EXPORT MARKET PROFILES

OPPORTUNITIES FOR AUSTRALIAN & NEW ZEALAND PLANT-BASED MEAT ALTERNATIVES

2021





EXPORT MARKET PROFILES



With demand for protein and meat alternatives increasing in Australia and New Zealand's key export markets across Asia, more plant-based meat companies in our region are seeking to grow their export footprint.

This new resource compiled by Food Frontier in 2021 offers guidance on seven priority Asian markets. Each profile includes market intelligence such as consumer profiles, demand figures, local and international brands in market, labelling requirements and distribution insights.

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DISCLAIMER

This resource provides general information only. It is important to investigate the market, competition, regulations, and available channels to determine the best route and process to distribute your products.

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MARKET PROFILE: CHINA







China's plant-based meat (PBM) market was estimated to be worth US\$1B in 2019. With a growth rate between 13.5% and 15.5% since 2013 it is projected to grow to US\$50B by 2030. Currently, 39.8% of China's plant-based protein, including PBM, is imported. In the wider Asia-Pacific region, the 'meat substitute' market was worth US\$15.3B in 2019, up 4.75% from 2018. The pandemic has accelerated that growth, with the market forecast to expand 11.6% to US\$17.1B in 2020.

Part of China's interest in PBM can be linked to food security, with ongoing pressure of the 2019 African Swine Fever outbreak on domestic pork supplies.⁴

CONSUMER DEMAND

With a history of food insecurity, meat consumption is seen by older generations as a sign of wealth and prestige. However, as the Chinese middle class continues to grow, young urban consumers who grew up with frequent access to meat do not hold the same view. This group are a key market for PBM, viewing it as novel and trendy. 6

Food service plays an important role in PBM growth as it allows consumers to try new products during early stages of consumer penetration and caters to younger consumers who typically prefer to dine out.⁷ Chinese consumers are typically price-sensitive but brand-conscious, with a willingness to pay for premium products which signal higher social status.⁸

Pork is traditionally the most widely consumed meat in China,⁹ with many PBM companies focusing on

China's plant-based meat industry will reach US\$50 billion by 2030 at a growth rate of 36%."

- YOUKUAI GROUP INTERNATIONAL

developing alternatives for both pork and beef due to their relatively higher market prices.¹⁰

According to a report by Good Food Institute
Consultancy (GFIC) in China, the main challenge to
mass adoption of PBM is the development of
products that can directly substitute conventional
meat in Chinese cuisine. 11 Some notable examples are
meat alternatives in hot pot, meat-based snacks and
skewered meats.

In 2016, the Chinese government released dietary guidelines which aim to reduce meat consumption by 50% to improve public health. PBM products are also encouraged to contain high-protein, low-fat and low-sodium content, following the first voluntary guidelines regarding PBM released in April 2021 by the state-affiliated industry group, Chinese Institute of Food Science and Technology. 14

Food safety is a key concern for Chinese consumers due to multiple food scandal in recent years. ¹⁵ Both Australia and New Zealand are well-positioned to capitalise on their 'clean and green' reputations. However, there is a trend for Chinese consumers to support local brands as goods 'made in China' are no longer considered inferior, which will present competition for Australian and New Zealand exporters. ¹⁶ While this is more evident in other sectors such as electronics, domestic food producers are rapidly catching up to imported foods. This is linked to the passing of Food Safety Law (2015), described as China's strictest food safety law in history to restore consumer confidence in domestic products. ¹⁷

	E	camp	les of major l	ocal plant-based meat brands
登 2	Zhenmeat	enmeat PBM start-up		Offers alternatives to meatballs, crayfish, pork tenderloin, dumplings made from fungus and pea protein. Trialled pork style mooncakes on Alibaba. ¹⁸ Available in food service. ¹⁹
SFARFIELD 星期零 ftd Stocks	Starfield PBM st		start-up	Offers PBM made from soy protein and wheat, available in food service (such as plant-based chicken burger at Dicos). ²⁰
HEY MAET 植物肉鹽	Hey Maet	PBM	start-up	Offers alternatives to meatballs, burgers, nuggets, chops, sausages, crispy pork and dumplings made from pea, soy and rice proteins. Available in food service. ²¹
計善食品" Whole Perfect Food	Whole Perfect Food	Brand by Shenzhen Qishan Food Co. Ltd		Soy food manufacturer originally catering to vegetarian and Buddhist consumers. PBM range focuses on Chinese cuisine, sausages and seafood. Available in grocery and e-commerce. ²²
SULIAN Ž	SuLian Food		pioneer in a since 2010	Offers 200+ PBM products focused on Chinese cuisine alternatives such as pork-belly, meat-floss and dumplings. Available in food service, e-commerce and exports globally. ²³
金字	Jinzi Ham		brand by producer	Partnered with Danisco (China) Investment, a unit of DuPont, to create soy-based beef-style patties. ²⁴ Available in e-commerce.
PlantEver · 植启·	<u>PlantEver</u>	Brand by agribusines		Locally produced by Cargill for the Chinese market. Offers nuggets and beef-style patties. Available in food service (KFC) since April 2020 ²⁵ and e-commerce in mid-2020.
表 Zrou	Zrou		d by start-up (uai Group	Offers minced and ground pork-style based on soy and konjac. Available in food service. ²⁶
			Internation	nal brands in market
BEYOND MEAT	Beyond Mea (USA)	t	since April 20 specifically for	has been available in food service (Starbucks, KFC, Pizza Hut) 20 ²⁷ and in grocery since July 2020. ²⁸ Beyond Pork was created r the Chinese market, available in food service since November production facility opened in April 2021. ³⁰
OMN! PORK	OmniPork (H Kong)	Hong		ducts are available in grocery stores, e-commerce and food as McDonalds, Taco Bell and JiXiang Wonton).
THE VEGETARIAN BUTCHER	The Vegetarian		PBM brand ac Whopper at B	equired by Unilever. Available in food service (such as plant-based Burger King). ³¹
Meat	V Meat (Australia)		production fac	shed by Australian-based JAT Oppenheimer Pty Ltd., with a cility in China for Asian markets. ³² Partnered with Shanghai arian (restaurant chain) to supply plant-based pork, beef and 2020.
v2 food	v2food (Australia)		Recently laund the Chinese m	ched in China with a number of pork style products designed for
Harvest	(Australia) Harvest Gourmet (Switzerland)		Brand by Nest facility in Tian including burg	tlé, launched in China in December 2020 with a local production jin. ³⁴ Offers plant-based Western and Chinese-style products gers, sausages, kung pao chicken, braised meatballs and pork e in grocery stores (Hema supermarket).

DISTRIBUTION CHANNELS

China has long and complex distribution channels with several intermediaries handling exports, including import agents, distributors and wholesalers. Licensed importers traditionally provide import services on behalf of third parties, including distributors and traders who often do not have import licenses. However, this is changing with some large supermarket chains gaining licenses to import directly from overseas. The pre-market approval is necessary for all imports to comply with Chinese standards and can be complex and time-consuming.

It is possible to export directly through cross-border e-commerce (CBEC), which is simpler than general trade with less pre-market and border clearance requirements, and can connect exporters directly to consumers. However, this is a pilot program and is likely to undergo further regulatory change.³⁶

The retail sector in China is fragmented, with hundreds of supermarket brands; no company controls more than 5% of market share.³⁷ Most national hypermarket chains have a large range of imported foods including plant-based meat, as do international supermarket companies. Examples include Vanguard, RT Mart, Auchan, Walmart, Carrefour, Century Mart and Yonghui. Premium supermarkets also stock imported food and specialty products and are considered a good avenue to test the market before undertaking further retail channel expansion³⁸ with examples including Olé, Sam's Club and BHG.

E-commerce platforms are extremely popular, facilitated by widespread use of mobile payments and inexpensive local delivery.³⁹ Major e-commerce marketplaces providing packaged foods include JD.com, Tmall, Suning, VIP.com, Kaola and Yiguo.

The rise of 'new retail', where the traditional retail sector and e-commerce are increasingly converging to better serve Chinese consumers, ⁴⁰ is an ongoing trend, making both online and offline channels important.

