



# EXBERRY® Workshop Basic

February 2025

**EXBERRY®**



# We eat with our eyes





“Color clearly conveys to the brain  
what taste is to be expected”

*Source: Stummerer S, Hablesreiter M. Food design XL. New York, NY: Springer; 2010.*





# 1

## EXBERRY® Plant-based Colors

GROWING COLORS

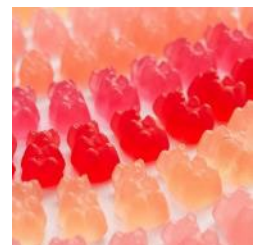
**EXBERRY®**



# A full spectrum of vibrant shades to stand out on the shelf



**100%**  
PLANT-BASED





Tasting of three different EXBERRY® products. Which raw materials do you taste?

1. EXBERRY® Shade Mandarin → Carrot + Apple
2. EXBERRY® Shade Vivid Red → Carrot + Blackcurrant
3. EXBERRY® Shade Blue - HP → Spirulina





# Maximize consumer acceptance with trusted ingredients

Raw materials



Orange carrot



Safflower



Turmeric



Pumpkin



Spirulina



Blueberry



Dunaliella Salina



Black carrot



Radish



Paprika



Purple sweet potato



Beetroot



Hibiscus



Annatto seeds

Formats\*



Standard liquid concentrate



Standard powder



Micronized powder



Oil-dispersible range



Oil-soluble range

Applications



\*Format availability depends on raw material





**What is important when  
using EXBERRY®?**



# Color shades of EXBERRY®



Red, Pink and Purple

Yellow and Orange

Blue and Green

Brown

# Properties of RED,PINK & PURPLE EXBERRY® Products

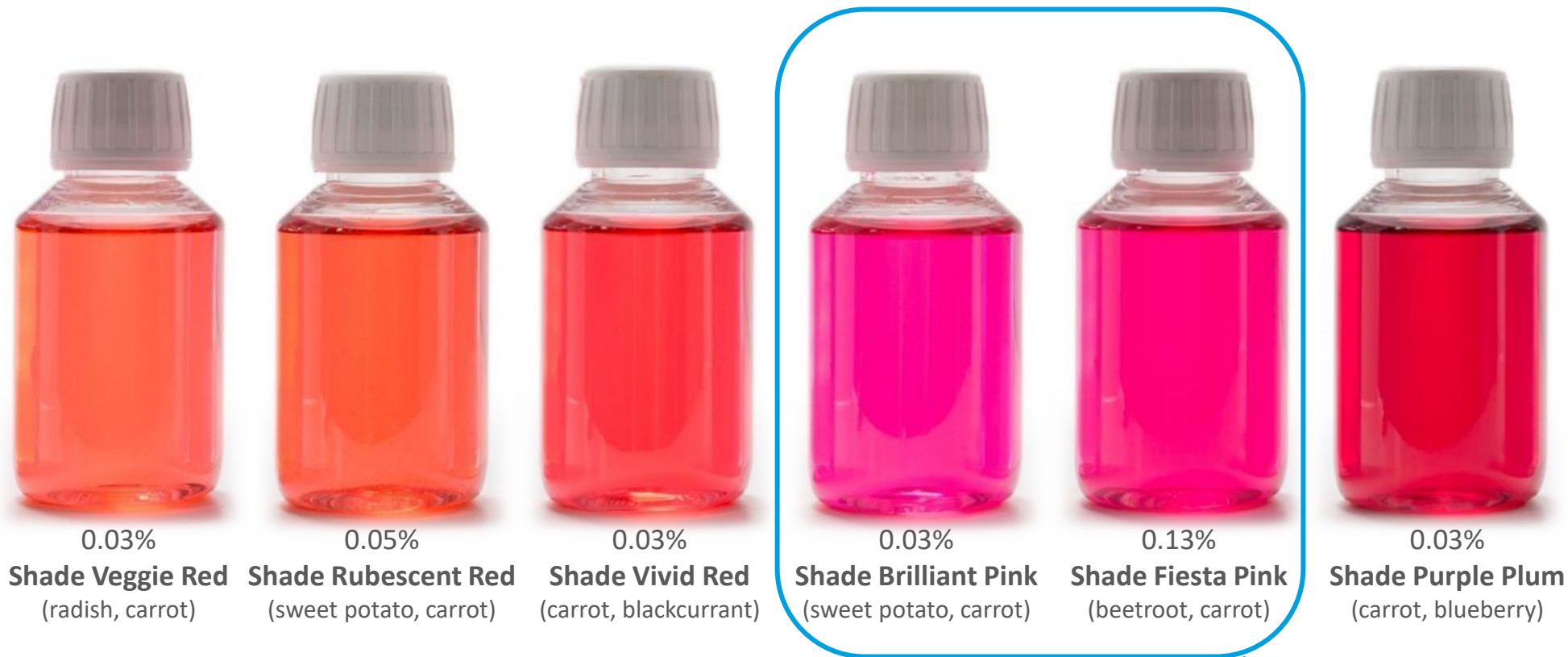




# Red, Pink and Purple plant-based solutions



# Red EXBERRY® products – Solubility in water



- All red EXBERRY® products are completely water soluble.
- A variety from yellowish red to bluish red color hues.





1. Add **10 drops** of EXBERRY® Shade Vivid Red into the beaker with tap water (2 L) and mix.

Take a sample by pouring the colored water into one of the small beakers.

2. Add **1 drop** of citric acid solution (50 % w/w) to the beaker and mix.

Take a sample.

