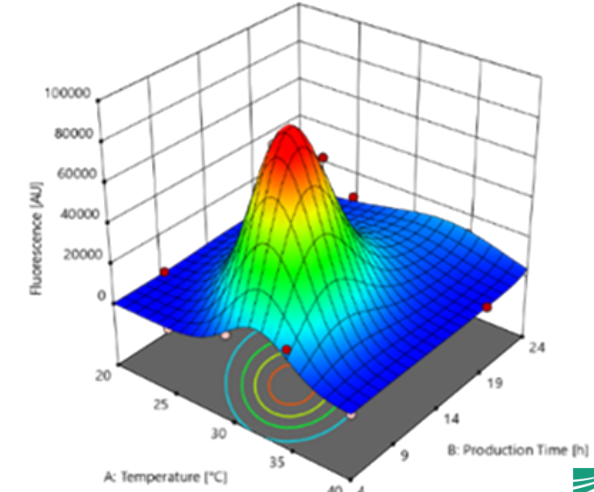
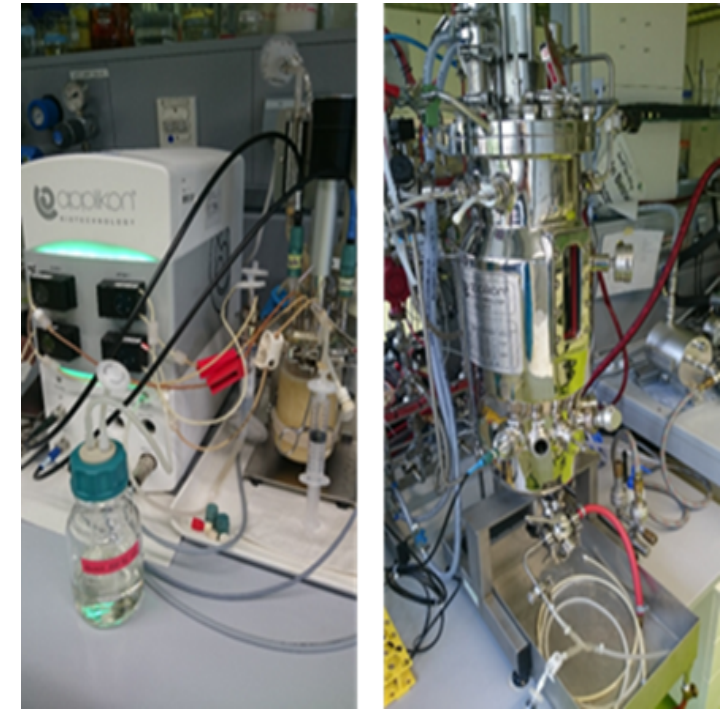
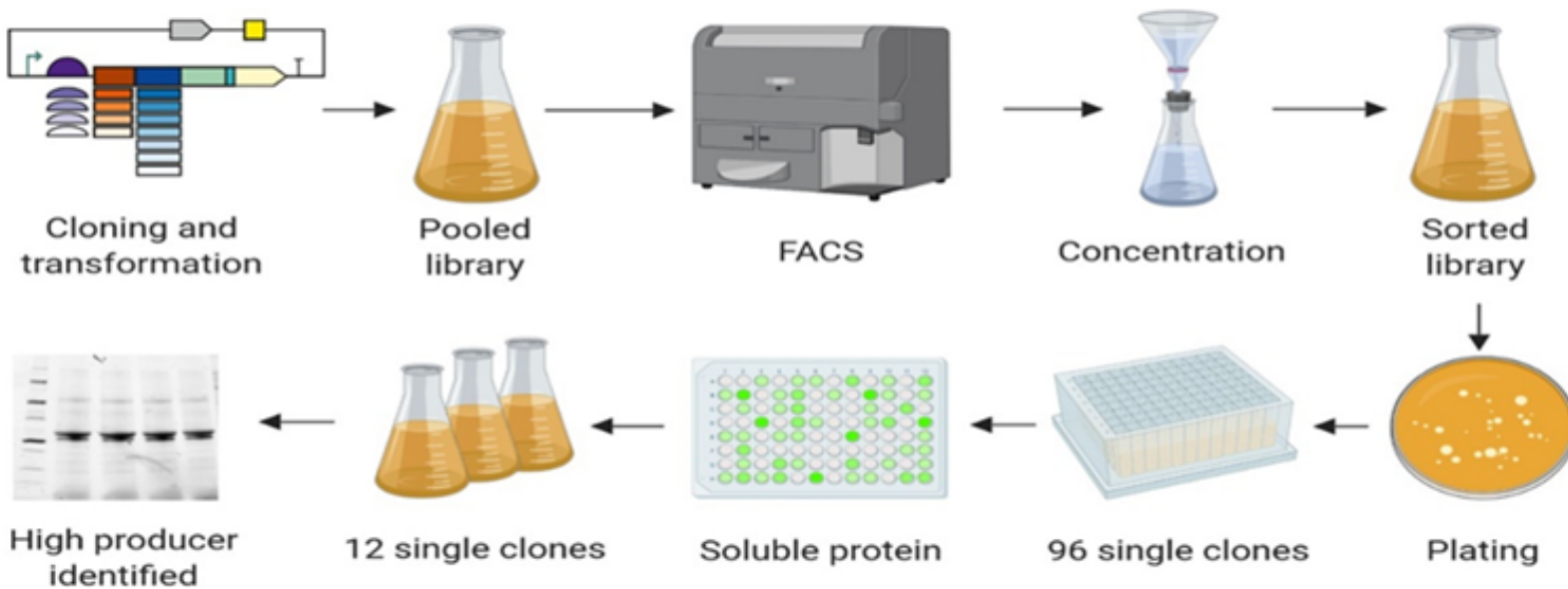
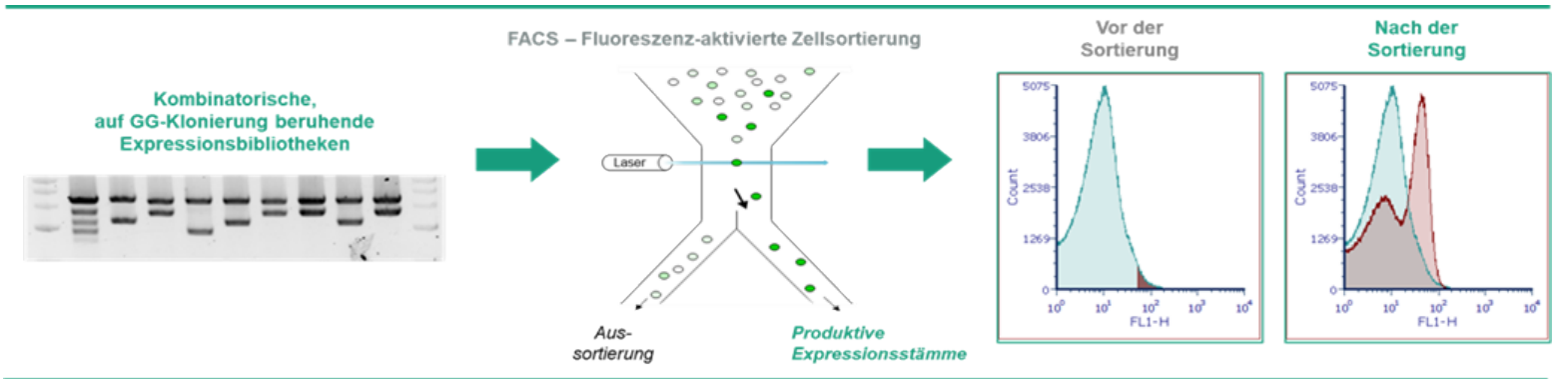
<sup>e</sup>Institute for Insect Biotechnology, Justus Liebig University of Gießen, Gießen, Germany

