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Valorisation of agri-food residues for the food packaging sector: potentials and criticalities

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The beginning ... 2001/2002

*Working at the Institute of
Oenology (later Oenology and
Food Engineering)*

*PhD on Fungal Bioreactor for the
treatment of off-gases*

IDEA!

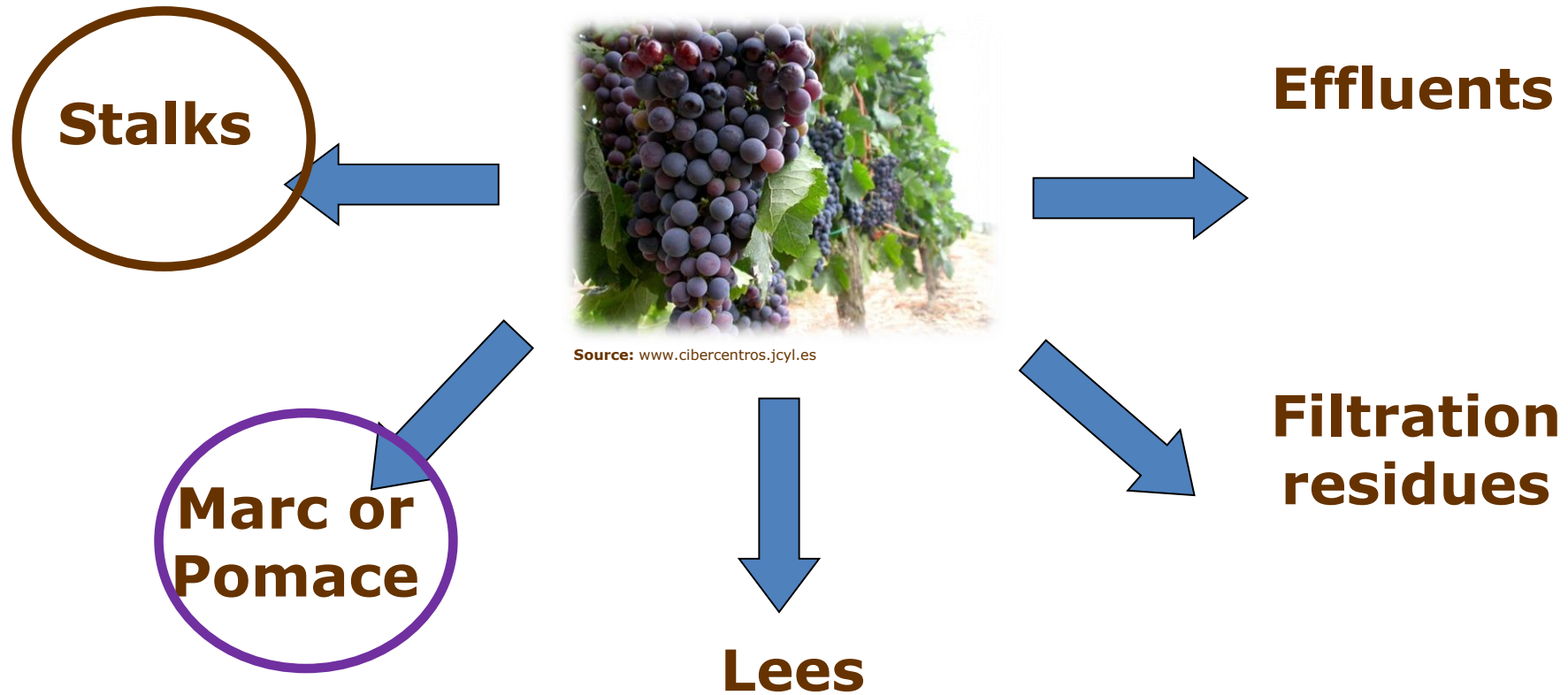
*Working on the wine-
making «wastes»*





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The wine-making residues





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Valorisation of STALKS

✓ Antioxidants



Food sector – cosmetic –
pharmaceutical –
materials

✓ Sugars (Structural & not structural)



Food sector –
fermentations – materials

✓ Lignin



Antioxidants – materials

✓ Cellulose



Materials – bioethanol





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Lignocellulosic Fractionation & Antioxidants Recovery ACID & BASIC HYDROLYSIS

Washing

Glu+Fru (%w/w)

Chardonnay	Moscato	Muller	Barbera	Nebbiolo	Pinot nero
8.7±0.15	13.2±1.2	1.5±0.0	6.6±0.0	12.3±0.0	5.0±0.1

Liquor Acid

Xylose

Tot. phenols

Chardonnay	Moscato	Muller	Barbera	Nebbiolo	Pinot nero
5.3±0.0	4.1±0.3	5.3±0.1	6.6±0.1	3.3±0.2	5.9±0.1
1.2±0.0	1.2±0.1	1.3±0.0	1.0±0.0	1.3±0.0	1.2±0.0



Liquor Basic



Cellulose Residue



Lignocellulosic fractions to recover cellulose, sugars and lignin from other lignocellulosic residues with different processes

Valorisation of GRAPE POMACE



Conventional
Solvent
extraction

Microwave /
US assisted
extraction

Cultivar &
Vintage
Influence

Extract
stability

**ANTIOXIDANTS
RECOVERY**

Purification
processes

Encapsulation for
lipid media

Encapsulation for
aqueous media



MARC COLLECTION

PRETREATMENT

*Freezing, modified atmosphere, drying, drying,
freeze-drying, seeds / skins separation, milling*