3. Add **a whole pipette** of citric acid solution to the beaker and mix.

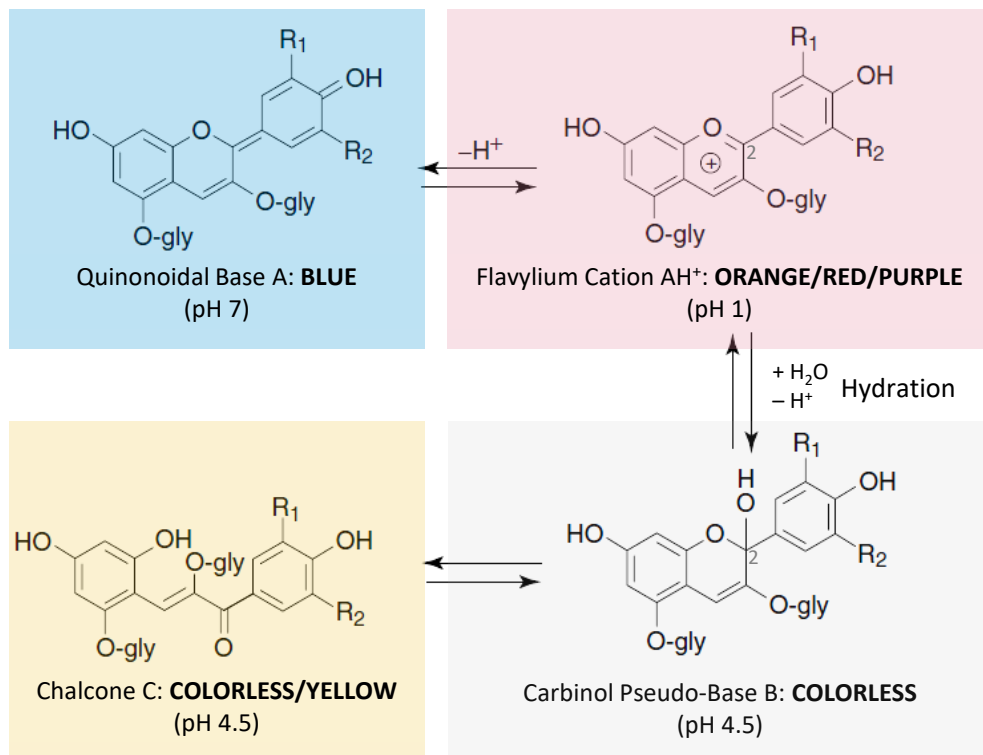
Take a sample.

➤ What do you see?



# Influence of pH value: Red, pink and purple EXBERRY® (1)

- Transformation of **anthocyanins** at different pH values

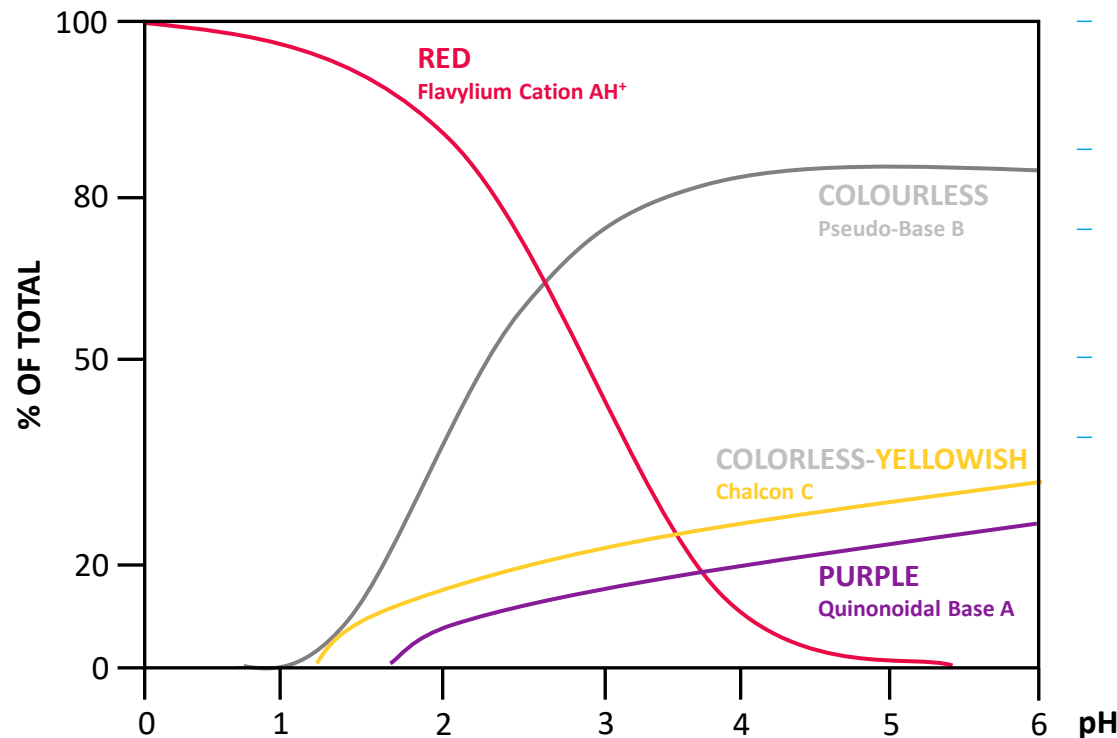


- The color shade of anthocyanins depends on the pH value of the application.
- 4 molecular anthocyanin configurations exist in equilibrium:
  - Flavylium cation AH<sup>+</sup>: **RED**
  - Quinonoidal Base A: **BLUE**
  - Carbinol Pseudo-Base B: **COLORLESS**
  - Chalcone C: **COLORLESS-YELLOW**
- All forms are present at the same time. The relative amount of each form at equilibrium varies with pH value and anthocyanin structure.
- At acidic pH value (< 2) the red flavylium cation is dominant.
- At increasing pH conditions (3-6), colorless carbinol pseudo-base and chalcone structures are formed.
- At neutral pH value (7) the blue quinonoidal base is dominant.
- At pH 4–6, an anthocyanin solution has very little hue due to the small amount of flavylium cation and quinonoidal base!