<sup>f</sup>LOEWE Centre for Translational Biodiversity Genomics (LOEWE-TBG), Frankfurt am Main, Germany



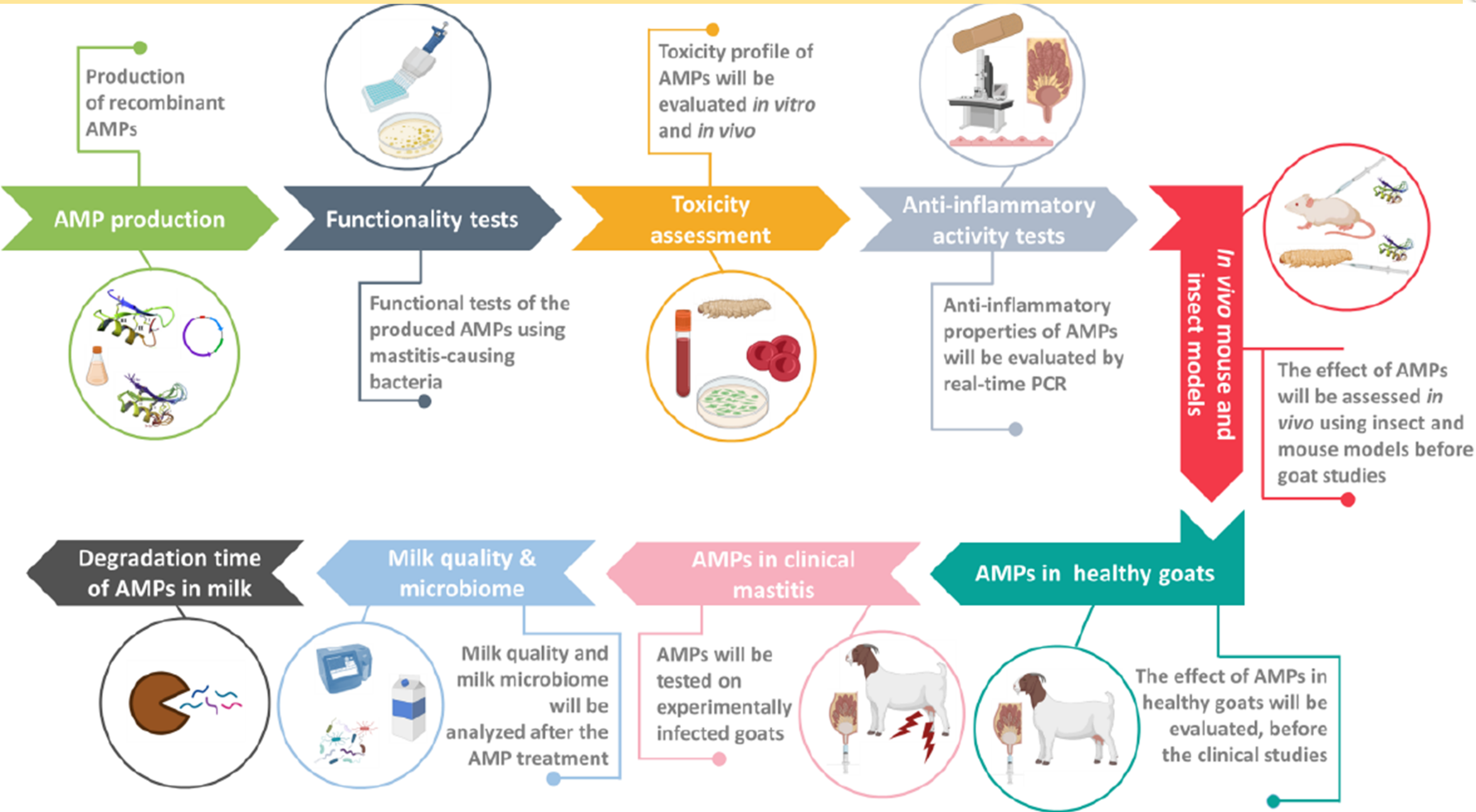
# Expression of recombinant insect AMPs

## ➤ Development of an up-scaling process





# Insect-AMPs in Veterinary Medicine



# The Black soldier fly as the economically most important species in insect farming





# Development of BSF lipids into high quality lubricants



## Prozesskette bei der Schmierstoffentwicklung:



Prozesskette

- Optimierung Basiswerkstoffe
- Fluidentwicklung
- Additiventwicklung
- Anpassung der Oberflächen
- Untersuchung Anwendungseigenschaften
- Untersuchung Recyclingfähigkeit



# Development of BSF chitin/chitosan into cosmetics and medical care products



**PRODUCT SAMPLE**

## Chitosan Oral

A STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE TO CONSUME BIOACTIVE CHITOSAN ORAL FOR GUT HEALTH

**RECOMMENDED USAGE**

Consume once a day. Mix two drops in a quarter cup of drinking water and consume. May add two drops of propolis extract into the mix if desired.