LABELLING LAWS

Food imports are regulated by China's State Administration for Market Regulation (SAMR). China's latest national standards (known as Guobiao or GB), including product labelling, are not all freely available in English.⁴¹ Most border clearance failures are caused by breaches of import regulations, including non-compliance with labelling requirements; the exporter is held accountable in most cases, with non-official trade barriers imposed by China an added risk facing exporters.⁴² Advice should be sought from a professional importer or distributor in China.

Imported products must be accompanied with a printed or pasted label in simplified Chinese characters with the exception of trademarks, name and address of the manufacturer and foreign distributor outside China, and websites.

Latest revisions to the General Rules for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods (GB7718-2011)⁴³ and the National Food Safety Standards for General Rules for Nutrition Labelling of Pre-packaged Food (GB 28050-2011)⁴⁴ were drafted in 2019⁴⁵ and 2020⁴⁶ respectively. Both have yet to be issued officially and no date of entry into force has been set. The following information is based on these draft revisions:

Element	Detail
Name	Standard name of food product.
List of ingredients	Listed in descending order of weight, including constituents of compound ingredients. Food additives should be declared in their common names or specific name and International Numbering System (INS) number.
Quantitative labelling of ingredients	Content of ingredients should be declared in percentage or numerical format if labelling places special emphasis on the presence of one or more characterising ingredients.
Net content and configuration	Expressed by volume (mL or L) and weight (g or kg).
Name, address and contact	Declared for the agent, importer and/or distributor that have registered with relevant authorities in China.

information of distributor	
Country of origin	Declared for the country where the product underwent most processing.
Date marking	Date of manufacture and shelf life is formatted in sequence of year, month and day.
Intended consumer group, serving size or instructions for use	If original labels involve an intended consumer group (such as infants), serving size or instruction for use, this must have a corresponding Chinese translation and comply with requirements by relevant national food safety standards.
Conditions for storage	Any special conditions for storage of product.
Quality grade of product	Could be declared for imported pre-packaged foods, consistent with relevant product standards in China.
Declaration of allergens	Allergens include: grain, crustacea, fish, egg, peanut, soybean, milk, nuts and all their products. Include a warning message of allergens due to possibility of crosscontamination.
Nutrition labelling	Include contents of energy, protein, fat and fatty acid, carbohydrate, sugar and sodium and their percentages in Nutrient Reference Value (NRV%). Must declare content of trans-fatty acid if containing hydrogenated fat. Must include nutrients subject to a nutritional claim. Expressed per 100g. Per serving is optional (specified with size of serving).
Special contents	Declared if relevant e.g. irradiated food, genetically modified food.

The industry group Chinese Institute of Food Science and Technology released the first voluntary standard

for PBM in April 2021, which comes into effect in June 2021 and provides guidelines for the labelling, packing, transportation and storage of PBM. 47 Labelling should include wording that clearly stipulates that the product is different to and aims to replicate conventional meat; terms such as "plantbased", "plant-made", "plant-derived", "plant" or "vegetable" can be used.

TARIFFS

The tariff code for protein concentrates for both Australian and New Zealand exports is 2106.10.

Australia exporters enjoy tariff-free access under China-Australia Free Trade Agreement (ChAFTA). Similarly, New Zealander exporters also have tarifffree access under the New Zealand-China Free Trade Agreement (NZ-China FTA).

USEFUL RESOURCES

Austrade (contact page)

China Market Profile

Austrade Food and Beverage to China Austrade contact person for plant-based trade opportunities

Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade

DFAT Free Trade Agreement Portal

NZ Trade & Enterprise (contact page)

NZTE Tariff Finder

China Market Profile (available to registered

NZTE customers)

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

China Exporting Resources

Voluntary Standard for Plant-Based Meat

Alternative Products

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MARKET PROFILE: INDIA





MARKET SIZE

The 'meat substitute' market in India is expected to grow to US\$47.57M by 2026 with an average annual growth rate of 7.48% from 2021.¹ In the wider Asia-Pacific region, the 'meat substitute' market was worth US\$15.3B in 2019, up 4.75% from 2018. The pandemic has accelerated that growth, with the market forecast to expand 11.6% to US\$17.1B in 2020.²

Part of India's growing interest in plant-based meat (PBM) is contributed to COVID-19³ and the outbreak of bird flu in January 2021, which has caused consumers to become wary of conventional meat consumption.⁴

CONSUMER DEMAND

India has the world's highest number of vegetarians, accounting for 30% of the population (414 million people).⁵

Studies into urban and middle-upper income consumers in India have revealed that 62.4% were "very or extremely likely to purchase plant-based meat regularly." India's growing middle class and young population (65% are aged 35 or below) are increasingly exposed to Western cultures and have driven demand for international food products, with urban consumers more exposed to animal-free diets and more likely to consider PBM.

The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly influenced the consumer behaviour of this market. While Indian consumers are traditionally cautious of processed food products and prefer to consume fresh foods, a India's meat substitutes market is expected to reach \$47.57 million by 2026 with an average annual growth rate of 7.5 percent during 2021-2026."

- UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

rise of in-home consumption due to nationwide lockdowns has increased demand, including ready-to-eat meals and frozen foods.⁹

Growing health and nutrition trends, accelerated by the pandemic, have further generated interest in PBM as an alternative to animal protein.¹⁰

Localising products, including flavour profiles to the Indian market can be helpful.¹¹

India is a price-sensitive market. Australian and New Zealand exporters will face price competition from domestic suppliers, as well as competition with US and European producers.¹²



Examples of major local plant-based meat brands

ve gai e champ	Veggie Champ	Brand by Ahimsa Food, a PBM manufacturer	Offers Western and Indian-style PBM based on soy and wheat such as shami kebab, tandoori salami, tandoori burger patties, fish fingers, Vienna hotdogs, duck and mutton. Available in grocery stores and e-commerce.
Wolfoo	Wakao Foods	PBM start-up	Offers PBM based on jackfruit, such as meat shreds, burger patties and pre-prepared PBM meals with flavours including Butter Jack (to replicate butter chicken), Teriyaki Jack and BBQ Jack. Available in grocery stores, e-commerce and food service. ¹³
O CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH	Jubilant FoodWorks	Food service company	Operates food service businesses such as Domino's and Dunkin' Donuts. Offers 'The Unthinkable Pizza' featuring plant-based chicken, available in Domino's food service. 14
good	GoodDot	PBM start-up	Offers PBM based on soy, pea and wheat including Proteiz plus (high-protein substitute for chicken) and ready-to-eat meals such as biryani, pulao and Thai curry. Available in grocery stores, e-commerce and food service (GoodDO, own food stall brand).
Vezlay Quality Vigetarian Foods	Vezlay	Plant-based manufacturer	Offers frozen and ready-to-eat Western and Indian-style PBM based on soy including nuggets, kebabs, burger patties, mutton and chicken tikka and shawarma. Available in grocery stores and e-commerce.
imagine	Imagine Meats	PBM brand	Products in development will cater to regional tastes across India. ¹⁵ Partnership with American ingredient manufacturer Archer-Daniels-Midland (ADM) to offer PBM based on soy and pea protein, including kebabs, biryani and curries. ¹⁶
PLANTMADE	PlantMade	Plant-based food manufacturer	Company catering to India's 'pure vegetarian' (vegan) market. Initially producing plant-based egg and dairy alternatives, the Peshwari Sikh Kebab is its first PBM product. Products in development include sausages and nuggets. Available frozen from online store. ¹⁷
greenest, THE GREEN PROTEIN CO.	greenest	PBM brand from food tech start-up Upstablish	Offers frozen PBM catering to the tastes of Indian consumers. Products are made from soy and chickpeas and include various flavours of plant-based shami kebabs, and keema (mince style dish). Available from online store. ¹⁸
		International b	rands in market
Beyond Meat (USA) Beyond Beef Burger and Beyond Sausage available in e-commerce (Urban Platter) since April 2021. ¹⁹			

DISTRIBUTION CHANNELS

Distribution channels in India are underdeveloped and present a significant challenge for exporters.²⁰ A lack of cold chain distribution (despite some recent improvement) has led most retailers to prefer shelf-stable products.²¹