# Influence of pH value: Red, pink and purple EXBERRY® (2)

- Transformation of **anthocyanins** at different pH values



- All forms are present at the same time. The relative amount of each form at equilibrium varies with pH value and anthocyanin structure.
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- At increasing pH conditions (3-6), colorless carbinol pseudo-base and chalcone structures are formed.
- At neutral pH value (7) the blue Quinonoidal base is dominant.
- At pH 4–6, an anthocyanin solution has very little hue due to the small amount of flavylium cation and Quinonoidal base!



# Influence of water composition

0.03% EXBERRY® Shade Vivid Red



pH 5.3 → pH 4.1

**Demineralized Water**  
(GNT Aachen)



pH 8.3 → pH 6.7

**Tap Water**  
(GNT Aachen)



pH 7.8 → pH 6.9

**VOLVIC Mineral Water**

Bicarbonate: 74 mg/L



pH 7.8 → pH 7.3

**VIO Mineral Water**

Bicarbonate: 152 mg/L



pH 7.7 → pH 7.2

**VILSA Mineral Water**

Bicarbonate: 175 mg/L



pH 7.5 → pH 7.3

**VITTEL Mineral Water**

Bicarbonate: 248 mg/L



pH 7.4 → pH 7.3

**EVIAN Mineral Water**

Bicarbonate: 360 mg/L



pH 7.1 → pH 7.1

**GEROLSTEINER Mineral Water**

Bicarbonate: 577 mg/L

# Influence of water composition

0.03% EXBERRY® Shade Vivid Red



pH 4.1 → pH 2.9

**Demineralized Water**  
(GNT Aachen)



pH 6.7 → pH 3.0

**Tap Water**  
(GNT Aachen)



pH 6.9 → pH 3.0

**VIOVIC Mineral Water**

Bicarbonate: 74 mg/L



pH 7.3 → pH 3.2

**VIO Mineral Water**

Bicarbonate: 152 mg/L



pH 7.2 → pH 3.4

**VILSA Mineral Water**

Bicarbonate: 175 mg/L



pH 7.3 → pH 3.5

**VITTEL Mineral Water**

Bicarbonate: 248 mg/L



pH 7.3 → pH 3.8

**EVIAN Mineral Water**

Bicarbonate: 360 mg/L



pH 7.1 → pH 4.4

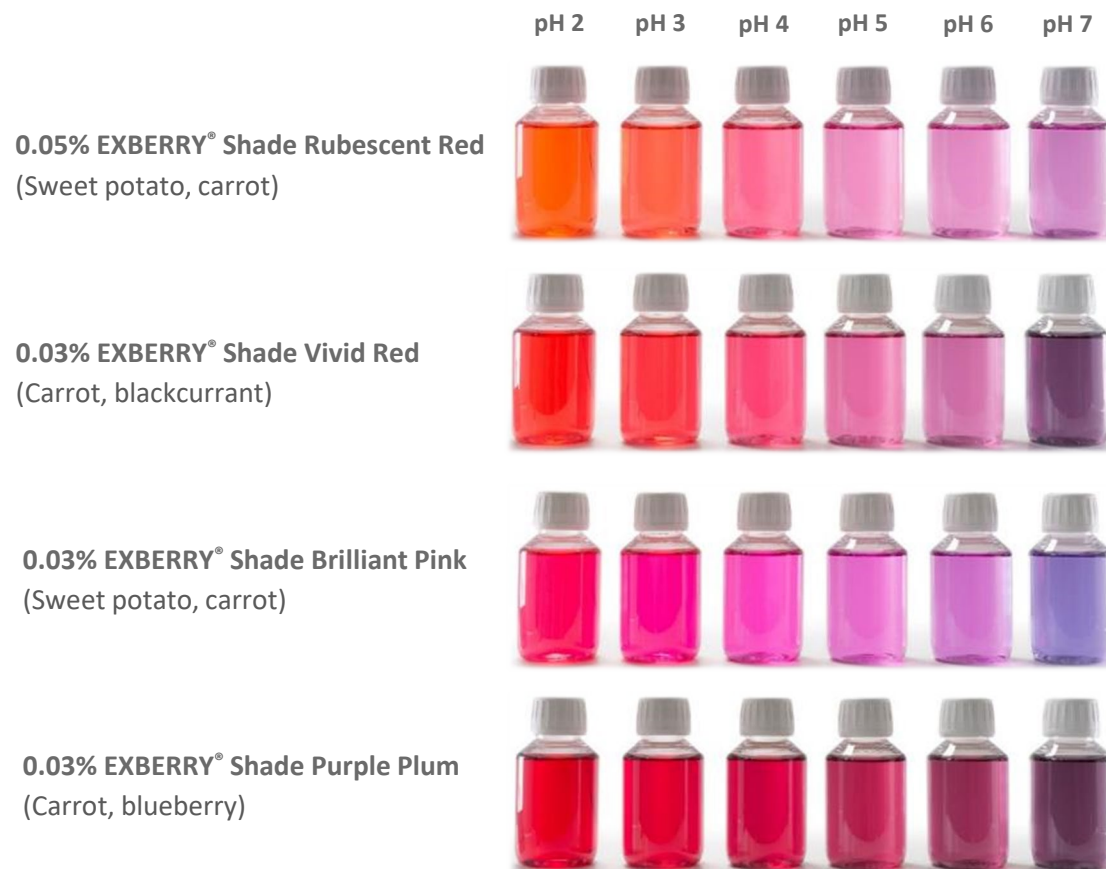
**GEROLSTEINER Mineral Water**

Bicarbonate: 577 mg/L



# Influence of pH value: Red, pink and purple EXBERRY® (3)

- Appearance of **red, pink and purple** EXBERRY® products at different pH values



EXBERRY® made from beetroot are not pH dependent.