**INGREDIENTS**

Aqua/water, chitosan, glycerin, weak acid, gelling agent, salt, preservatives (ethanol and disodium EDTA)

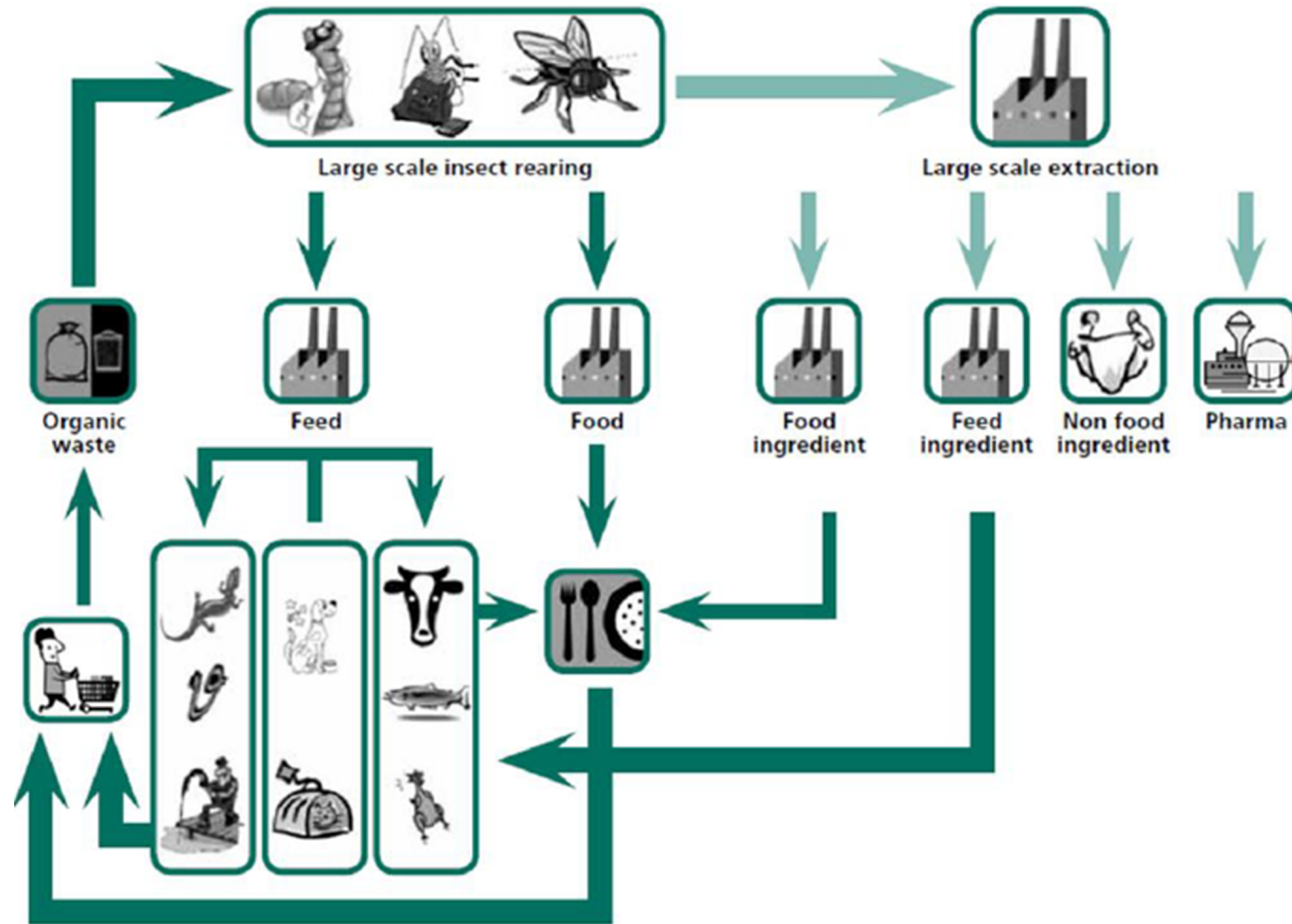


Hermetia BIO SCIENCE

# Insects as the missing link in the circular economy



Insects as the missing link: ecology designs a circular economy

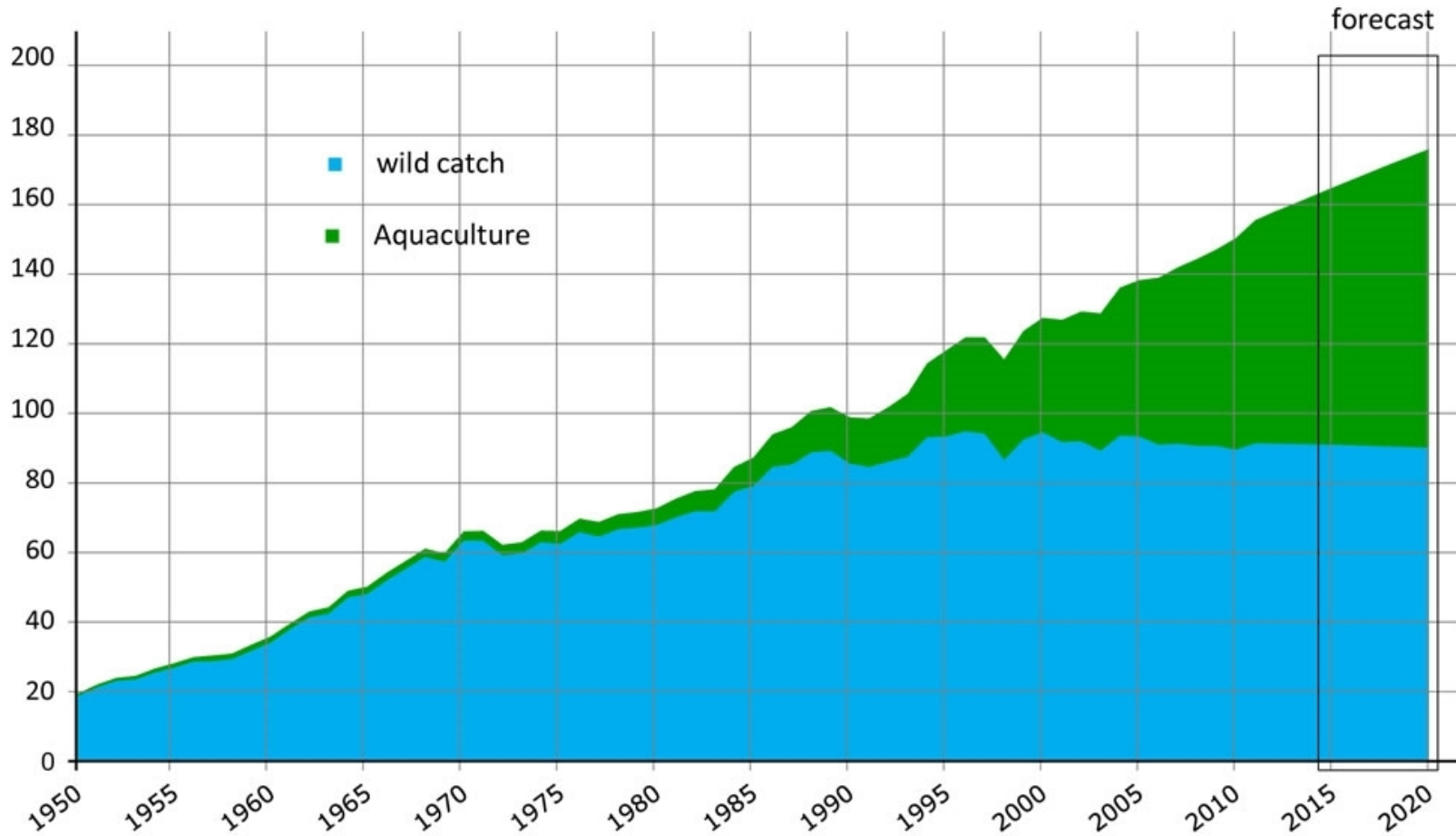




# Increasing demand for feed in aquaculture

## Total Seafood supply

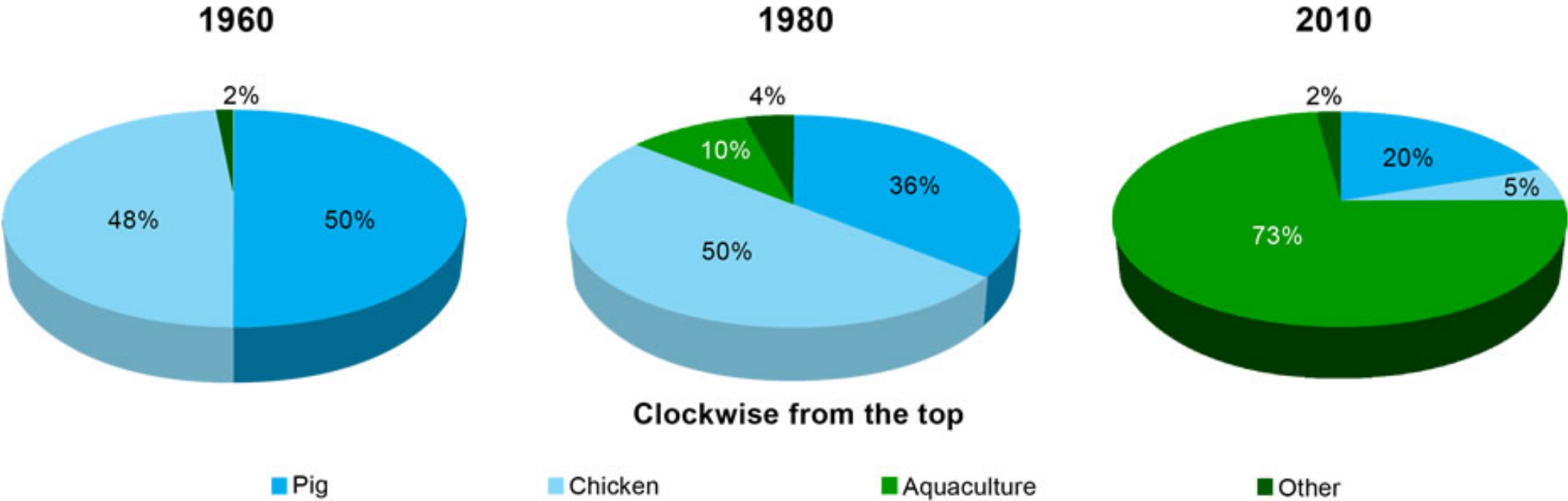
Millions tonnes



Data Source: Rabobank, FAO



Changing uses of fishmeal  
1960 to 2010



Data source: IFFO Estimates

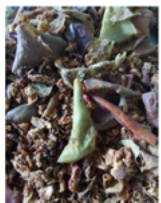


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# Insect feed in sustainable crustacean aquaculture

- Optimizing the side-stream based diet for BSF
- To enhance nutritive quality for shrimps
- Complete replacement of fish meal
- Decoupling of shrimp farming from the ocean