EXTRACTION

*Conventional with solvent, MAE, UAE, HP,
supercritical, enzymes*

CONCENTRATION

*Crude concentrated liquid
extract*



DRYING /
ENCAPSULATION

*Crude powder
extract*



PURIFICATION

*Purified concentrated liquid
extract*



DRYING /
ENCAPSULATION

*Purified powder
extract*





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Valorisation of GRAPE POMACE

The ValorVitis project (2011/2018)

 VALORVITIS

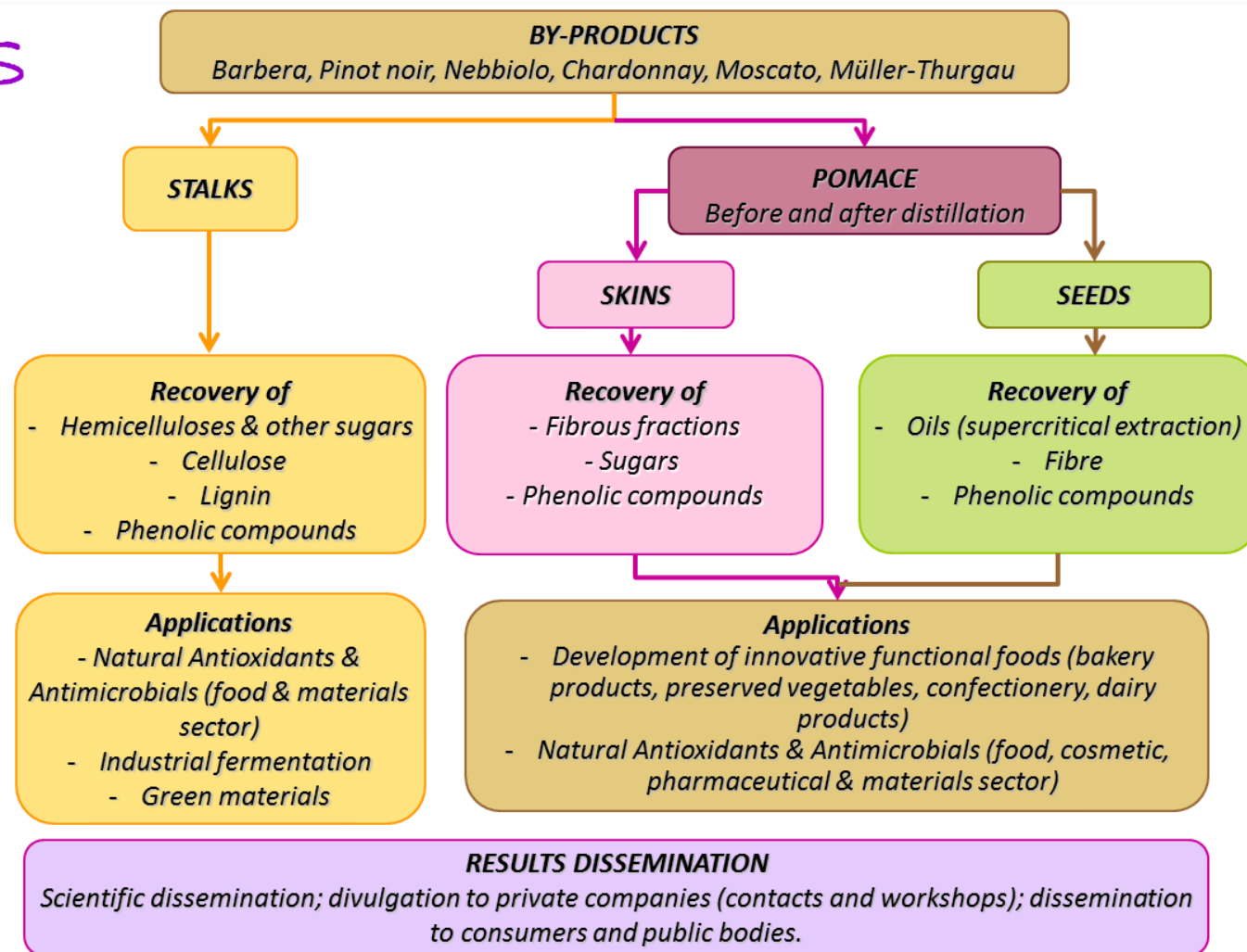
 VALORVITIS 2.0

The research results meet the market and the industry.