EXBERRY® products made from red fruits and vegetables that contain anthocyanins are pH dependent.

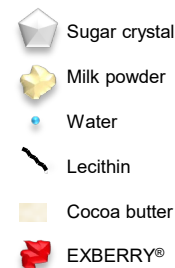
# Anthocyanins in Chocolate – Color Shift

Chocolate colored with anthocyanin containing EXBERRY® products can shift from a red hue to a blue/purple hue

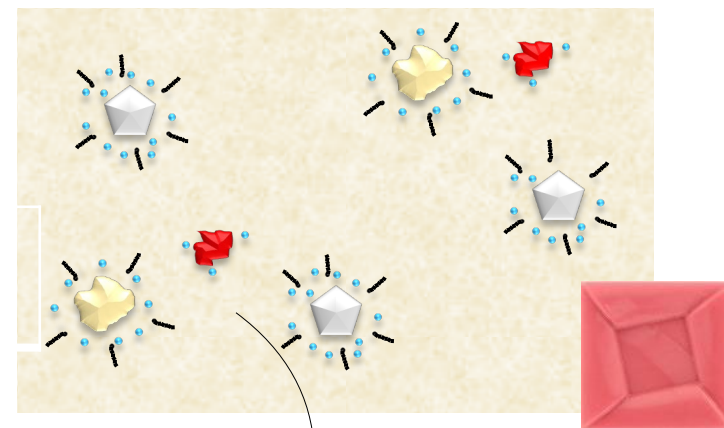
The color shift in chocolate/compound is most likely due to hydrophilic ingredients at the surface of the fat base (e.g., sugar, milk powder, soy lecithin) which are absorbing water from the surrounding environment

The high pH ingredients then partially hydrate with the anthocyanin pigments, which are water soluble, causing a color shift due to the high pH of their environment

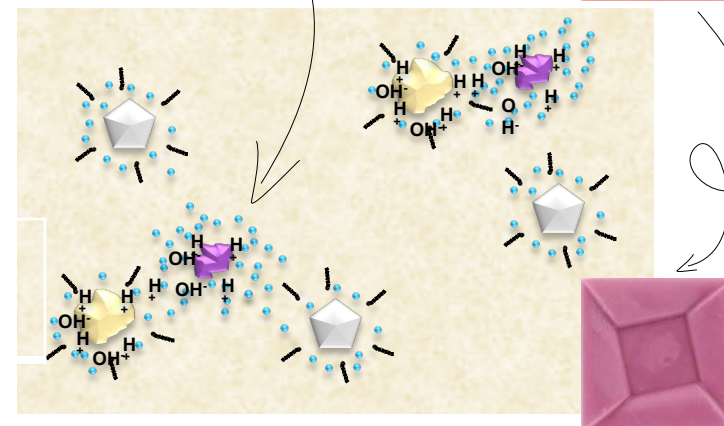
The storage conditions of the product influence the rate of the color shift