India's grocery retail distribution network is multidimensional involving a range of players including clearing and forwarding agents, wholesalers, importers and distributors. Retail opportunities are unevenly distributed across India. Small neighbourhood stores (known as kirana) and pushcart vendors remain the most common outlet to purchase groceries, especially in lower-tier cities and rural areas accounting for 92% of all retail formats and the majority of customer foot traffic. However, there is increasing competition from modern food retail which is experiencing rapid growth in India's leading cities.²²

Examples of India's largest food retailers are Reliance Retail (Reliance Fresh, Reliance Smart), Future Value Retail (Foodhall, Big Bazaar, KB Fair Price, Heritage Fresh) and Tata Group (HyperMarket, SuperMarket).²³ PBM is also commonly found in gourmet grocery stores including Foodhall, Le Marche, Urban Platter, Nature's Basket and Modern Bazaar.²⁴

E-commerce, including online retailers and food and grocery delivery apps are an important platform for Indian consumers and have grown significantly during nationwide COVID-19 lockdowns.²⁵ E-commerce can operate at a national or city level; some examples are Flipkart, Urban Platter, Amazon, Big Basket, MilkBasket and Grofers.²⁶ Cold chain infrastructure for last mile delivery is lacking, but under development. Amazon is piloting a project in 2021, with an initial focus on India-made products.²⁷

LABELLING LAWS

The Food Authority (FSSAI – Food Safety and Standards Authority of India) is the sole authority for food products imported into India. Other products, such as supplements can be subject to regulation by different authorities, such as the Ministry of Health, with some overlapping responsibilities.²⁸ It is recommended to seek advice from a local importer for up-to-date and accurate information. India's labelling requirements are outlined by the FSSAI.²⁹

The following information is based on the Food Safety and Standards (Labelling and Display)
Regulations which were last amended in November 2020³⁰ and are set to be implemented from November, 2021.³¹Labels must be in English or Hindi in Devanagari script.

Element	Detail
Name of food	Name that indicates true nature of the food such as a common name.
List of ingredients	Listed with an appropriate title such as 'Ingredients'. Ingredients must be in descending order by weight, including compound ingredients and food additives, and specific names used unless falling under specific class titles.
Nutritional information	Listed per 100g/mL or per serving, and per serve percentage (%) contribution to the daily Recommended Dietary Allowance for an average adult. Includes: energy value (kcal), protein, carbohydrates including total sugars and added sugars, total fat including saturated fat, trans fat and cholesterol, sodium and any nutrient subject to a claim.
Declaration of vegetarian or non- vegetarian food	Vegetarian food products will be declared by a green colour-filled circle inside a square with green outline near the product's name. A minimum size is specified depending on the principal display panel.
Declaration of food additives	Use specific names or recognised International Numbering System (INS).
Name and complete address	Name and complete address of the brand owner, regardless of whether it is the manufacturer. Must be preceded by qualifying words e.g. 'Manufactured by', 'Packed and marketed by'.
and license	colour to the background and

number	include the name and address of importer for imported food products.
Net quantity	Quantity declared by weight or volume in metric units.
Lot, code or batch identification	Mark of identification by which product can be traced in manufacture and identified in distribution.
Date marking	Must declare 'date of manufacture or packaging' and 'expiry/use by'. Date, month and year in DD/MM/YY format if shelf life is <three (abbreviated="" and="" capital="" e.g.="" if="" in="" is="" jan)="" letters="" life="" month="" months.="" shelf="" year="">three months. Must declare any storage conditions related to maintaining shelf life.</three>
Country of origin	If relevant, the second country in which a product undergoes further processing which changes its nature is considered the country of origin.
Instructions for use	To ensure proper utilisation of food.
Allergen declaration	Declared separately as 'Contains' Allergens include: cereals containing gluten, crustacea, milk, eggs, fish, peanuts, tree nuts and soybeans, sulphites in concentrations of 10mg/kg or more, and all their products. Warnings of cross- contamination may be declared

Additional regulatory information:

The Food Safety and Standards (Import) Regulations, 2017 outline additional requirements of imported products such as licensing and clearance of imported food.

separately as 'May contain...'

For example: the vegetarian/non-vegetarian logo, name and address of importer, FSSAI logo and license number are considered "rectifiable labelling deficiencies", which can be addressed at the custom-bound warehouse by affixing non-detachable stickers.³²

The Office of Legal Metrology (OLM) under the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution also regulates food labelling. This is largely superseded by FSSAI's regulations with the exception of the following.³³

- The maximum retail price (MRP) at which the product may be sold to the end consumer must be declared, inclusive of all taxes.
- Genetically modified products must be labelled with the acronym "GM".

TARIFFS

The HS tariff code for protein concentrates for both Australian and New Zealand exports is 2106.10.

India imposes high tariffs, which is a key barrier for exporters to a price-sensitive market. For imports from all countries, including Australia and New Zealand, the rate is currently set at 40%.

USEFUL RESOURCES

Austrade (contact page)

India Market Profile

Austrade Food and Agribusiness to India Austrade Premium Food and Beverage to India

Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade

DFAT Free Trade Agreement Portal

NZ Trade & Enterprise (contact page)

NZTE Tariff Finder

India Market Profile (available to registered

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USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

India Exporting Resources

India Trade Portal

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MARKET PROFILE: INDONESIA





In the wider Asia-Pacific region, the 'meat substitute market' was worth US\$15.3B in 2019, up 4.75% from 2018. The pandemic has accelerated that growth, with the market forecast to expand 11.6% to US\$17.1B in 2020.1

CONSUMER DEMAND

In 2018, 25.4% of Indonesia's population (66.9 million people) were vegetarian, attributable to a combination of increasing Buddhist and Hindu populations,² lower-income earners being unable to afford more expensive animal meat protein options, and some higher-income earners opting for a vegetarian diet.

Indonesia's consumer market is segmented, with consumers dispersed across 17,500 islands with different cultures, tastes, preferences and varying levels of economic development.³ Indonesia's growing urban middle class presents an opportunity for plant-based meat (PBM) with a flexitarian diet mainly followed by middle to upper-income consumers with increasing health consciousness.⁴ Australian food products are popular with this market who tend to be more familiar with imported products.⁵

The broader Indonesian consumer base is pricesensitive and has a preference for local brands, especially in the food and beverage sector, which may present a challenge for Australian and New Zealand exporters⁶ who will face strong competition from local manufacturers and other exporters across most categories and price segments.⁷ The plant-based market is still very early in their journey, but we definitely see a rising trend of flexitarianism and veganism in the big cities."

- GREEN REBEL FOODS. INDONESIA

The Indonesian government has supported a buylocal movement with campaigns such as "100% Love Indonesia" in 2009 and "Proud of Indonesian Products" in 2021.8

The government also maintains a long-standing agenda for Indonesia's self-sufficiency in ensuring food security, often imposing trade barriers to prioritise domestic production to meet demand.⁹

Indonesia's developing tourism sector is largely centred around Bali and is expected to expand post COVID-19. This area presents a market for the consumption of Western-style foods by tourists.¹⁰

66.9M



John States

WERE VEGETARIAN IN 2018

Examples of major local plant-based meat brands

REBEL		een Rebel ods	PBM	l start-up	Offers ready-to-eat PBM based on soy, seitan and mushroom including Chick'n Satay, Yellow Spiced Chick'n, Beefless Rendang and Maranggi Beefless Satay. Available in grocery stores, e-commerce and food service (such as Beefless Chunks in the Plant-Based Wellington Pocket at Starbucks). ¹¹
MILEVA	Mi	leva	base man Kary	nd by plant- ed food ufacturer PT. ra Cipta ati Food	Offers PBM based on soy including satay, pandan fried chicken empal (spiced fried beef), Thai chili fish and spicy teriyaki chicken. Available in grocery stores and e-commerce.
Proteina	Pro	oteina	prot man	nd by plant ein ufacturer PT. ka Sarivita	Offers texturised vegetarian protein (TVP) based on soy in different sizes and shapes and ready-to-eat meals in its 'Protemil' series such as rendang and opor. Available in grocery stores and e-commerce.
MEATLESS KINGDOM		Meatless Kingdom Brand by plant- based food start- up PT. Yasa Mushroom Sriwijaya		ed food start- T. Yasa hroom	Offers PBM primarily based on mushrooms including nuggets, jerky, siomay bandung (fish dumplings), fish fillet and Japanese dumplings. Available in e-commerce.
				Internatio	onal brands in market
WAS VENETHINE BUTCHER (1 he		Beef patty is a 2021. ¹²	available in Burger King's Plant-Based Whopper since May		
BEYOND MEAT	Beyond Meat (USA)		Sausages and beef patties are available in food service (such as Barnyard Burger at BlueZone Center) ¹³ and e-commerce (Tokopedia).		
Impossible Available in food service (such as Impossible Pizza and B Burger at Ivy Restaurant). 14		ood service (such as Impossible Pizza and Barbeque Impossible Restaurant). ¹⁴			
FRYE		Fry's (South Africa)		Sausages and nuggets are available in e-commerce (Tokopedia).	

