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"Social media carries the pulse on which the digital generation keep their fingers to keep one step ahead with emerging health trends and ingredients. As such, it is an ideal platform for food companies to identify innovation opportunities – although with a need to cut through all the noise in doing so."

- Emma Clifford, Senior Food and Drink Analyst

This report looks at the following areas:

- In the crowded 'superfood' space, innovation has to deliver on all-round healthiness
- The natural and health-boosting credentials of plant proteins makes these a winning
- Companies that are able to quickly react to health trends on social media have a distinct advantage

Signalling the UK's booming healthy eating trend, most adults try to eat healthily at least most of the time. However, consumers reporting to eat healthily all the time remain a small minority. This stems from the unwavering belief that unhealthy foods have a perfectly acceptable place within a balanced, healthy lifestyle, with moderation being key. This underpins the – perhaps surprising – resiliency of many unhealthy food categories in the face of the overarching health trend.

The fundamental role that diet plays in overall health is widely accepted, with health the top motivation for following a healthy eating regime, weigh management lagging some way behind. However, emotional as well as physical benefits are primary drivers behind healthy eating, particularly among young consumers.

The 'positive nutrition' mindset has become ingrained, with this sparking the boom in superfoods in food NPD. However, today's savvy consumers are also questioning the use of superfoods, with these ingredients at their optimum when used as part of a holistically healthy positioning.

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DID YOU KNOW?

This report is part of a series of reports, produced to provide you with a more holistic view of this market



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