apple  
pomace



cocoa bean  
shell

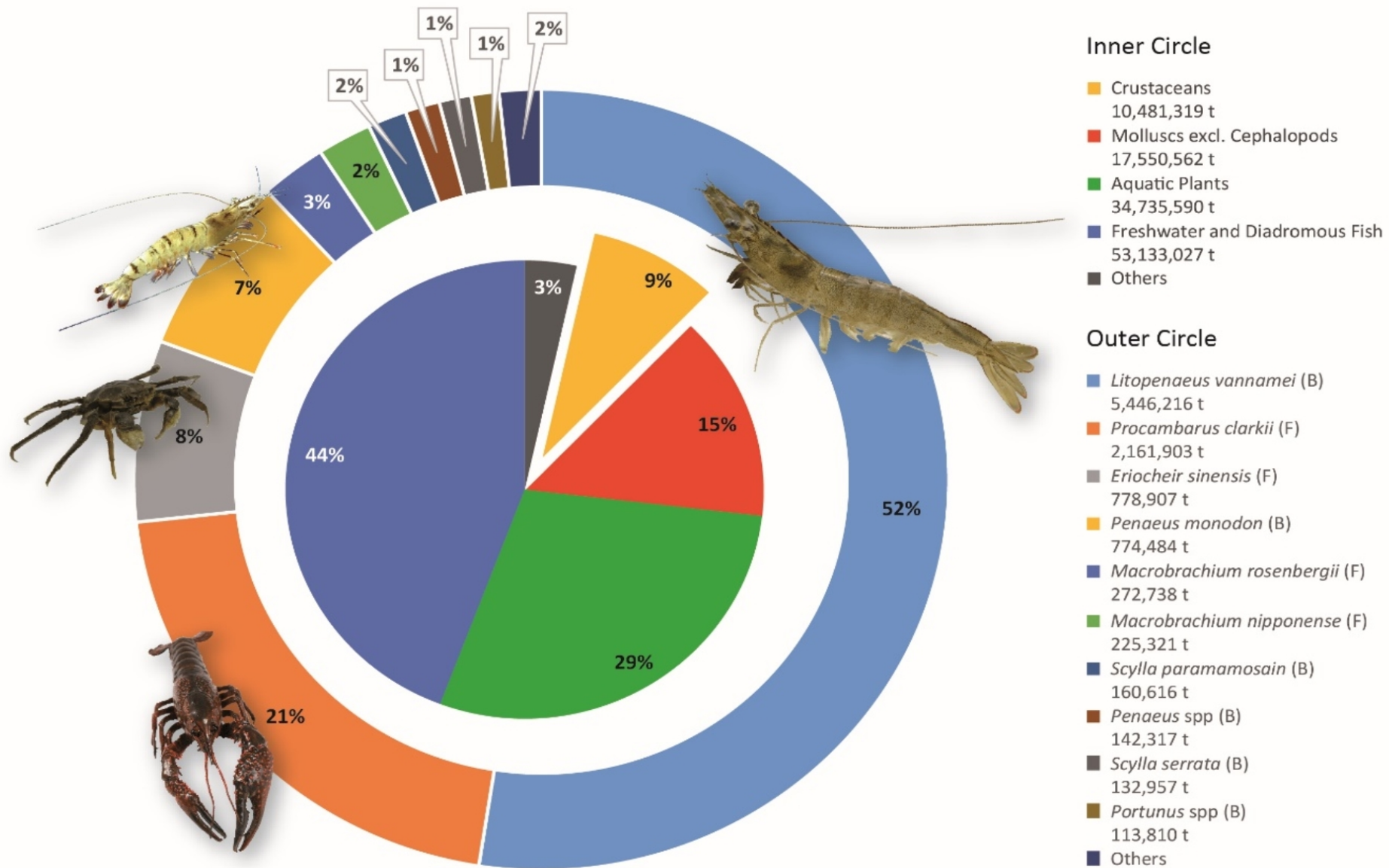


depectinised  
apple  
pomace

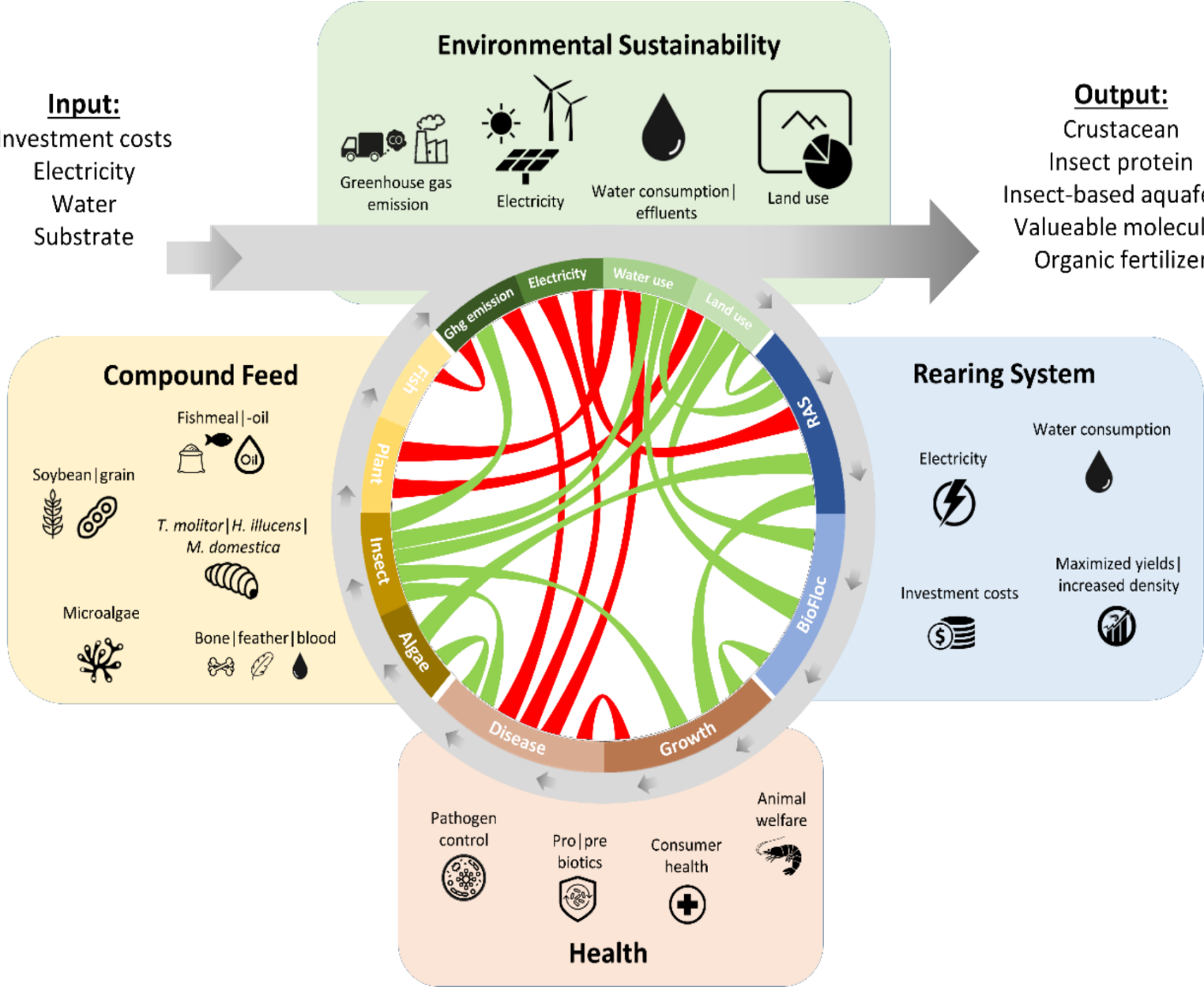


- Tailor-made shrimp food (InFeed)
- Insect-based sustainable agriculture (InA)

# Global aquaculture production and main crustacean species 2019



# Conceptual overview on sustainable, insect-based crustacean aquaculture



Journal of Insects as Food and Feed, 2023; 9(9) 1115-1138



## Insect feed in sustainable crustacean aquaculture

T. Röthig<sup>1\*</sup>, A. Barth<sup>2</sup>, M. Tschirner<sup>1,2</sup>, P. Schubert<sup>2</sup>, M. Wenning<sup>1</sup>, A. Billion<sup>1</sup>, T. Wilke<sup>1,2</sup> and A. Vilcinskas<sup>1,3,4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Branch for Bioresources, Fraunhofer Institute for Molecular Biology and Applied Ecology IME, Ohlebergsweg 12, 35392 Giessen, Germany; <sup>2</sup>Institute for Animal Ecology and Systematics, Justus Liebig University Giessen, Heinrich-Buff-Ring 26, 35392 Giessen, Germany; <sup>3</sup>Institute for Insect Biotechnology, Justus Liebig University Giessen, Heinrich-Buff-Ring 26, 35392 Giessen, Germany; <sup>4</sup>LOEWE Centre for Translational Biodiversity Genomics (LOEWE-TBG), Senckenberganlage 25, 60325 Frankfurt, Germany; [tilloethig@gmail.com](mailto:tilloethig@gmail.com)