DISTRIBUTION CHANNELS

Freight and transport networks can be expensive and complex in Indonesia due to the nature of its archipelago spanning thousands of islands.¹⁵ Infrastructure including cold storage facilities can be inadequate outside of the main island of Java.¹⁶

Most retailers in Indonesia do not import directly and rely on local importers. Local importers and distributors are responsible for registering processed food products with the National Agency of Food and Drug Control (BPOM), a process which usually takes between 6-12 months.¹⁷ They are also responsible for a product's safety.¹⁸

Traditional retail in Indonesia holds 82% of market share, consisting of outdoor markets and independent grocery stores. ¹⁹ While the modern retail sector comprises only a small portion of total sales, ²⁰ its annual growth is exceeding that of traditional retail. ²¹ Large hypermarkets in Indonesia include Lotte Mart, Hypermart, Giant and Transmart Carrefour & Carrefour. Major supermarkets include Superindo, Food Mart Hero and Alfa Midi. Some mid to high-end supermarkets that carry several imported goods include Kem Chiks, The Food Hall and Ranch Market & Farmers Market. Convenience stores, such as Indomaret and Alfamaret, are the fastest growing retail segment, however few imported goods are available at these outlets. ²²

With an Internet penetration rate of 73.7% and 196 million Internet users in 2019,²³ e-commerce is a fast-growing industry in Indonesia. While e-commerce for groceries is still in early stages of development, the industry is expected to undergo further growth driven by continual improvement of logistics and smartphone penetration.²⁴ Major e-commerce platforms that sell groceries are Lazada, Bukalapak, Shopee, Tokopedia, HappyFresh and Blibli.

LABELLING LAWS

Indonesia has an unpredictable regulatory environment. Along with a tendency to change regularly, ²⁵ the regulation of food labelling and marketing can be confusing, unclear and enforced haphazardly by various relevant authorities. ²⁶ It is consequently essential to seek advice from a local partner.

All food products are regulated by Indonesia's Food Law No. 18/2012. Processed food products are regulated by both the Ministry of Trade and the National Agency of Food and Drug Control (BPOM), with whom products must also be registered.

Imported food products must be labelled in Bahasa Indonesia, except words for which there is no Indonesian substitute which must be pre-approved by authorities. Labels can take the form of a sticker label affixed prior to customs clearance and must contain the following:²⁷

Element	Detail
Name of product	
Ingredient list	If containing food additives, must include food additive's name, group name (e.g. preservative) and registration number.
	Artificial sweeteners must be declared with additional requirements such as a contains statement, sweetener level content, sugar equivalence and Acceptable Daily Intake (ADI).
	Products containing food colouring (pewarna) should be stated in a green box with green capital letters and include the Colour Index (CI) and M (Makanan meaning food) logo.
	PEWARNA M
Net weight or volume	
Name and address of manufacturer and importer	
Date and/or production	

code

Expiry date, month and year	
BPOM registration number	Imported food products will have an ML product number issued by BPOM.
2D Barcode Identification	Contains information about the ML number and expiry date, issued by BPOM.
Sources of certain ingredients	Must declare ingredients that are irradiated, derived from genetically engineered products and organic with the relevant logos.
Nutritional information	Include serving size and amount of servings per package.
	Include amount of: total energy, total fat, saturated fat, protein, total carbohydrate, sugar, salt and non-nutritional content (e.g. vitamins and minerals) with their corresponding Recommended Dietary Allowances percentage (localised as %AKG).
	Must declare allergens including: cereals containing gluten, shellfish, eggs, fish,

Additional regulatory information:

 Food product claims can only be included if supported by verifiable scientific evidence.

and all their products.

peanuts, soybeans, milk, tree nuts, sulphites over 100ppm,

- BPOM has a list of permitted food additives and their maximum limits for usage.
- Processed foods must display the following health message on the label: "consuming more than 50 grams of sugar, 2,000 milligrams of Sodium, or 67 grams of fat per person per day increase the risk of hypertension, stroke, diabetes, and heart attack."
- The 2014 Halal Product Assurance Law came into force in October 17, 2019 however implementation of regulations has yet to be finalised. It is expected that all food

and beverage products will require halal certification and labelling by 2024 under this new law.

TARIFFS

The tariff code for protein concentrates for both Australian and New Zealand exports is 2106.10.

Both Australian and New Zealander exporters have tariff-free access under ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (AANZFTA).

Australian exporters also enjoy tariff-free access under Indonesia-Australia Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (IACEPA).

USEFUL RESOURCES

Austrade (contact page)

Indonesia Market Profile

Austrade Food and Beverage to Indonesia

Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade

DFAT Free Trade Agreement Portal

NZ Trade & Enterprise (contact page)

NZTE Tariff Finder

Indonesia Market Profile (available to registered NZTE customers)

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MARKET PROFILE: JAPAN





Sales of alternative meat products in Japan could double to reach \$312 million annually by 2023."

- UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

MARKET SIZE

Sales of alternative meat products in Japan could double to reach \$312M annually by 2023.¹ In the wider Asia-Pacific region, the 'meat substitute market' was worth US\$15.3B in 2019, up 4.75% from 2018. The pandemic has accelerated that growth, with the market forecast to expand 11.6% to US\$17.1B in 2020.²

CONSUMER DEMAND

Japanese consumers are already accustomed to plant-based protein, with soy-based products such as tofu and natto ubiquitous in Japanese cuisine.

It is estimated that about 4% of the Japanese population are vegetarian, while a further 16% are flexitarian (seeking to reduce their consumption of animal-based foods), accounting for a total of 5.1 million and 20.2 million people respectively in 2020.³

Consumers of plant-based meat (PBM) are more likely to be driven by health concerns rather than environmental concerns, particularly due to existing perceptions of soy as a healthy food.⁴

Plant-based meat (PBM) is a relatively new market in Japan that has gained traction since 2019, partly catering for increased tourist numbers from major international events such as the Rugby World Cup.⁵ Japanese consumers like to follow foreign trends, such as from the U.S., where the use of media has been an effective platform to influence consumer demand and increase sales. Events and exhibitions are also useful to promote products to Japanese consumers.⁶

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare's April 2020 campaign to increase the target for dietary protein intake has made food manufacturers more conscious of developing high-protein products.⁷

The Japanese processed food sector is diverse, competitive and sophisticated, catering to quality and price conscious consumers. Australia enjoys an outstanding reputation in Japan as a supplier of safe, healthy and high-quality food, both processed and fresh.⁸