**DAY OF PRODUCTION**  
EXBERRY® Shade Red – MN  
Powder in white chocolate



**1 MONTH AMBIENT STORAGE**  
EXBERRY® Shade Red – MN  
Powder in white chocolate



# pH induced color shift with EXBERRY® MN – Powder and OD

2.0% EXBERRY® Shade Red – OD



OD



Reference

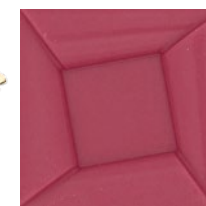


4 weeks ambient light

2.0% EXBERRY® Shade Red – MN Powder



MN



Reference



4 weeks ambient light

2.0% EXBERRY® Shade Pink – OD



OD



Reference



4 weeks ambient light

2.0% EXBERRY® Shade Pink – MN Powder



MN



Reference

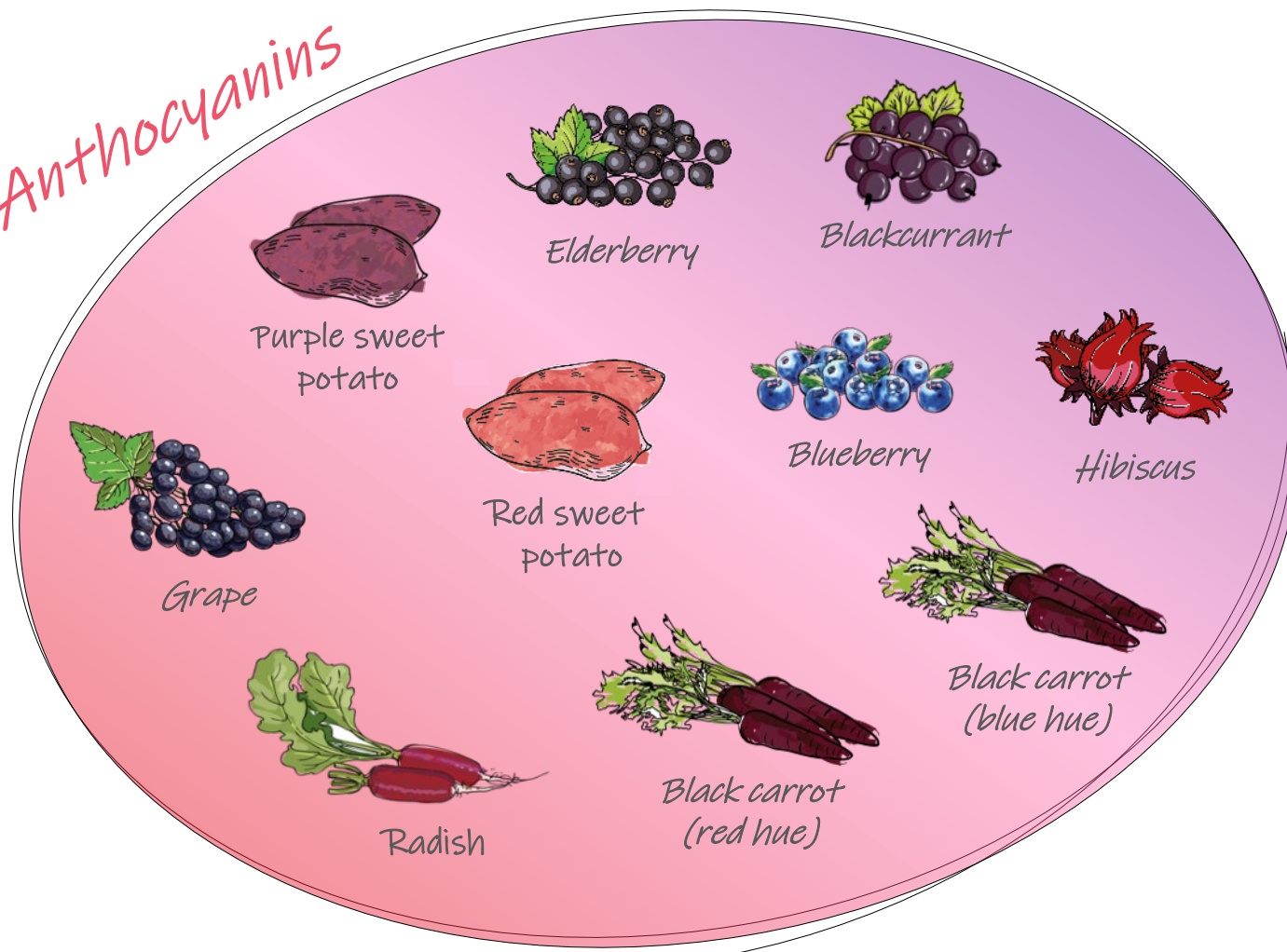


4 weeks ambient light

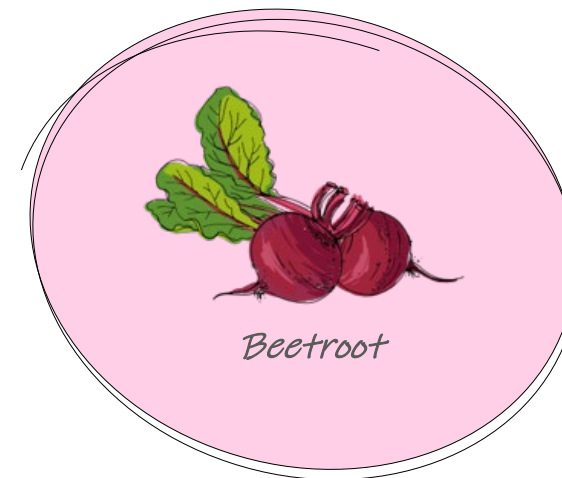


# Pigments: Red, pink and purple EXBERRY® raw materials

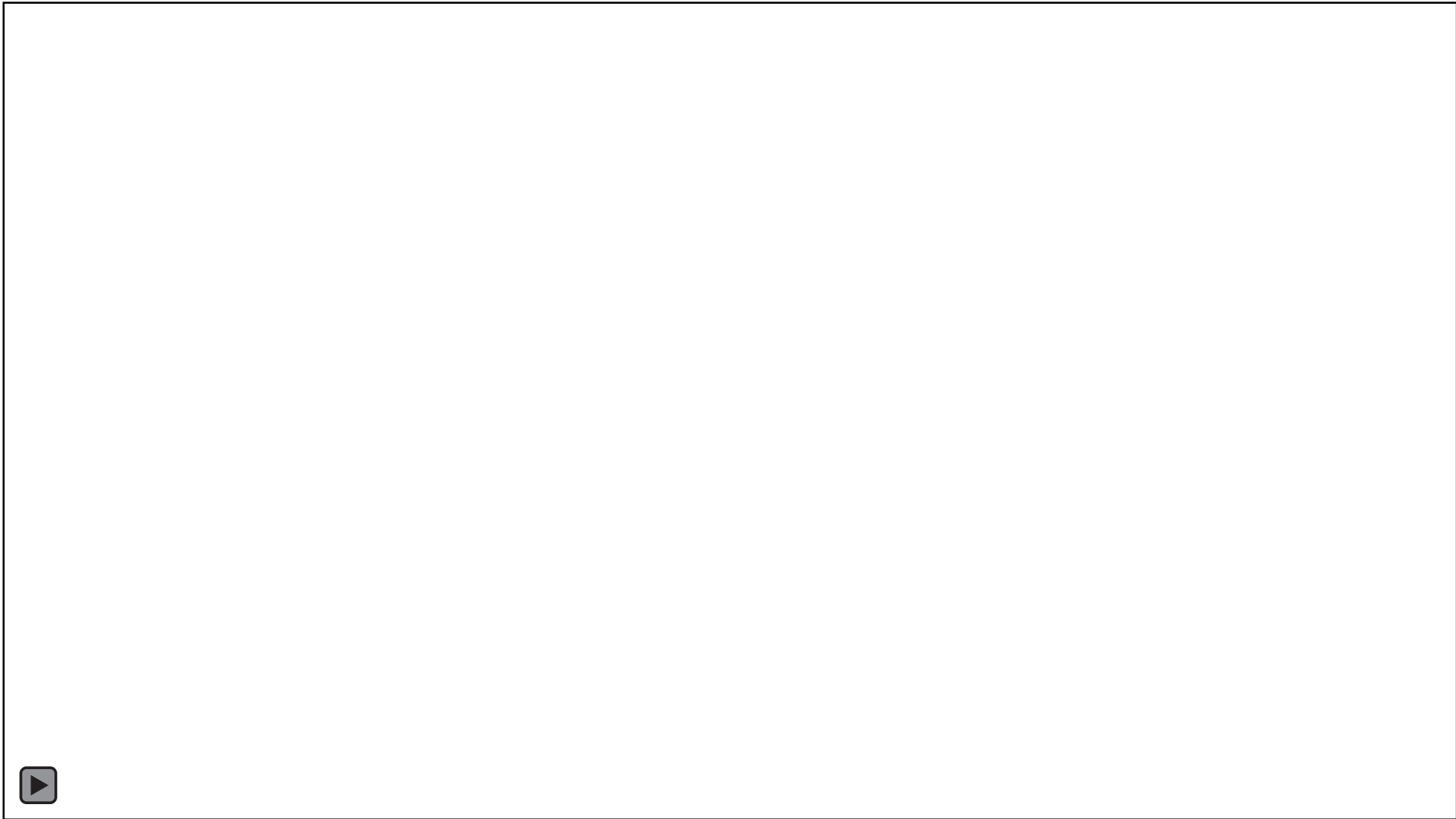