Results validation

Communication and promotion

Business plan



FONDAZIONI IN RETE
PER LA RICERCA
AGROALIMENTARE

grant n° 2010-2222
grant n° 2017-2201

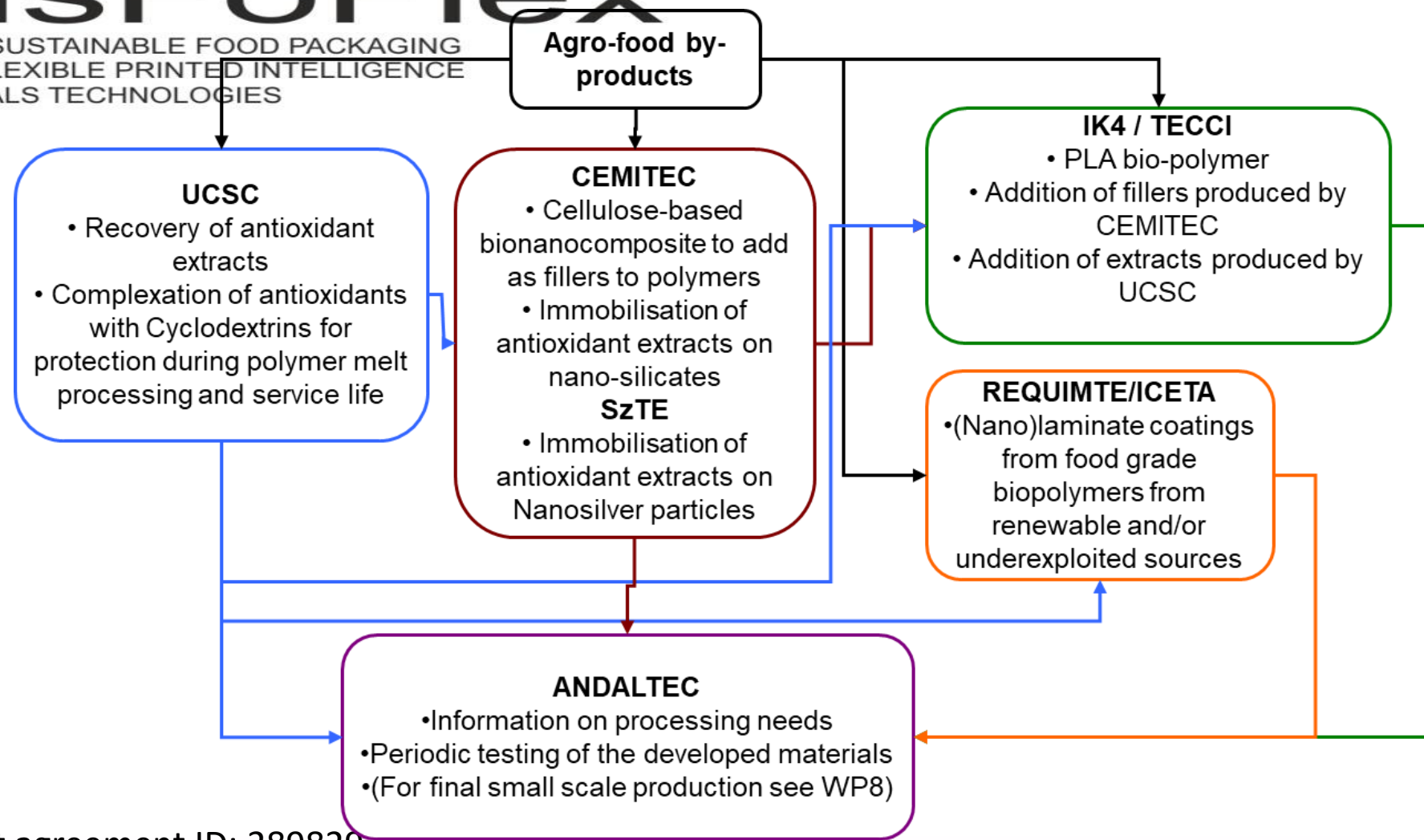


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Valorisation of other residues the SusFoFlex project (2011-2015)

SusFoFlex

SMART and SUSTAINABLE FOOD PACKAGING
UTILIZING FLEXIBLE PRINTED INTELLIGENCE
and MATERIALS TECHNOLOGIES



Grant agreement ID: 289829





BY-PRODUCTS SELECTION

Brewers' Spent Grains, Hazelnut shells, Wheat Straw, Orange Peels

ANTIOXIDANTS RECOVERY – ORANGE PEELS

- *Complexation on nano-silicates*
- *Complexation on Silver nano particles*
- *Addition into PLA plastic*
- *Addition into edible coatings*

CELLULOSE RECOVERY - WHEAT STRAW

Production of bionanocomposites to be used as fillers for conventional and PLA based biopolymers

