

## Special Issue

# Extraction, Structural Characterization, Functional Properties and Applications of Food-Derived Proteins

### Message from the Guest Editors

Food-derived proteins are fundamental components in human nutrition and play an increasingly critical role in the development of sustainable, healthy, and functional food products. Advances in extraction technologies, coupled with sophisticated structural analysis and functional insights, have enabled the tailored use of proteins from diverse sources for a wide spectrum of food applications.

This Special Issue highlights advances across the protein value chain—from green extraction methods to multi-scale structural analysis. It also explores key functional properties like emulsifying, foaming, gelling, and bioactive capacities, along with applications in plant-based alternatives, edible films, coatings, and encapsulation systems.

Studies on protein digestibility, allergenicity, and sustainability—including upcycling of agri-food side streams—are encouraged. We welcome original research and reviews that bridge food chemistry, process engineering, and nutrition, fostering innovation for future food systems. Submissions should offer novel perspectives on protein science and its practical implications.

---

### Guest Editors

Dr. Qingling Wang  
Dr. Yanyun Cao  
Dr. Mangang Wu

---

**Deadline for manuscript submissions**



## Foods

---

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

---

Impact Factor 5.1  
CiteScore 8.7  
Indexed in PubMed



[mdpi.com/si/264700](https://mdpi.com/si/264700)

*Foods*  
Editorial Office  
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5  
4052 Basel, Switzerland  
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34  
[foods@mdpi.com](mailto:foods@mdpi.com)

[mdpi.com/journal/  
foods](https://mdpi.com/journal/foods)





# Foods

---

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

---

Impact Factor 5.1  
CiteScore 8.7  
Indexed in PubMed



[mdpi.com/journal/  
foods](https://mdpi.com/journal/foods)



## About the Journal

### Message from the Editor-in-Chief

*Foods* (ISSN 2304-8158) is an open access and peer reviewed scientific journal that publishes original articles, critical reviews, case reports, and short communications on food science. Articles are released monthly online, with unlimited free access. Currently, *Foods* has been indexed by the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE - Web of Science), PubMed, and Scopus. Our aim is to encourage scientists, researchers, and other food professionals to publish their experimental and theoretical results as much detail as possible. We therefore invite you to be one of our authors, and in doing so share your important research findings with the global food science community.

---

### Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Arun K. Bhunia

1. Department of Food Science, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47907, USA
2. Department of Comparative Pathobiology, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47907, USA

---

### Author Benefits

#### High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SCIE (Web of Science), PubMed, PMC, FSTA, AGRIS, PubAg, and other databases.

#### Journal Rank:

JCR - Q1 (Food Science and Technology) / CiteScore - Q1 (Health Professions (miscellaneous))

#### Rapid Publication:

manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 15 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 2.6 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the second half of 2025).