BY 2023 SALES COULD







Examples of major local plant-based meat brands					
N=XT MEATS	Next Meats	PBM company	Offers PBM focusing on Japanese cuisine such as yakiniku (BBQ style meat), gyudon (beef rice bowl) meat and burgers. Available in food service and e-commerce. ⁹		
ない。 ダイズラボ ヘルケーを、もっと表現しく	Daizu Labo	Brand by processed food manufacturer Marukome	Offers PBM based on soy dry and frozen unflavoured formats and in ready-to-eat meals such as spicy mapo tofu, gapao rice (Thai fried rice) and keema curry. Available in e-commerce ¹⁰ and food service (such as burgers and onigiri at Lawson convenience stores ¹¹).		
MUJI 無印良品	Muji	Major lifestyle and food brand	Offers own-brand PBM which does not need to be chilled. Available in Muji stores or online.		
大豆汁	Marude Oniku	Brand by Ito Ham, a major meat company	Meaning 'Just Like Meat'. Offers flavoured ready-to-eat PBM based on soy including soy-style meat with garlic miso, chickenstyle with herbs and lemon, and ham-style katsu. Available in grocery stores. ¹²		
NatuMeat	NatuMeat	Brand by NH Foods, a major meat company	Offers PBM based on soy including sausages and luncheonstyle meats. Available in grocery stores. ¹³		
ZEROMEAT	Zero Meat	Brand by manufacturer Otsuka Foods	Offers PBM based on soy including ham, burgers with soy cheese and sausages. Available in food service ¹⁴ , grocery stores and e-commerce. ¹⁵		
ELEVEN FamilyMart	Seven-11 and Family Mart	Convenience stores	Both launched house-brand ready-to-eat meals featuring PBM. ¹⁶		
	International brands in market				
LOS TIER FOOD	Top Tier Foods (Canada)	Top Tier Foods lau	unched Vegan Waygu end of 2020. ¹⁷		
BEYOND MEAT	Beyond Meat (USA)	The Beyond Burger was offered on Japan Airlines flights from March – May 2020, but is not currently available in Japan otherwise. ¹⁸			
v2 food	v2food (Australia)	The v2burger is available at Burger King in the plant-based Rebel Whopper. ¹⁹			

DISTRIBUTION CHANNELS

Most food products are sold wholesale to retail or food service, with a small number of local wholesalers dominating. Manufacturers and importers have historically used these wholesalers to distribute products to Japanese retailers and consumers. The traditional distribution channels for processed food are multi-layered and relatively complex with personal, historical and financial relations playing a role in the decision-making process.²⁰

Distribution channels are becoming simpler, as small to medium sized wholesalers merge to achieve economies of scale or bypass importers. Each product in the food and beverage industry has its own specialised wholesaler.

Japanese plant-based meat manufacturers commonly use a direct to consumer via online method, while the brands establish themselves and build a customer base through social media and marketing campaigns.

There are many supermarkets stocking western and/or plant-based items, in addition to convenience stores which are beginning to stock plant-based meat alternative products more frequently. These include: Costco, Aeon, Aoki, Bio C'Bon, Gyomu Supa, Kinokuniya, Seijo Ishii, Shizutetsu Store, Don Quixote, National Azabu, Natural House, Maruetsu, The largest supermarket chains in order of sales size are: Aeon, UNY Group, Ito Yokado and Life Corporation.

Japanese importers are generally responsible for ensuring that imported products comply with the relevant regulations. However, exporters to Japan should be aware that this is not always the case and check whether any contract places the legal responsibility for regulations with them.²¹ Your freight forwarder or import partner should be able to assist with this.

LABELLING LAWS

Food labelling must be in Japanese, and processed food labels must contain 10 elements:

Element	Detail
Name	(Not trading name) e.g. plant- based burger, in addition to brand and product name
Ingredients	Listed in descending order of the ingredients with highest weight ratio, clearly indicating information on allergens and genetic modification.
Additives	Listed in descending order of the allergens with highest weight ratio, clearly indicating information on allergens.
Weight/ Volume	For imported products, the place of the predominant ingredient by weight.
Region of origin	For domestic Japanese products.
Expiration date	Products which are perishable must present a use-by date, products which are long-life may use a best-before date.
Storage instructions	How to safely store products.
Country of origin	Indicate country of origin (for imported foods).
Manufacturers	Indicate names of food related business operators (manufacturers, importers, sellers, etc.) and their address.
Nutrition Components	Indicate serving size and nutrients (calories, protein, fat, carbohydrate and salt equivalent) per 100 g and per one serve. There are extra requirements for foods which want to display nutrient function claims (eg Iron for strong bones).

Additional regulatory information

- Officials from Consumer Affairs Agency, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries and local officials conduct inspections of supermarkets to check labelling. If not appropriate, they offer guidance on what to improve.
- Seven allergens must be distinguished on labels: shrimp, crab, wheat, buckwheat, egg, dairy (milk) products, and peanut.
- 21 further allergens are optional to distinguish:
 Almond, abalone, squid, salmon, roe, orange,
 cashew nut, kiwi fruit, beef, walnut, sesame,
 salmon, mackerel, soybean, chicken, banana,
 pork, matsutake mushroom, peach, yam, apples,
 gelatin.
- Japan's regulations are not perfectly aligned with Codex Alimentarius, therefore exporters should confirm standards of use for additives and flavours.

TARIFFS

The tariff code for protein concentrates for both Australian and New Zealand exports is 2106.10.

Australian exporters enjoy tariff-free access to Japan under the Japan Australia Free Trade Agreement (JAEPA), while tariffs under the Comprehensive and Progressive Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) are currently 6.6% falling to 3.7% on 04/04/23.

New Zealand exporters can access the CPTPP rate of 6.6% from 01/04/21, falling to 3.7%.

Both Australia and New Zealand exporters can access the new Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) free-trade agreement, expected to enter into force in 2021. Tariffs for 2106.10 will be unbound (set at zero).

USEFUL RESOURCES

Austrade (contact page)

Japan Market Profile
Austrade Processed food to Japan

Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade

DFAT Free Trade Agreement Portal

NZ Trade & Enterprise (contact page)

NZTE Tariff Finder
Japan Market Profile (available to registered
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USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

Japan Exporting Resources

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MARKET PROFILE: MALAYSIA





The 'meat substitute' market in Malaysia is growing at 5.3% year-on-year.¹ In the wider Asia-Pacific region, the 'meat substitute market' was worth US\$15.3B in 2019, up 4.75% from 2018. The pandemic has accelerated that growth, with the market forecast to have expanded by 11.6% to US\$17.1B in 2020.²

CONSUMER DEMAND

Malaysian consumers' consumption of plant-based meat (PBM) is likely to be driven by health considerations, although religious, environmental and ethical concerns are gaining traction.³ In 2018, an estimated 25% of the population (7.9 million people) were flexitarian, and only occasionally consumed conventional meat.⁴

With an annual growth rate between 7% and 10%,⁵ food service channels should be an important consideration for PBM brands attributable to a relatively young and educated population that enjoys frequent dining out,⁶ and a culture of long working hours which encourages dining out for convenience.⁷

Malaysia is a price-sensitive market, with competitive pricing considered a key factor influencing the growth of PBM to be widely affordable.⁸ This has inhibited the popularity of PBM in the past, in addition to low mainstream awareness of the category. For PBM to succeed, exporters would need to pursue an aggressive marketing strategy.

In Malaysia alone, the meat substitute category is growing at 5.3 per cent year-on-year, which shows that consumers are rethinking their health and wellbeing."

- TYSON FOODS ASIA-PACIFIC

Malaysia's broad socio-economic groups and multiculturalism, notably Malay, Chinese and Indian ethnic populations, have created several distinct market segments, highlighting the importance of tailoring products to certain preferences⁹ including religious observations. For example, pork is primarily consumed by ethnic Chinese Malaysians,¹⁰ while poultry is the most popular conventional meat overall due its low price and consequent accessibility. PBM may also find success in Buddhist and Hindu communities (making up 26.1% of the Malaysian population)¹¹ which adopt more vegetarian diets.