FRESH-CUT FRUITS PACKAGING

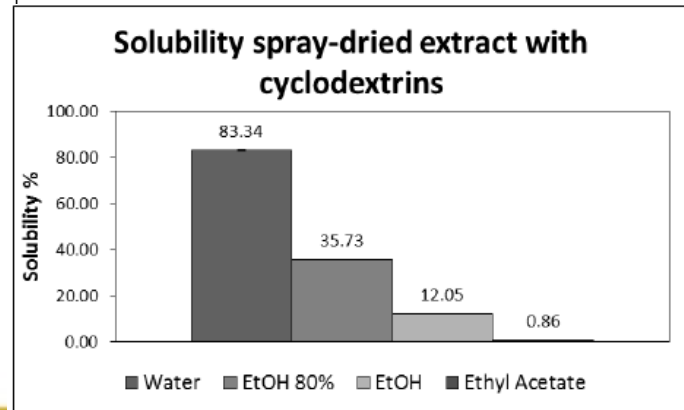
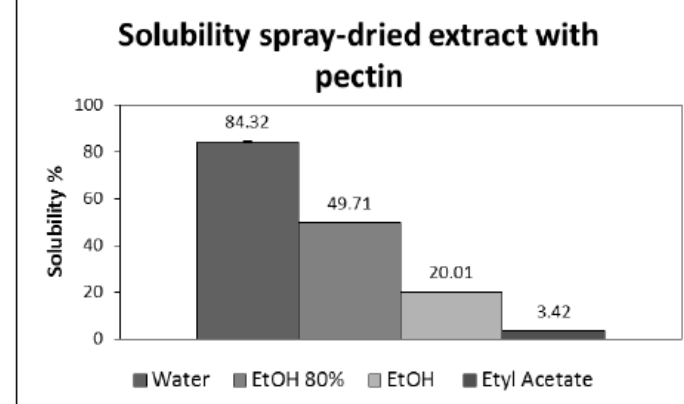
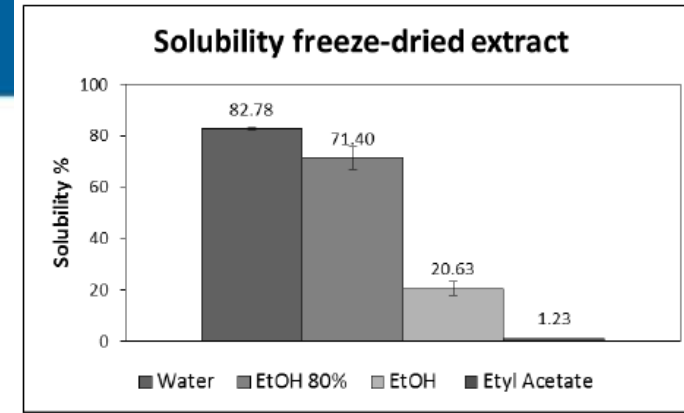
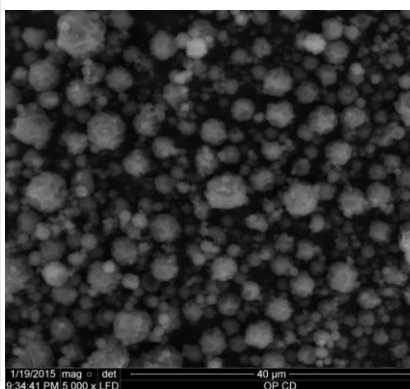
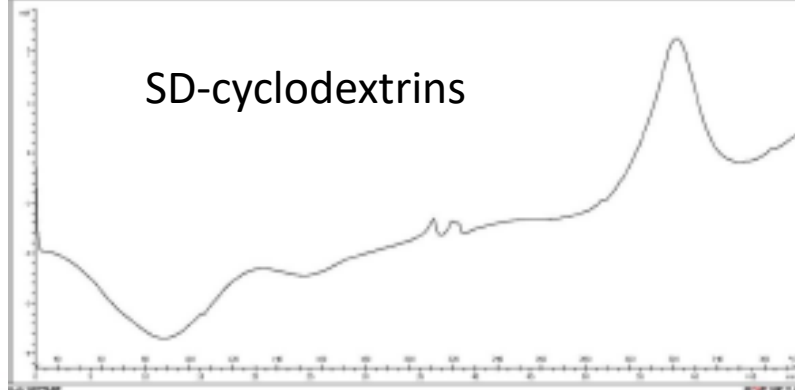
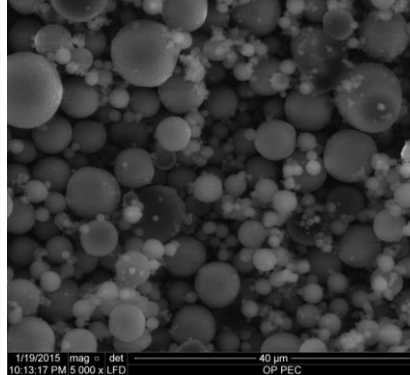
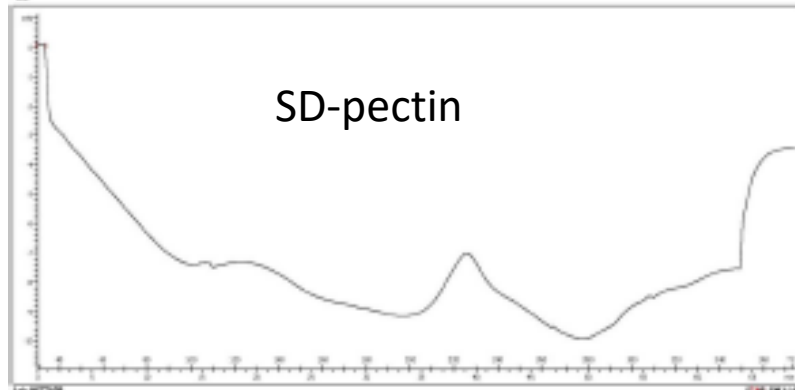
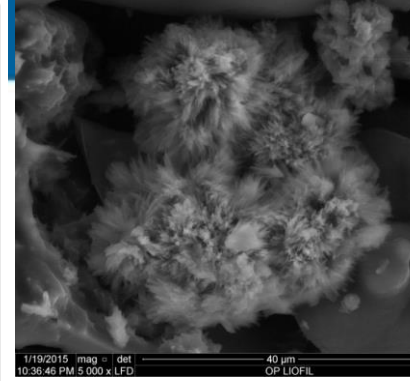
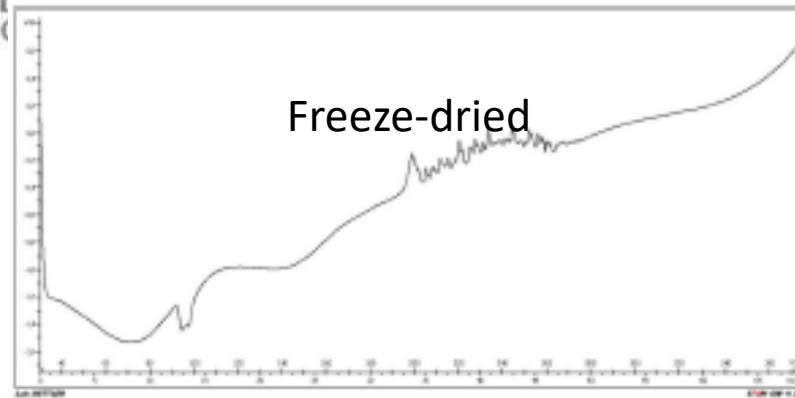




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Orange peel extract modification - Drying

- Freeze-drying
- Spray-Drying with Citrus Pectin (Process Yield $\approx 70\%$)
- Spray-Drying with Cyclodextrins (Process Yield $\approx 70\%$)