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REVIEW ARTICLE



# Controlled Environment Agriculture

## Conflict among SDGs



Traditional Agriculture	Controlled environment Agriculture
	Harvest-areas
	Harvest-time
	Regulation
	Landuse
	Reduction of fertilizer
	No pesticides
	Waste management
	Low transportation
	Low water consumption



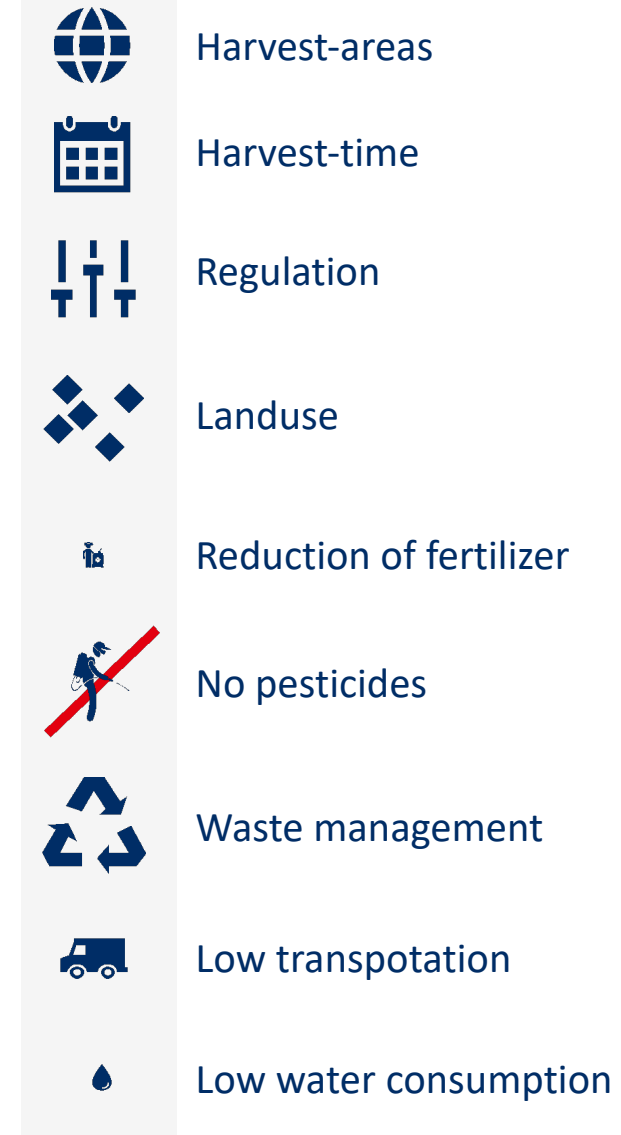
# Controlled Environment Agriculture

- More food needs to be produced, more sustainable despite climate change
- Novel food production systems, including crop, algae, mushroom, fish and insect production in controlled environments-agriculture offer substantially higher productivity
- with no pesticides, low water use, towards full circularity, minimal externalities, close to the consumer and independent of climate, weather and region.
- Improving efficiencies, particularly in energy use and re-use in controlled-environment agriculture will make these new technologies a component of our future food systems.