Malaysia's growing middle class is an important segment characterised by an increasing awareness of quality and brands, increasing health and wellness trends¹² and a demand for imported goods.¹³ Due to a Muslim-majority population, a halal certification is advantageous, even if the product is not of animal origin.¹⁴

	E	xamples of major	local plant-based meat brands
Phuture	Phuture Meat	PBM start-up	Offers Asian and Western-style PBM using soy, chickpea, pea and rice proteins including burgers, pork-style mince, samosas, spring rolls and steamed buns. Available in grocery stores and e-commerce.
Nantsubstituse? Meet Suckhuit.	Nanka	Brand by start-up Ira Noah PLT	Offers chicken and beef-style patties using jackfruit. Products in development include nuggets, hotdogs and mince. Available in e-commerce and food service.
EV FROEST	Everbest	Brand by soy manufacturer Everbest Soya Bean Products	Originally catered to vegetarian consumers, now offers frozen and shelf-stable soy based PBM including mock duck, Hong Kong BBQ meat-style, dumplings and chicken-style products. Available in grocery stores and e-commerce.
HOMEY	Homey	Brand by plant- based food manufacturer Ll- TER	Offers frozen and shelf-stable Asian and Western-style PBM based on soy including hot pot seafood-style balls, mock-prawns, ham, dumplings, nuggets and more. Available in grocery stores and e-commerce.
Veat	Veat	Brand by food manufacturer Kawan Food	Offers PBM based on soy including Thai fish-style cakes and flavoured chicken-style bites. Available in grocery stores and ecommerce.
PRIDE	First Pride	Brand by meat processor Tyson Foods	Local brand acquired by Tyson Foods. Diversifying into PBM based on bamboo fibre, soy and wheat protein under its 'Green Series'. Offers frozen PBM bites, nuggets and strips. Available in grocery stores and e-commerce. ¹⁵
		Examples of inte	ernational brands in market
OMN!MEAT	OmniMeat (Hong Kong)	Available in grocery stores since September 2020 ¹⁶ and in food service (such as 'Truffle Umami Beyond Burger' at La Juiceria Superfoods). Marketed as OmniMeat with a halal certification, rather than OmniPork. ¹⁷	
Harvest Gourmet	Harvest Gourmet (Switzerland)	Brand by Nestlé with local production facility in opened April 2021 in Shah Alam to serve the Asian market. ¹⁸ Available in grocery stores and e-commerce.	
	Beyond Meat (USA)	Available in food service (such as Beyond Meat Katsu Sando at Sushi Ryu) since July 2019. ¹⁹ Available in grocery stores and e-commerce since December 2019. ²⁰	
REYOND MEAT Quorn	Quorn (The Phillipines)	Partnered with KFC Malaysia to offer the 'Zero Chicken Burger' since February 2021. ²¹	
TEXT TABLET	Fry's (South Africa)	A range of products, including schnitzel, burger patties and sausages, are available in grocery stores and e-commerce.	
vegie delights	Vegie Delights (Australia)	A range of products, including sausages, burger patties and meatballs, are available in grocery stores and e-commerce.	
á pha FOODS	Alpha Foods (USA)	Ready-to-eat PBM burritos are available in grocery stores and e-commerce.	

DISTRIBUTION CHANNELS

Distribution channels in Malaysia are well-developed with infrastructure considered among the best in the region, notwithstanding some fragmentation in less urbanised areas.²²

Most exporters use agents and distributors, with regulation covering this area limited. Contracts are relied upon to define and enforce the terms of the business relationship.²³ Commercial ties can also be relationship-based due to cultural reasons where continued business is forged by mutual commitment, good service and gestures of good faith. Malaysian distributors almost never assume responsibility for marketing unlike some other international markets.

Many agents and distributors work for trading companies that deal with a range of products, which may mean that a brand's products may not receive adequate attention.²⁴ They are also likely to request exclusive distribution access, with loyalty being an important intangible currency for commerce in Malaysian markets.

Malaysia's food retail sector is rapidly developing and is dominated by five players including Dairy Farm Group (Giant, Cold Storage, Mercato), Mydin Mohamed Holdings (Mydin), Trendcell Sdn Bhd (Jaya Grocer), Village Grocer Holdings (Village Grocer, Ben's Independent Grocer) and AEON Group (AEON, AEON Big, MaxValu Prime).²⁵ Lotus (formerly Tesco) is also significant. The remaining sector comprises convenience stores, small family-owned businesses and specialty retailers.²⁶ The premium grocery sector is becoming increasingly popular²⁷ although limited to more affluent states and localities.

E-commerce, particularly mobile e-commerce, is an extremely important, with a mobile penetration rate of 83% in 2020 and 80% of the population being active Internet users. ²⁸ Groceries and online food ordering is the third most purchased e-commerce product with 5.5 million consumers worth RM979 million (US\$237M). ²⁹ Major e-commerce platforms include Lazada, Shopee, PrestoMall, Lelong and HappyFresh. Many major supermarkets also offer online services ³⁰ driven primarily by the shift towards online platforms due to COVID-19. By most measures, this change looks to be permanent.

LABELLING LAWS

Packaged foods in Malaysia are regulated by the Food Safety and Quality Division (FSQD) under the Ministry of Health, enforced through Food Act 1983 and Food Regulations 1985 which incorporate any new amendments.³¹

Imported food can be labelled in Bahasa Malaysia or English and must contain the following:³²

Element	Detail
Name of product	Specific name of food or description of food containing common name of its principal ingredients.
Ingredients	Listed in descending order of proportion by weight. Must declare type of edible fat or oil e.g. vegetable oil (canola). Must declare food additives in statement e.g. "contains permitted [food additive]". Allergens must be declared including: cereals containing gluten, nuts, fish, milk, egg and all their products.
	Additional labelling regulations apply to products containing beef, pork or alcohol.
Net content	Minimum net weight or volume.
Name and address	Imported products must declare country of origin, and name and business address of the manufacturer and importer in Malaysia.
Date of marking	Expressed in day, month and year or month and year. Includes expiry dates e.g. 'USE BY' or date of minimum durability e.g. 'BEST BEFORE'.
Storage direction	Must declare any storage conditions related to maintaining shelf life.
Nutrition labelling	Expressed per 100g/mL and per serving. Includes: amount of energy (kcal, KJ or both) and protein, carbohydrate and fat (g).

When a claim is made about fat, amounts of saturated, monounsaturated, polyunsaturated and trans fatty acid must be declared. Nutrients can be listed if they are included in Nutrient Reference Values (NRV) and expressed in metric units. Must declare amount of nutrients subject to a nutrition claim.

Special content

Modern biotechnology: must be declared if proportion of genetically engineered content is more than 3% e.g. "genetically modified (name of ingredient)".

Irradiated food: must be declared e.g. "IRRADIATED" with international food irradiation symbol.

Additional regulatory information:

 No claims can be made on the absence of beef, pork, lard or their derivatives.

TARIFFS

The tariff code for protein concentrates for both Australian and New Zealand exports is 2106.10.

Australian exporters enjoy tariff-free access under Malaysia-Australia Free Trade Agreement (MAFTA). Similarly, New Zealander exporters have tariff-free access under Malaysia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (MNZFTA).

Both Australian and New Zealander exporters also have tariff-free access under ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (AANZFTA).

USEFUL RESOURCES

Austrade (contact page)

Malaysia Market Profile

Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade

DFAT Free Trade Agreement Portal

NZ Trade & Enterprise (contact page)

NZTE Tariff Finder

Malaysia Market Profile (available to registered NZTE customers)

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

Malaysia Exporting Resources

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MARKET PROFILE: SINGAPORE





MARKET SIZE

With imports accounting for up to 90% of all food consumed in the country¹ Singapore's interest in alternative proteins, including plant-based meat (PBM), has support from government food security policy, which aims to reduce reliance on imports and locally produce 30% of nutrition requirements by 2030.²

The 'meat substitute market' in Singapore is estimated to be worth US\$2.85M in 2019, with a projected compound annual growth rate of 5.1% between 2019 and 2024.³ In the wider Asia-Pacific region, the 'meat substitute market' was worth US\$15.3B in 2019, up 4.75% from 2018. The pandemic has accelerated that growth, with the market forecast to expand 11.6% to US\$17.1B in 2020.⁴

CONSUMER DEMAND

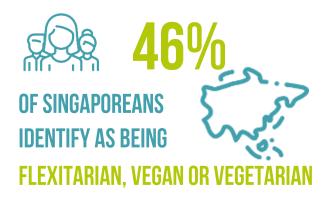
Singapore has a high proportion of 'flexitarians', with 39% of the population reducing meat consumption and a further 7% either vegetarian or vegan.⁵ Singaporeans cite health reasons as the main factor for following a plant-based diet.⁶

Buddhism is an important feature of Singapore's cultural context, within which vegetarianism is a central tenet. Singapore has a long history of mock meat consumption, including poultry and pork replacements, reflecting a cultural format preference distinct⁷ from Western styles focused on beef replacements.