- Purification: adsorption on resin (Amberlite)
- Purified Freeze-dried extract up to 50 % phenols content (compared to 8 % of crude extract)

	OPE	EAA	WW	PE	Recovery %
Phenols content mg HE/L	5752.2	2019.4	n. d.	898.3	34.38
Naringin mg/L	13.87	n. d.	n. d.	5.41	85.80
Hesperidin mg/L	366.33	n. d.	n. d.	125.53	75.42
Citric acid g/L	71.01	66.48	10.44	n. d.	-
Glucose g/L	6.26	4.76	0.54	n. d.	-
Fructose g/L	6.83	5.16	0.57	n. d.	-
Sucrose g/L	7.82	5.50	0.70	n. d.	-
Ca mg/L	7.5	3.0	0.5	1.1	31.68
K mg/L	246.0	181.5	59.6	10.2	9.13
Na mg/L	10.0	13.2	2.9	2.5	55.22
Mg mg/L	8.6	5.1	0.8	1.2	30.43



TO OBTAIN 1 kg OF PECTIN-SD-EXTRACT...

CRUDE EXTRACT PREPARATION		
INPUT	OUTPUT	COMMENT
104 kg fresh orange peels 3850 kg dry air 468 MJ (9.35 kg methane) 108 L Ethanol 27 L Water	19.5 kg (exhausted dry peels = solid waste) 26.2 kg CO ₂ 70.4 L Ethanol loss (vapor) 17.6 L Water vapor	The ethanol and water loss is probably less in an industrial scale process.
CRUDE EXTRACT PURIFICATION		
9.05 kg Resin 170 L NaOH 1 % 1151 L Water 60.5 L Ethanol 30 L Acetone 448 MJ (9 kg Methane)	9.05 kg Resin 170 L Effluent NaOH 1 % 1196 L Water effluent 55 L Ethanol Loss (vapor) 7.4 kg solids waste from extract 25 kg CO ₂	The 7.4 kg of solids removed from the extract will be distributed in the water effluent
SPRAY-DRYING		
0.443 kg Pectin 38.8 L water 738.34 kWh	0.26 kg solid waste 43.3 L water vapor 282 kg CO ₂	The kWh have been calculated supposing the electric energy is produced via fuel combustion with a process efficiency of 35 %.



Orange peel extract modification - Complexation



- Complexation on nanoclays (100 $\text{mg}_{\text{extract}}/\text{g}$)
- Complexation on Silver nanoparticles
- Introduction into edible coating
- Introduction into PLA (freeze-dried, spray-dried with Cyclodextrins or pectin)

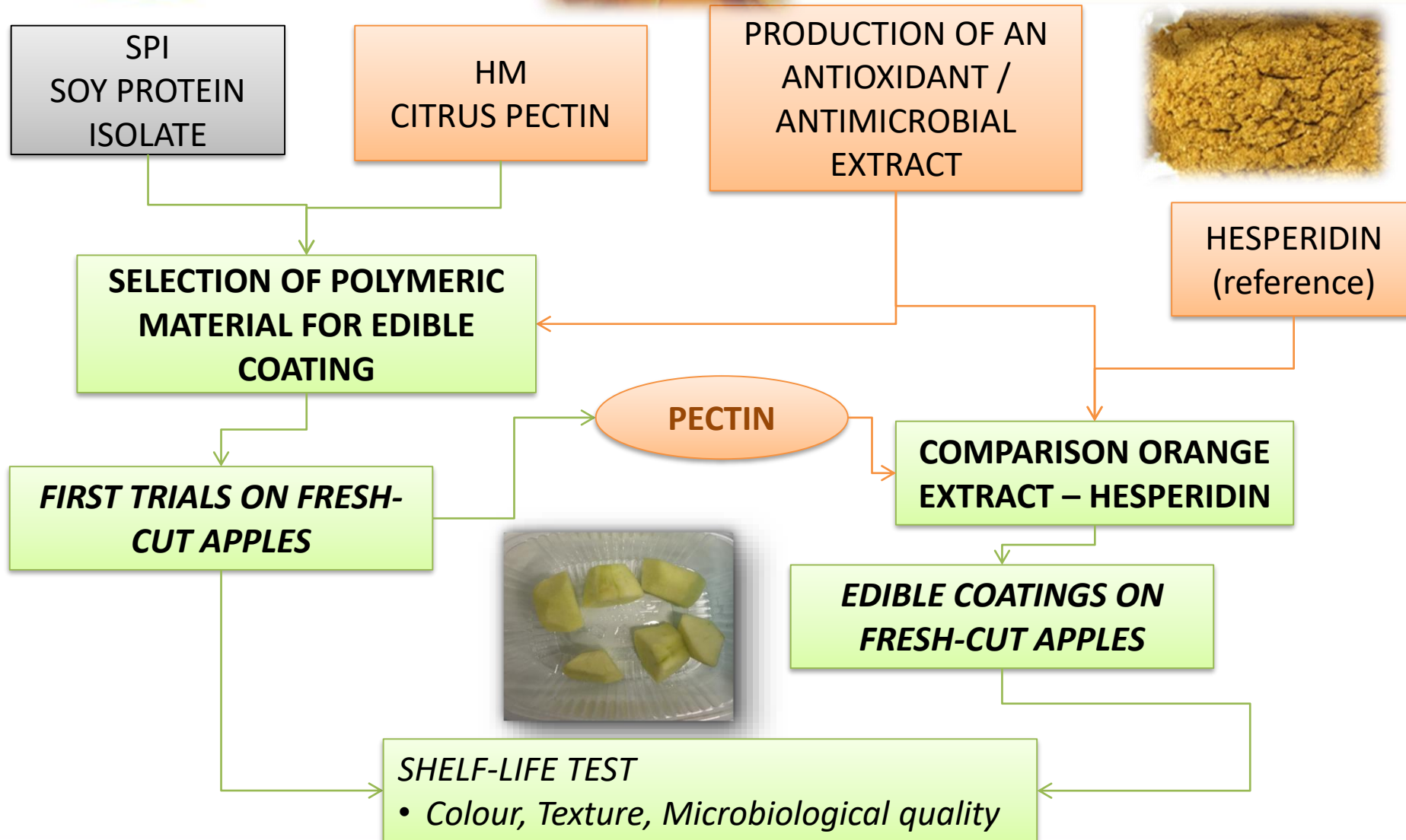
	PLA (HYCAIL) + % purified orange extract (FD)	PLA (HYCAIL) + % purified orange extract (PECTIN)	PLA (HYCAIL) + % purified orange extract (CD)
0.25% OE			
0.50% OE			
1.00% OE			
2.00% OE			