## Traditional Agriculture

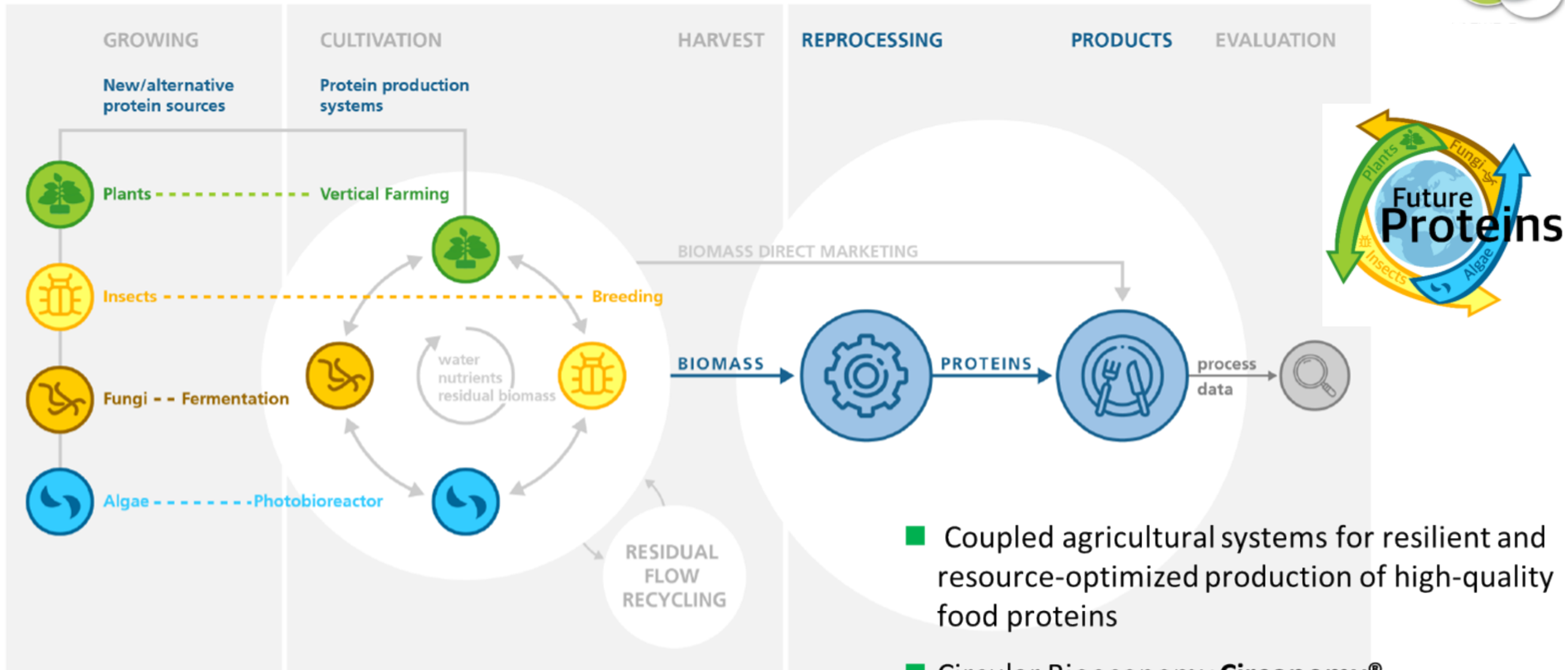


## Controlled environment Agriculture



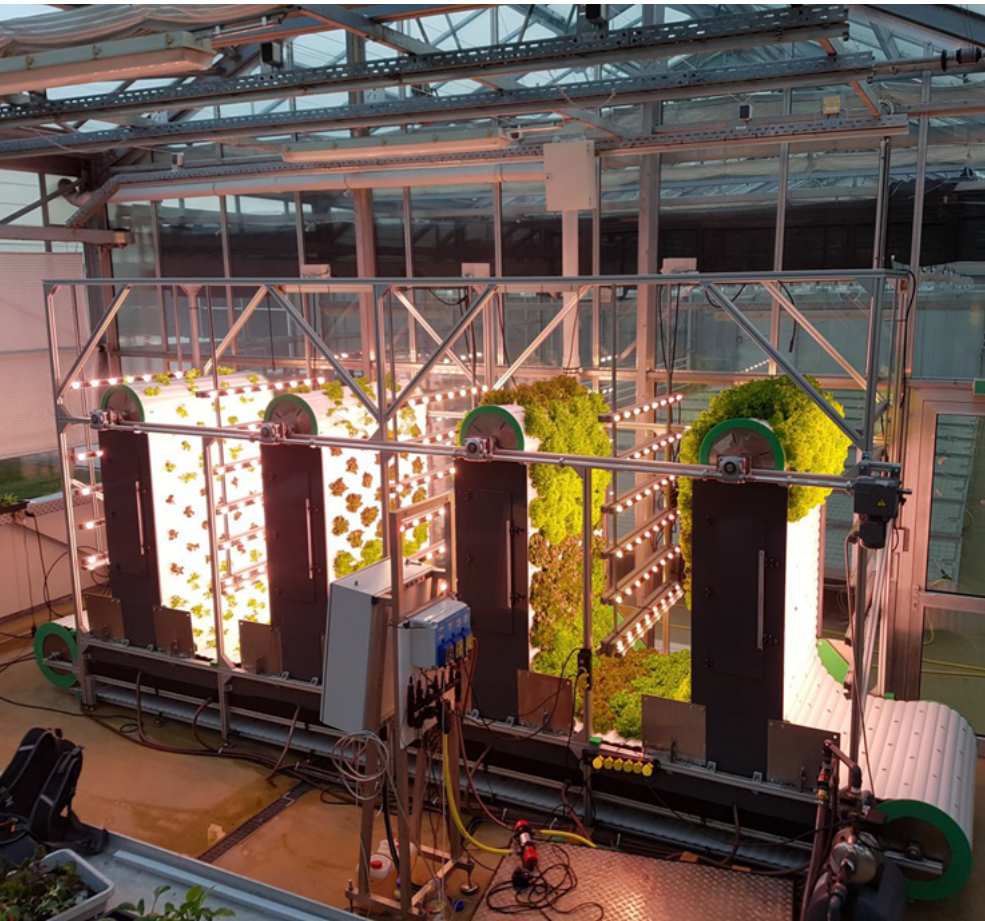


# Fraunhofer Lead Project: Future Proteins

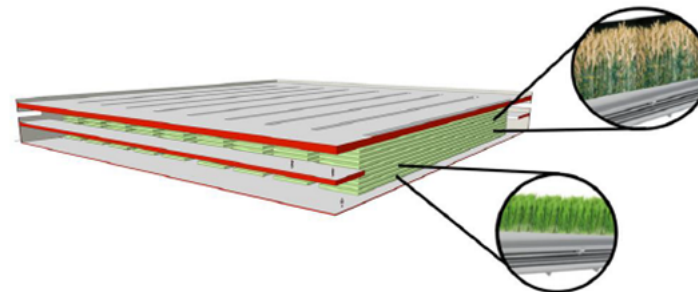


- Coupled agricultural systems for resilient and resource-optimized production of high-quality food proteins
- Circular Bioeconomy **Circonomy**®
- Zero Waste
- 2021-2024, 8 Mio. €

# Fraunhofer Lead project: Future Proteins



- Vertical farming of wheat (Asseng et al. 2020 PNAS)
  - 10 levels
  - $700 \pm 20$  t/ha
  - $1.940 \pm 230$  t/ha wheat per year
  - 220-600 more than wheat production in the field