Singapore's meat substitute market...is projected to grow at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 5.1% between 2019 and 2024."
-GLOBALDATA

Singaporeans have relatively high disposable incomes, creating a demand for premium food products. Singapore's food service sector is extremely important, with Singaporeans the top spenders on dining out in Asia. International players such as Beyond Meat and Impossible Foods have focused on collaborating with food service partners to introduce their products to local consumers.

Large expatriate populations have contributed to the influence of Western trends and eating habits, leading to the growth of Western restaurants and fast-food outlets. ¹⁰ PBM has been successfully adapted to both local and Western cuisines in Singapore, offering familiar formats to local and expatriate communities such as dim sum and burgers. This snapshot focuses on the new generation plant-based meat products, distinct from traditional 'mock meat' products such as seitan.



Examples of major local plant-based meat brands				
KARANA" WHOLE PLANT-ALL TASTE	Karana	PBM start-up	Offers pork-style shreds based on jackfruit, available in food service. Ready-to-eat dumplings are coming soon to retail.	
next	Next Gen	PBM start-up	Offers TiNDLE soy based chicken, available in food service. 11	
Am	ALTN	Brand by frozen food company Tee Yih Jia	Offers Asian and Western-style finger foods and ready-to-eat meals based on pea, soy and fungus, including gyoza, shaomai, and nuggets. Available in grocery stores. ¹²	
E Britan	SuXianZi	Subsidiary of Growthwell Group	Offers frozen and chilled PBM including alternatives to prawn, abalone, lobster sticks, crab, fish fingers, BBQ meat and sausages. ¹³ Available in grocery stores.	
OKK	ОКК	Subsidiary of Growthwell Group	Offers a range of plant-based seafood (prawns, squid, fish balls etc.), chicken alternatives (chunks, patties, nuggets), mutton, ham and sausages. ¹⁴ Available in grocery stores.	
	SGProtein	Contract manufacturing platform for PBM	Provides technology and processing equipment to support start- ups, multinational food manufacturers and FMCG companies to allow local production of own brand products.	
		Internation	nal brands in market	
BEYOND MEAT	Beyond Meat (USA)	Beyond Meat products are available in grocery stores, e-commerce and in food service since 2018. ¹⁵		
IMPOSSIBLE	Impossible Foods (USA)	Impossible Foods products are available in grocery stores, e-commerce and in food service since 2019. ¹⁶		
Quorn	Quorn (UK)	Meat-free dim sum is available via home delivery service including BBQ buns, shaomai and gyoza. ¹⁷ Frozen dim-sum is available in grocery stores and e-commerce.		
gardein	Gardein (Canada)	Fishless Fish Fillets and BBQ Chicken Wings are available in grocery stores. Fishless Fish Fillets and Crabless Crab Cakes are also available in food service (such as Green Common). ¹⁸		
<u>álpha</u> Foods	Alpha Foods (USA)	Alpha Nuggets are available in food service (such as Green Common). ¹⁹		
OMN!MEAT	OmniMeat (Hong Kong)	Frozen and chilled products such as strips, mince and luncheon-style meats are available in grocery stores and e-commerce. Also available in food service. ²⁰		
VEEF ™	vEEF by Fenn Foods (Australia)	Plant-based burger patties, bacon, meatballs and mince are available in grocery stores and e-commerce. ²¹		
FRY S FRY FAMILY	Fry's (South Africa)	A range of products, including plant-based sausages, burger patties, nuggets, mince and crumbed schnitzels, are available on e-commerce.		

DISTRIBUTION CHANNELS

Due to its high reliance on imported food products, Singapore's market is relatively open with minimal entry barriers. ²² As a result, Australian and New Zealand exporters will face high competition with other global brands. Brand marketing on market entry is critical given the level of competition. Singapore's market can also be price sensitive. ²³

Most food exports to main supermarket chains go through local importers and distributors; direct imports are more likely if product lines are large in volume with rapid turnover.²⁴ Exporters may also supply to consolidators in specific countries, such as Australia, who are appointed by retailers. For small, family-owned grocery stores, distributors and intermediary wholesalers are usually used.

Major supermarket chains stock Western products. The grocery retail sector is dominated by three major companies, which are NTUC FairPrice, Dairy Farm International (which operates Cold Storage, Market Place and Giant supermarkets) and Sheng Siong Group.²⁵ Other large retailers include Giant, HAO Mart and Prime.

The remaining sector consists of small, family-owned businesses located in residential areas. This includes specialty or premium food stores to cater for higherend or niche consumers, such as expatriates. Ecommerce and online retailers are increasingly popular; the largest e-commerce platform is RedMart, which stocks a number of imported and local PBM brands already.²⁶

LABELLING LAWS

The Singapore Food Agency (SFA) regulates imported and locally produced food in Singapore and administers the Sale of Food Act.

Food importers, distributors, manufacturers, producers, packers and retailers are responsible for ensuring that their food products comply with labelling requirements.²⁷

Food labelling must be in English and contain the following five basic elements:²⁸

Element	Detail
Name or description of food	Common name of food.
Statement of ingredients	 Ingredients listed in descending order by weight and proportion, including constituents of compound ingredients.
	 Exact identity or permitted generic terms of ingredients should be declared.
	 International Numbering System (INS) number or E number can be used for declaration of food additives.
	• Foods known to cause hypersensitivity must be declared through statement of ingredients, or by using a "contain" statement. This includes: cereals including gluten, crustacean, eggs, fish, peanuts, soybeans, milk, tree nuts, sulphites in concentrates of 10mg/kg or more, and all their products.
	 Use of disclaimers such as "may contain" due to possibility of cross contamination is not encouraged.
Net quantity of food in package	Must be in absolute values expressed in volume for liquid foods or weight for solid foods.
Name and address of local food business	Name and address of local importer, distributor or agent for imported foods.
Country of origin (for imports only)	Use of abbreviations is not recommended. If food products are packed in Singapore, they can be labelled as 'Product of Country X. Packed in Singapore.'

Additional labelling requirements which may be relevant:

Date-marking of expiry date

- Required for listed prepacked foods including: perishable or short shelf-life products, products whose quality may deteriorate over time and products susceptible to contamination.
- Storage direction must be included if specific storage conditions are necessary to keep food until its expiry date.

Nutrition labelling

- A Nutrition Information Panel (NIP) is recommended on food products. NIP is required when a permitted nutrition or health claims are made (e.g.: protein claim).
- NIP must include energy, protein, fat and carbohydrate content.
- Other nutrients are required if subject to nutrition claim.
- Can be declared in per 100g, or per serving accompanied by total number of servings per package and serving size.

TARIFFS

The tariff code for protein concentrates for both Australian and New Zealand exports is 2106.10.

Australian exporters enjoy tariff-free access under Singapore-Australia Free Trade Agreement (SAFTA).

Similarly, New Zealand exporters have tariff-free access under the Closer Economic Partnership (CEP) between NZ and Singapore and Transpacific Strategic Economic Partnership (P4).

Both Australian and New Zealander exporters have tariff-free access under Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) and ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (AANZFTA).

USEFUL RESOURCES

Austrade (contact page)

Singapore Market Profile Austrade Food and Agribusiness to Singapore

Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade

DFAT Free Trade Agreement Portal

NZ Trade & Enterprise (contact page)

NZTE Tariff Finder Singapore Market Profile (available to registered NZTE customers)

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

Singapore Exporting Resources

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MARKET PROFILE: SOUTH KOREA





MARKET SIZE

The 'meat substitute' market in South Korea is estimated to be worth \$462.6M in 2018, growing by \$47.3M from $2013.^1$

In the wider Asia-Pacific region, the 'meat substitute' market was worth US\$15.3B in 2019, up 4.75% from 2018. The pandemic has accelerated that growth, with the market forecast to expand 11.6% to US\$17.1B in 2020.²

CONSUMER DEMAND

Demand for plant-based meat (PBM) is mainly driven by younger consumers and millennials due to health, ethical and environmental concerns.³ Nearly 20% of the population (10 million people) are either vegetarian, vegan or actively trying to reduce their meat consumption.⁴

South Korea's rising income levels, after strong economic recovery following the Asian financial crisis, have created an opportunity for its population to diversify their diets and sample high-end food products and trends.⁵ At the same time, economic slowdown since the early 2010s has caused consumers to remain cautious, maintaining a demand for affordable goods.⁶ According to Euromonitor, competitive pricing is a key factor influencing the growth of the industry in South Korea, noting that currently, PBM products are often more expensive than conventional meat.⁷

Convenience is a key force shaping consumer demand due to the rise of single-person households and a culture of long working hours.⁸ This has led to With people's growing concerns for eco-friendly and healthier consumption, we believe the meat alternative market will be properly developed in Korea in several years."