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Edible coatings





Results – *EDIBLE COATINGS – POLYMER SELECTION*

**MICROBIAL
GROWTH
after 5 days**

TREATMENT	Mesophilic count	Psychrotrophic count	Moulds
NO FILM	nd	2.00E+05	2.00E+04
ASCORBATE	nd	2.25E+05	2.58E+06
PECTIN + OPE	nd	nd	nd
SPI + OPE	nd	7.57E+05	7.97E+05
NO FILM	4.20E+04	2.32E+05	3.99E+05
ASCORBATE	8.93E+04	8.525E+04	1.16E+05
PECTIN + OPE	nd	nd	nd
PECTIN + HE	nd	7.33E+03	1.10E+04



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Results – *EDIBLE COATINGS – POLYMER SELECTION*

COLOUR

	Day 0	Day 2	Day 5
NO FILM	#D0BF78 (208, 191, 120)	#CEBC81 (206, 188, 129)	#C9AF6C (201, 175, 108)
ASCORBATE	#D3CC99 (211, 204, 153)	#D3CB94 (211, 203, 148)	#CFC68E (207, 198, 142)
PECTIN + OPE	#D2C280 (210, 194, 128)	#CFBA7A (207, 186, 122)	#CFB576 (207, 181, 118)
SPI + OPE	#C2B06C (194, 176, 108)	#CBAE6D (203, 174, 109)	#CCA66D (204, 174, 109)



Cellulose Recovery from by-products

Component	Wheat Straw	Hazelnut Shells	Orange Peels	Brewers' Spent Grains
Cellulose residue yield (g/100 g _{dm})	16.91 ± 2.72	41.17 ± 0.23	6.78 ± 0.11	5.66 ± 0.37
Cellulose content (%)	84.07 ± 1.80	37.01 ± 1.15	56.11 ± 0.43	61.34 ± 1.63
Cellulose recovery (%)	44.70 ± 0.92	58.68 ± 7.99	24.91 ± 1.84	35.84 ± 6.28
Hemicellulose content (%)	2.10 ± 0.12	2.58 ± 0.09	1.28 ± 0.09	1.57 ± 0.08
Acid insoluble lignin (%)	12.43 ± 0.24	27.99 ± 2.72	13.46 ± 1.17	16.48 ± 2.25



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Cellulose Recovery: by-product Selection