## First food products from *FutureProteins*



Wheatgrass granola



Wheatgrass dessert  
type panna cotta



Wheatgrass pesto



Crackers with mealworm  
flour



30 cm



Vegan balls: left with pea protein, right with  
mushroom mycelium



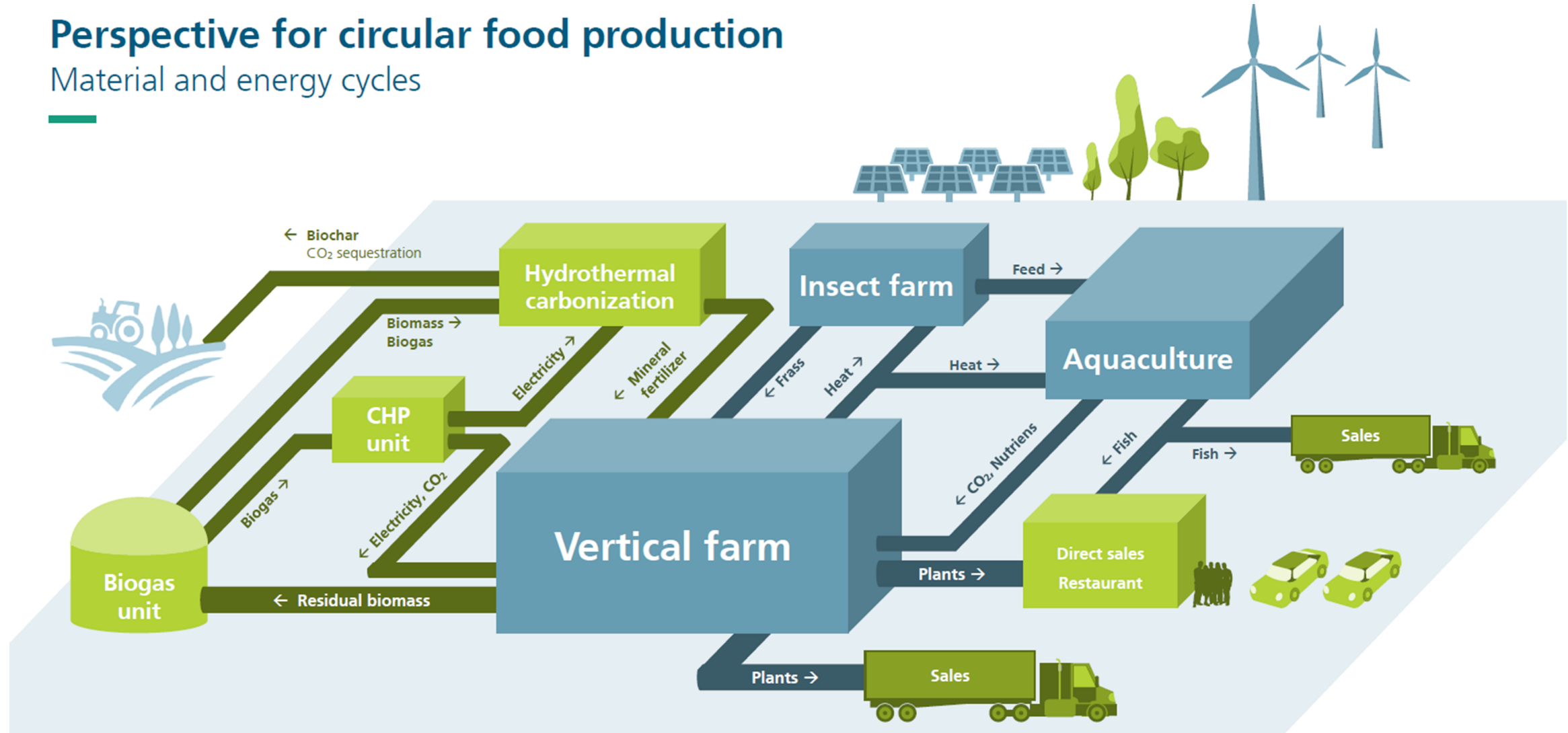
Pasta with algae filling





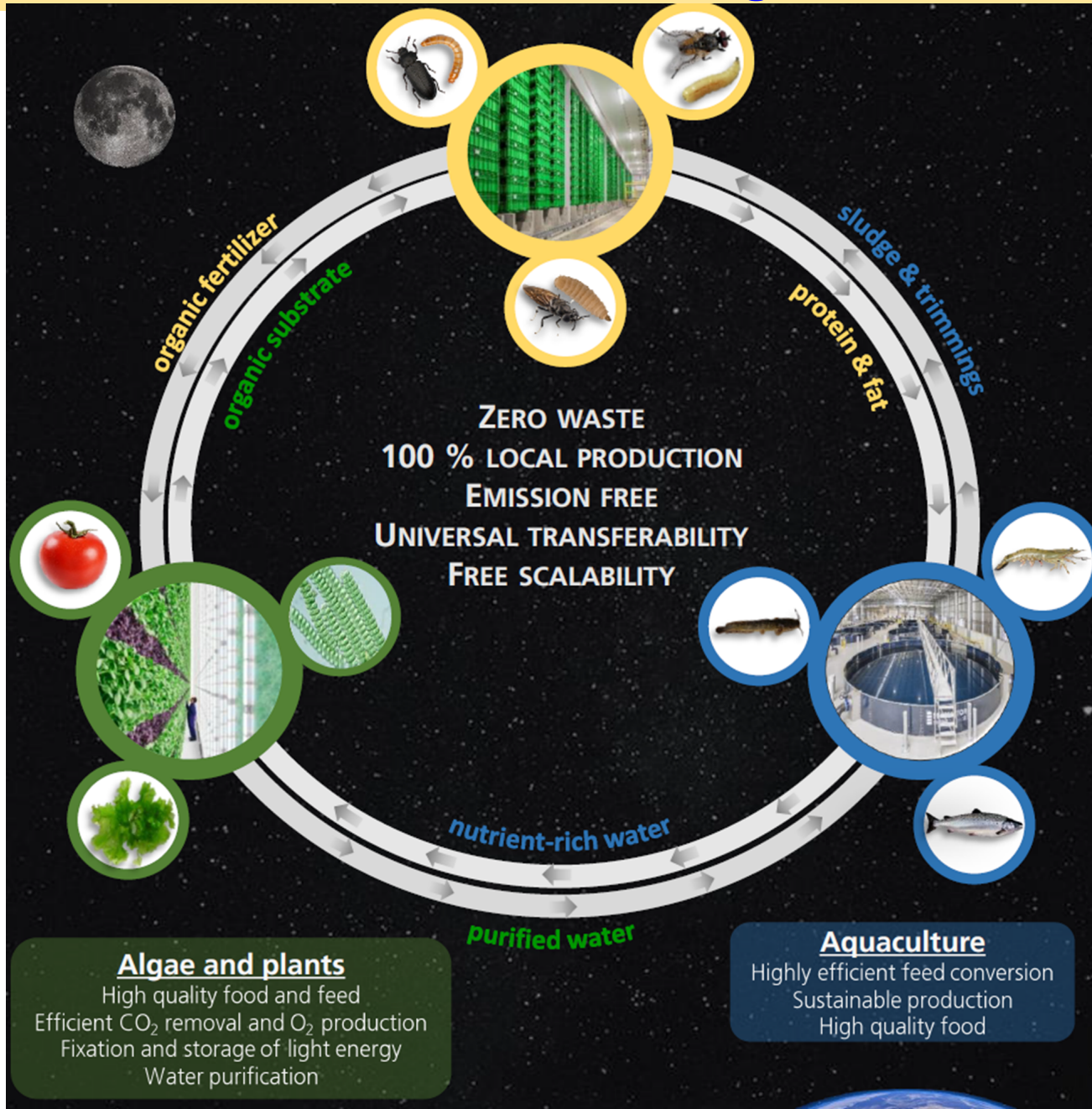
# Fraunhofer Lead project: Future Proteins

## Perspective for circular food production Material and energy cycles





# Insect Farming in Controlled Environment Agriculture



# First international master program



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**NACHWACHSENDE  
ROHSTOFFE UND  
BIORESSOURCEN**

50% 865% 880%



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## Core Modules

- Bioprocess Engineering I (6 CP)
- Biostatistics and Experimental Design (6 CP)
- Entomology I (6 CP)
- Entomology II (6 CP)
- Food Technology (6 CP)
- Integrated Pest Management (6 CP)
- Natural Product Discovery Platforms (6 CP)
- Natural Product Chemistry (6 CP)

## Profile Modules

- Students tailor their individual profile by selecting 8 modules from the entire profile module catalogue of the faculty. Selection of recommended English modules for this study program:
- Antibiotics: present, past, and future
- Bioinformatics
- Bioprocess Engineering II – Advanced
- Insect Biotechnology
- Insects for food and feed production systems
- Instrumental, biochemical and trace analytical methods in food analysis
- Laboratory Course I
- Laboratory Course II
- Method development in food analysis and food biotechnology
- Milestones of Insect Biotechnology & Bioresources
- Molecular Techniques
- Pharmaceutical Basics
- Selected Chapters of Pharmaceutical & Industrial Biotechnology
- Trends and Advances in Natural Product Research
- Quality Management



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**Thank you for your attention**