## Anthocyanins



## Betainin



# Heat impact: EXBERRY® Shade Fiesta Pink





# Heat impact: Red, pink and purple EXBERRY®

- Red, pink and purple EXBERRY® containing **anthocyanin**-based raw materials are very stable against heat.



- EXBERRY® Shade Fiesta Pink which contains **beetroot (pigment: betanin)** is less heat stable.



- Ascorbic acid can help to reduce color loss of EXBERRY® Shade Fiesta Pink during pasteurization to some extent.

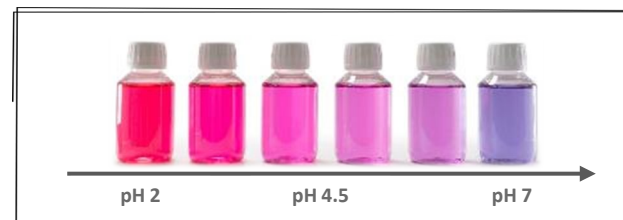
# Color stability: Red, pink and purple EXBERRY®

## Raw materials



- Red, pink and purple EXBERRY® products made from raw materials containing **anthocyanins** are:

- Heat stable
- Light stable
- pH dependent



- Pink EXBERRY® products made from raw materials containing **betanin** are:

- Less heat stable
- Less light stable
- pH independent



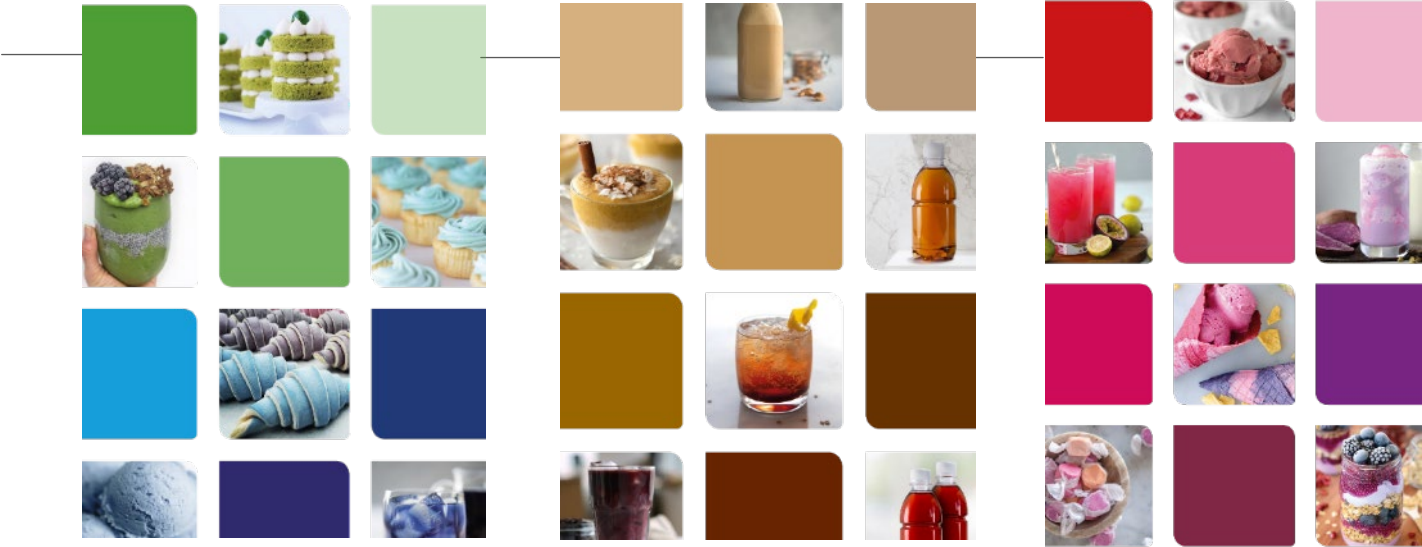
Light and heat stability can be improved with ascorbic acid addition.