- DONGWON F&B. SOUTH KOREA

to the growth of ready meals, meal kits and welldeveloped local delivery services.

Food safety is an important consideration for South Korean consumers due to a cultural perception of food as medicine. Such food safety concerns are evident in South Korea's 2021 ban on the imports of ruminant meat products from 36 countries with a history of mad cow disease, despite relying heavily on food imports in the meat sector.

The food manufacturing sector in South Korea is highly sophisticated with consumers generally favouring local products due to perceived superior quality and safety.¹²

There is growing interest in foreign products, particularly from young consumers who are increasingly exposed to foreign cultures through education and travel. Australian and New Zealand exporters face strong competition in the processed food market from other exporting countries. There is a tendency for South Korean consumers to display brand loyalty to products they feel can be trusted, potentially creating an additional challenge for new exporters. 4



	E	xamples of major	local plant-based meat brands
ZERO MEAT	Zero Meat	Brand by Lotte Foods	Offers burger patties, cutlets and nuggets based on wheat protein and yeast extract. Available in grocery stores and e-commerce. 15
ZICHA) STITIC HAR MINI	Better Than Meat	Brand by start-up Viomix	Offers plant-based nuggets, cutlets, steaks and tteokgalbi (short ribs). ¹⁶ Available in grocery stores and e-commerce.
UNLIMEAT	Unlimeat	Brand by PBM manufacturer Zikooin	Offers slices, pulled-style alternatives, burger patties, mince and dumplings made from grains. ¹⁷ Available in food service (Subway, dumplings and sushi rolls in 7-Eleven ¹⁸) and grocery stores.
Pulmuone	Pulmuone	Major food manufacturer	Offers PBM based on soy such as tofu tenders which replicate chicken. ¹⁹ Available in e-commerce.
Veggie garden	Veggie Garden	Brand by convenience food manufacturer Nongshim	Offers PBM made from soybeans, peas and grains, including mince, patties and frozen Korean cuisine alternatives such as tteokgalbi (short ribs), nubiani (grilled beef) and tangsuyuk (sweet and sour pork). Available in grocery stores and e-commerce.
Salm Jook	Sahmyook	Plant-based food manufacturer	Offers frozen and shelf-stable PBM based on soy and wheat including bulgogi (grilled beef-style slices), nuggets, strips and burgers. Available in grocery stores and e-commerce.
VEGEFOOD EST.1998	Vegefood	Plant-based food manufacturer	Offers frozen, shelf-stable and dried PBM with a focus on Korean cuisine alternatives such as jangjorim (braised beef), odeng (fish-style cakes) and samgyeopsal (pork belly). Available in grocery stores and e-commerce.
LOTTERIA	Lotteria	Fast food chain introducing PBM	Offers a beef patty based on soy in its Miracle Burger since February 2020. ²⁰
		Examples of inter	rnational brands in market
BEYOND MEAT	Beyond Meat (USA)	Has an exclusive partnership with Dongwon F&B to distribute its products since February 2019. ²¹ Available in grocery stores (E-mart) and e-commerce (Dongwon Mall, GMarket).	
v2 food	v2food (Australia)	Partnered with Burger King to offer plant-based Whoppers since February 2021. ²² v2food is available locally through importer Epocline ²³ and FreshEasy meal kits. ²⁴	
OMN! PORK	OmniPork (Hong Kong)	Available in e-commerce (Kurly) since May 2021. ²⁵	
<u>álpha</u> Foods	Alpha Foods (USA)	Available in e-commerce (Kurly).	
Å	Sweet Earth	PBM brand by Nest	clé. Available in Lotteria food service through its 'Sweet
SWEET EARTH	(Switzerland)	Awesome Burger' since November 2020. ²⁶	

DISTRIBUTION CHANNELS

South Korea has a well-established processed food market with modern distribution channels.²⁷ Most Australian businesses exporting to South Korea rely on agents or distributors. Importers have a preference to work through distributors and usually request exclusive rights to products for at least two years to build their reputation and market position.²⁸

Several types of retailers exist in South Korean distribution channels. Hypermarkets are increasingly importing directly from overseas suppliers to lower prices, including E-mart, Homeplus, Lotte Mart and Costco, however this is generally reserved for large, well-known brands with high turnover.²⁹

Supermarkets lead the retail distribution channel and tend to stock less imported food products than hypermarkets³⁰; examples are Lotte Super, GS Super, Homeplus Express and E-mart Everyday.

Department stores, such as Lotte, Shinsegae and Hyundai, may feature premium food sections and usually work with importers, which includes vendors with their own shelves in department stores.

Convenience stores may also stock some international products, such as GS25, Family Mart, CU and 7-Eleven.

Online channels are very important in South Korea due to an online penetration rate of more than 84%³¹ and smartphone penetration rate of 97%.³² This can occur through online services of existing retailers or major e-commerce platforms such as Gmarket, 11th Street and Coupang.³³ It is expected that online retailers and convenience stores will grow faster than other channels in the next 5-10 years.³⁴

LABELLING LAWS

Processed food products imported to South Korea are regulated by the Ministry of Food and Drug Safety (MFDS). It is recommended to keep in regular contact with local importers as import and labelling requirements can change frequently and without notice in South Korea.³⁵

Imported products must be accompanied with a Korean language label that should not be easily removable or cover the original label. The label must include the following:³⁶

Element	Detail
Product name	Should be identical to name declared to inspection and licensing authorities.
Product type	Type of food product according to the Standards & Specifications for Food.
Name and address of importer	Where products may be returned or exchanged in case of defects.
Name of manufacturer	For foreign manufacturers, no Korean translation is necessary.
Country of origin	If two or more countries were involved in the production of the product, the country of origin is where "substantial transformation" took place.
Shelf life or best before date	In (yy/mm/dd) format. Manufacture dates are also required for specific products including boxed lunches, hamburgers, sushi, etc.
Net weight	Weight or volume in metric measures.
Ingredient listing	Declared in descending order of weight and with percentages, including compound ingredients. Must also list food additives using full or abbreviated name, or purpose as listed in the Food Additive Code.
Nutritional labelling	Obligatory for most processed foods. ³⁷ Includes calories, sodium, carbohydrates including sugars, fats including
	saturated fat and trans-fat, cholesterol, protein and any nutrient which is emphasised on packaging.
Allergens	Must be declared in a separate label e.g. "This product contains wheat." Warnings of cross-contamination due to allergens of other products in 36

the same processing line must be indicated.

Allergen list includes: eggs, milk, buckwheat, peanuts, soybeans, wheat, mackerel, crab, shrimp, pork, peach, tomato, sulphurous acid, walnuts, chicken, beef, squid, clams (including oyster, abalone and mussels) and pine nut.

Additional regulatory information:

- Health claims are generally not allowed.
- Metric measures should be used.
- South Korea has strict testing requirements to ensure food safety. All first-time imports of processed foods will undergo precise examination in approved labs, sensory tests and random sampling inspections before gaining customs clearance. This process usually takes two weeks.³⁸
- South Korea has a list of approved food additives which may vary based on product type. If an additive is not listed, or is not specified for usage in a certain product type, it should be presumed to be prohibited.³⁹

TARIFFS

The tariff code for protein concentrates for both Australian and New Zealand exports is 2106.10.

Australian exporters enjoy tariff-free access under Korea-Australia Free Trade Agreement (KAFTA). Similarly, New Zealander exporters also have tarifffree access under the Korea-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (KNZFTA).

USEFUL RESOURCES

Austrade (contact page)

South Korea Market Profile
Austrade Food and Beverage to South Korea

Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade

DFAT Free Trade Agreement Portal

NZ Trade & Enterprise (contact page)

NZTE Tariff Finder South Korea Market Profile (available to registered NZTE customers)

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

South Korea Exporting Resources

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