NewPack

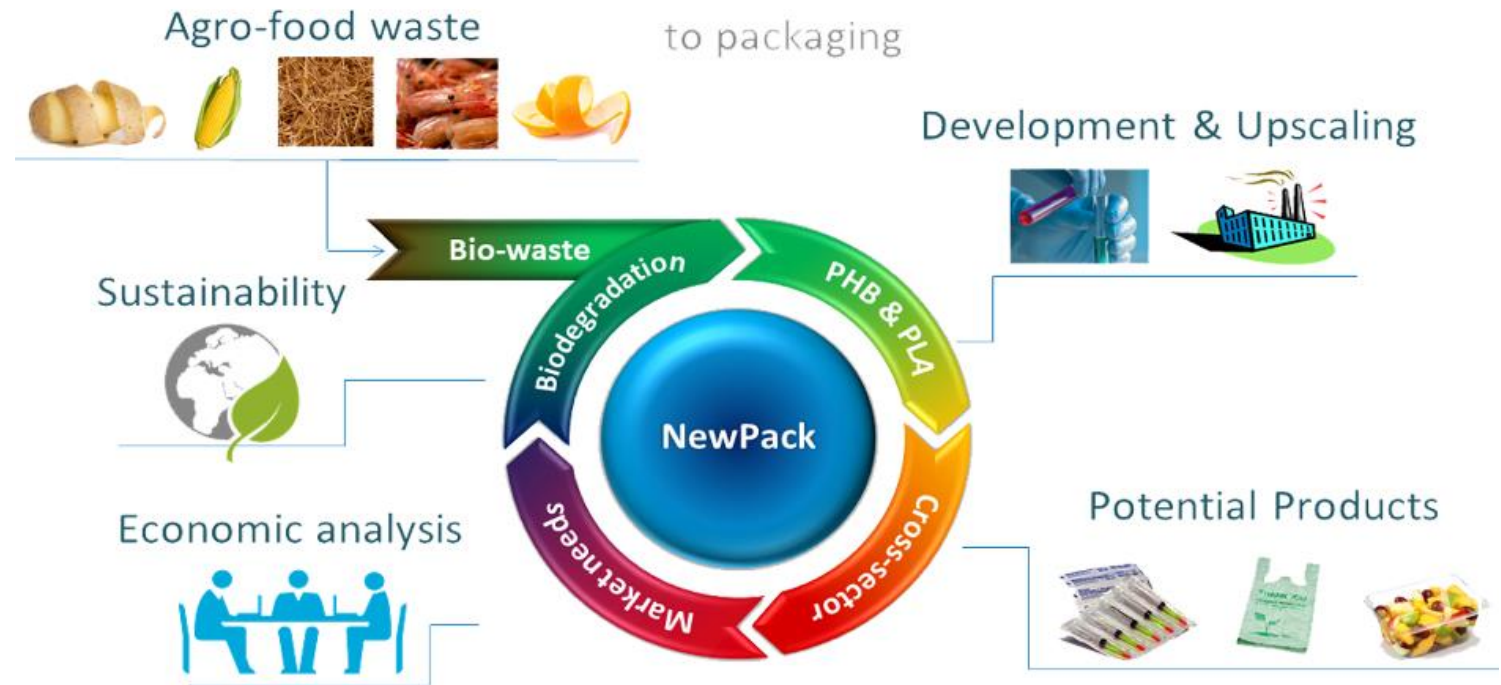
New BioBased Film for Packaging

NewPack closing the loop

From non-edible by-products

to packaging

The overall objective of NewPack (H2020, BBI-JU project) is to develop new food packaging materials based on PLA/PHB mixtures. PHB produced from sweet corn residues and potato peels. Nanowhiskers additives from wheat straw. Nanochitin from fish wastes. Functional coatings with natural extracts.





- Cellulose isolation and additivation

***MICROCRYSTALLINE
CELLULOSE RECOVERY***

***NANOCELLULOSE
ISOLATION***

INCORPORATION



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- Natural extracts with antimicrobial and/or antioxidant functionalities

FROM BY-PRODUCTS

CHARACTERISATION

***COMMERCIAL
EXTRACTS***

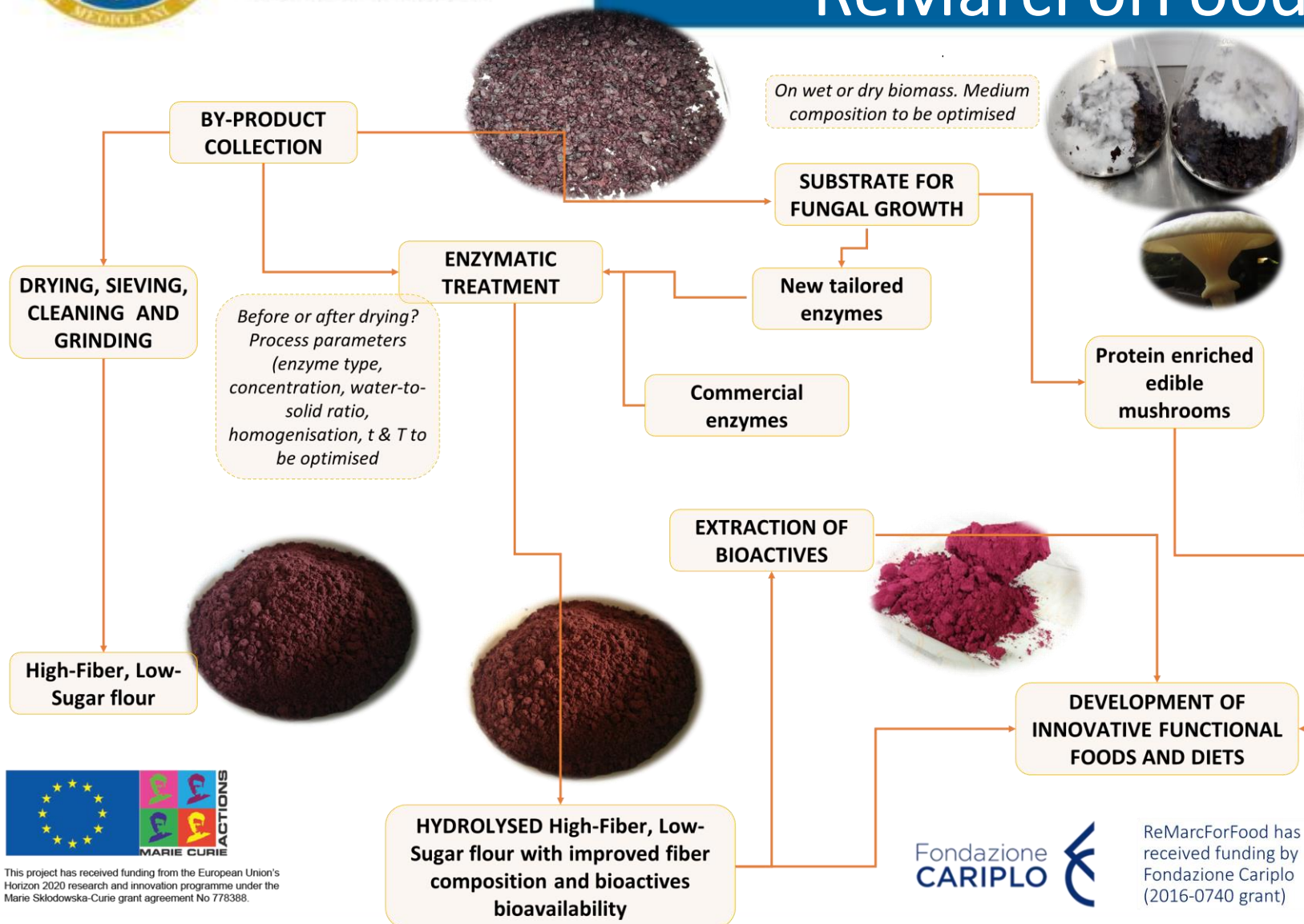
SELECTION

INCORPORATION



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Valorisation of grape residues, ReMarcForFood Project (2017-2019)



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No 778388.