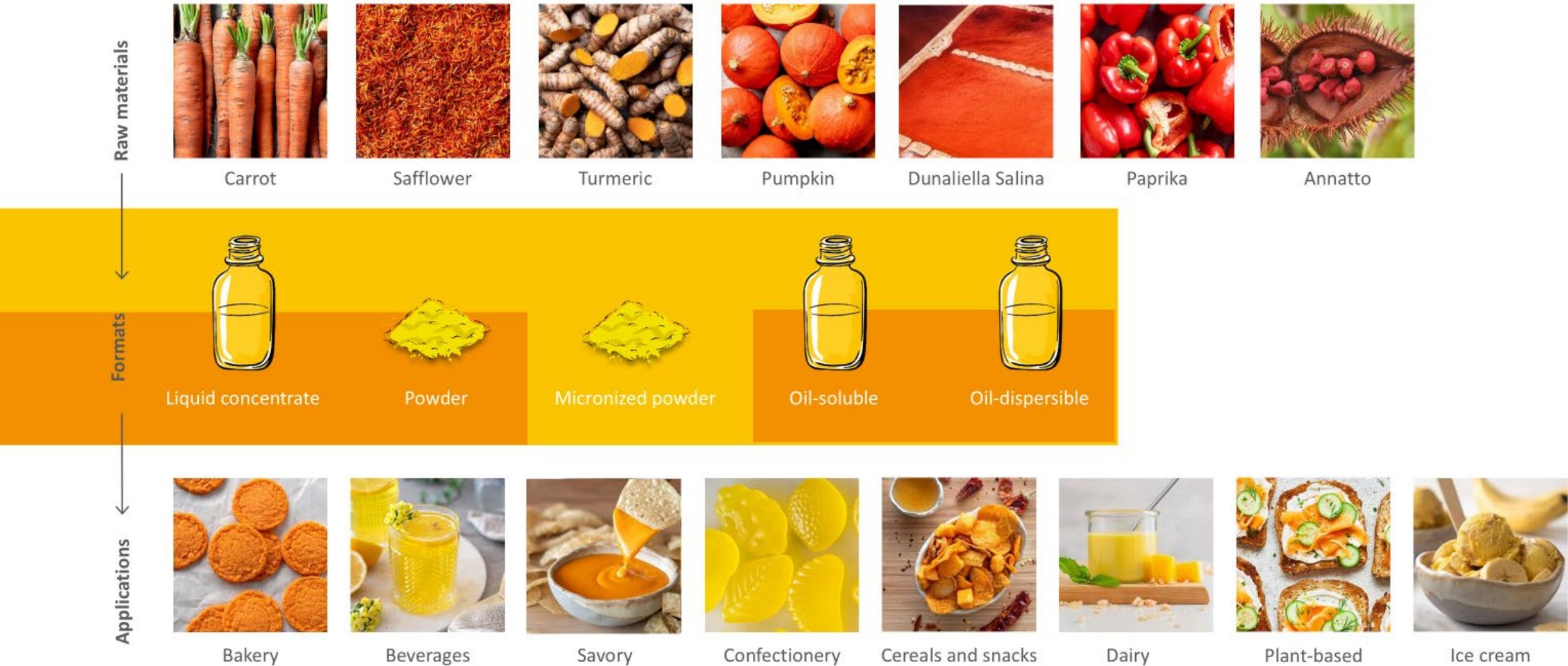




# Properties of YELLOW & ORANGE EXBERRY® Products



# Yellow plant-based solutions





# Overview: Yellow and orange EXBERRY® (1)

## Clear EXBERRY®



0.03 % EXBERRY®  
**Shade Lemon  
Yellow**

(safflower, lemon)



0.05 % EXBERRY®  
**Shade Orange -  
Stable**

(radish, safflower)



0.05 % EXBERRY®  
**Shade Sunstone  
Orange**

(sweet potato,  
safflower)

## Cloudy EXBERRY®



0.05 % EXBERRY®  
**Shade Bright  
Yellow**

(Turmeric)



0.17 % EXBERRY®  
**Shade Mango  
Yellow**

(pumpkin, apple)



0.04 % EXBERRY®  
**Yellow  
Carotene**

(carrot, pumpkin)



0.13 % EXBERRY®  
**Shade Yellow -  
Cloudy**

(carrot, pumpkin)



0.05 % EXBERRY®  
**Shade Vivid  
Orange**

(paprika oil)



0.05 % EXBERRY®  
**Shade Brilliant  
Orange**

(pepper, carrot)