ReMarcForFood has received funding by Fondazione Cariplo (2016-0740 grant)



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Valorisation of different residues, The Fodiac Project (2018-2021)



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No 778388.



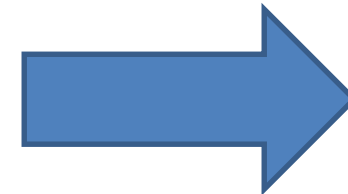
The overall R&I objective of FODIAC is to develop an integrative dietary solution to tackle diabetes and the associated impairment of the cognitive function among the elderly by the development of bioactive ingredients, and functional foods and diets.



By-product?

EU waste management law (Directive 2008/98/CE) specified that a by-product is “a result from a production process that was not the primary aim of that process” and that “unlike waste, it must be able to be used afterwards”.

Criteria to be satisfied at the
same time ...





To be a (non waste) by-product

Criteria Indicated by the Commission in a Communication to the Council and the European Parliament on the Interpretative Communication on waste and by-products

- Must originate from a production process without being the main production aim
- Must be usable again in the same production process or in a next production or utilization process
- Must be directly re-usable without any further treatment outside normal industrial practice
- Must have a market value
- The final use should be integral and without negative impacts on neither human health, nor environment.



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What does it miss???

Sustainability

*Whole
chain*

Scale-up

Local

*By-product according
to law*

*Process modelling &
Control*

Green Processes

*Nano-materials and
legislation*

*Novel foods &
ingredients*

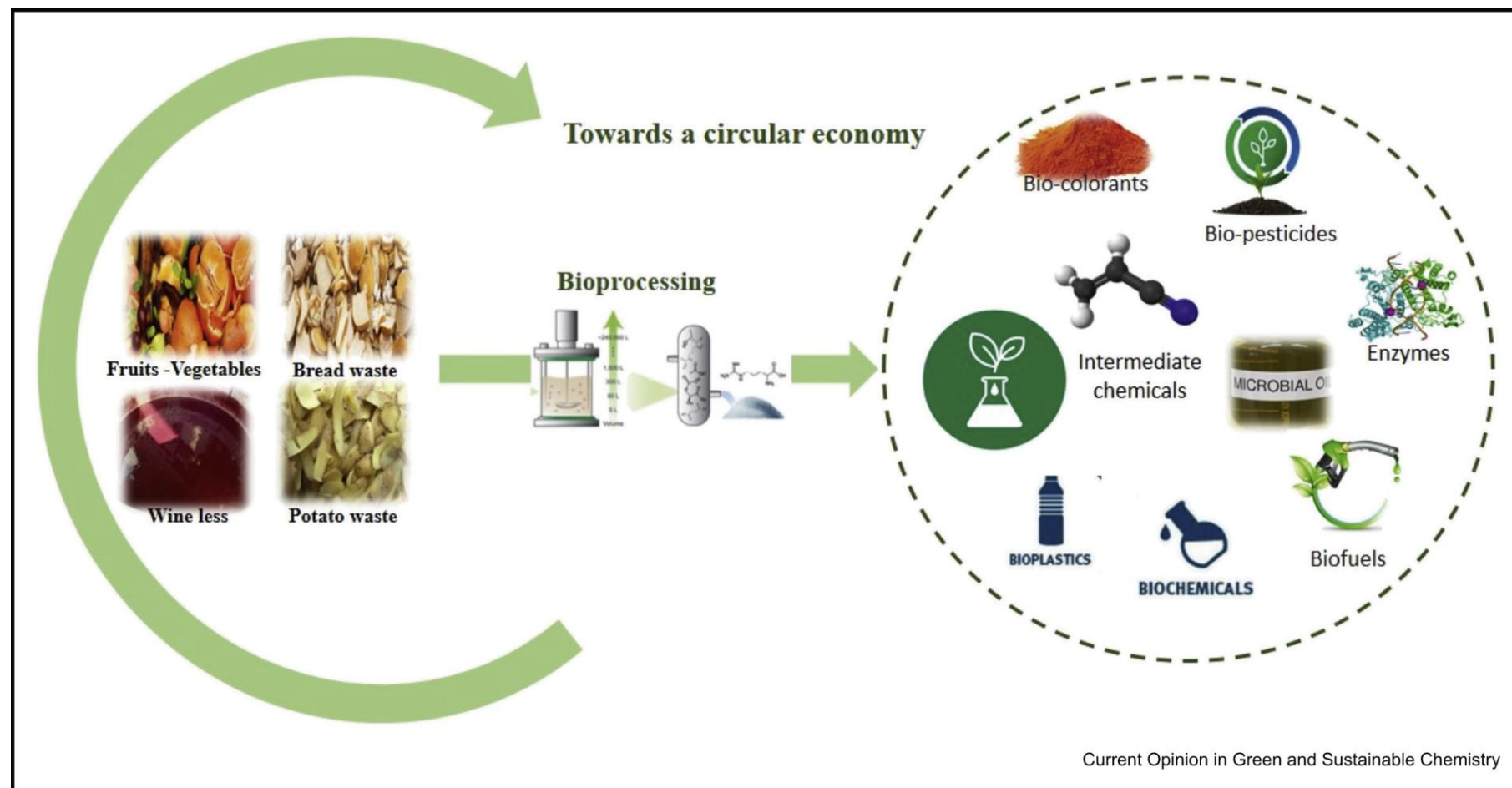
New functionalities

Good tasting



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CONCLUSION...



Maina et al., 2017, 8, 18-23.