0.17 % EXBERRY®  
**Shade  
Mandarin**

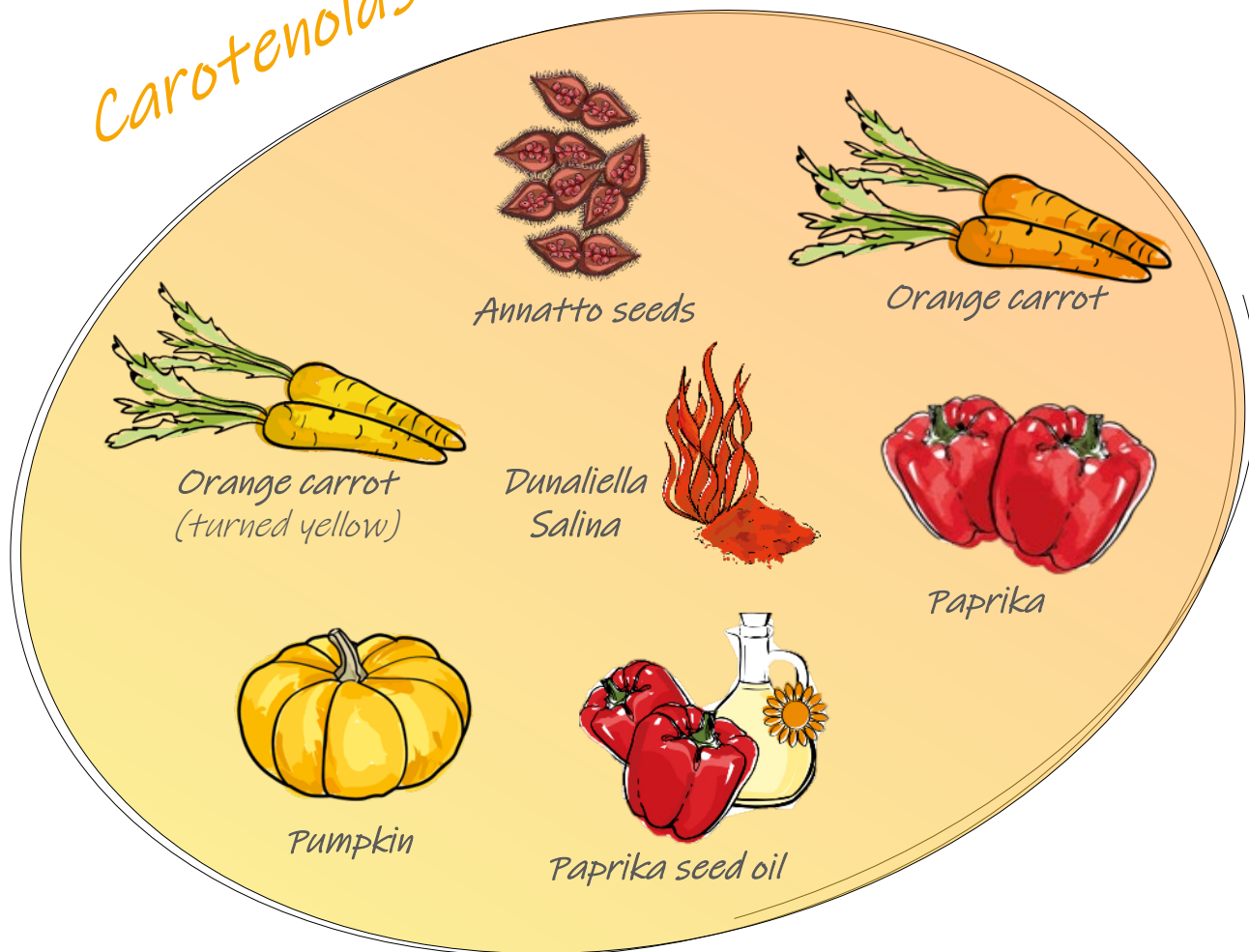
(carrot, apple)

- Clear EXBERRY® products are **completely water soluble**.
- Clear EXBERRY® products contain safflower as one raw material.

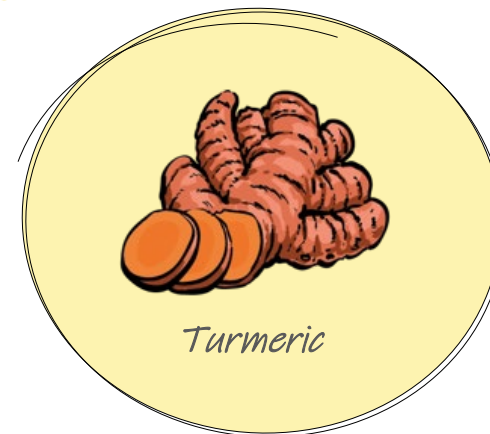
- Cloudy EXBERRY® products are not completely water soluble but **water dispersible**.
- Cloudy EXBERRY® products contain raw materials like pumpkin, carrot, turmeric, paprika or *Dunaliella Salina*.

# Pigments: Yellow and orange EXBERRY® raw materials

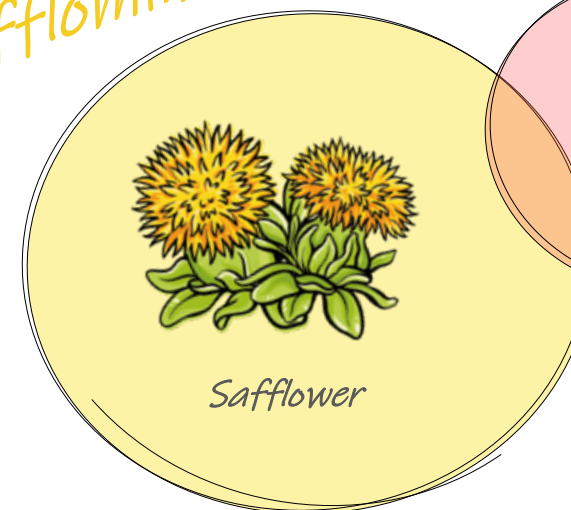
## Carotenoids



## Curcuminoids



## Safflomin A



Red, pink and  
purple raw  
materials

# EXBERRY®: Experiment

1. In front of you are three different cream cheese samples.
  2. Add 10 drops of EXBERRY® Shade Mandarin to each sample and stir very well.
- What do you see?



# Cream cheese with different fat contents



0.50 % EXBERRY®  
Shade Mandarin



0.20 % EXBERRY® Shade  
Brilliant Orange



**0.5 % fat**

**4.5 % fat**

**10.0 % fat**

# Influence of pH value: Yellow EXBERRY®

0.03 % EXBERRY®  
**Shade Lemon  
Yellow**

(safflower, lemon)



0.05 % EXBERRY®  
**Shade Bright  
Yellow**

(Turmeric)



0.17 % EXBERRY®  
**Shade Mango  
Yellow**

(pumpkin, apple)



0.13 % EXBERRY®  
**Shade Yellow -  
Cloudy**

(carrot, pumpkin)



0.04 % EXBERRY®  
**Yellow  
Carotene**



pH 2   pH 3   pH 4   pH 5   pH 6   pH 7

Yellow EXBERRY® products  
are not pH dependent.

# Influence of pH value: Orange EXBERRY®



**Cloudy orange EXBERRY®**  
(Shade Mandarin, Brilliant Orange, Vivid Orange)



Cloudy orange EXBERRY® products are not pH dependent.



**Clear orange EXBERRY®**  
(Shade Orange - Stable, Sunstone Orange)



Safflower



Raw material containing anthocyanins

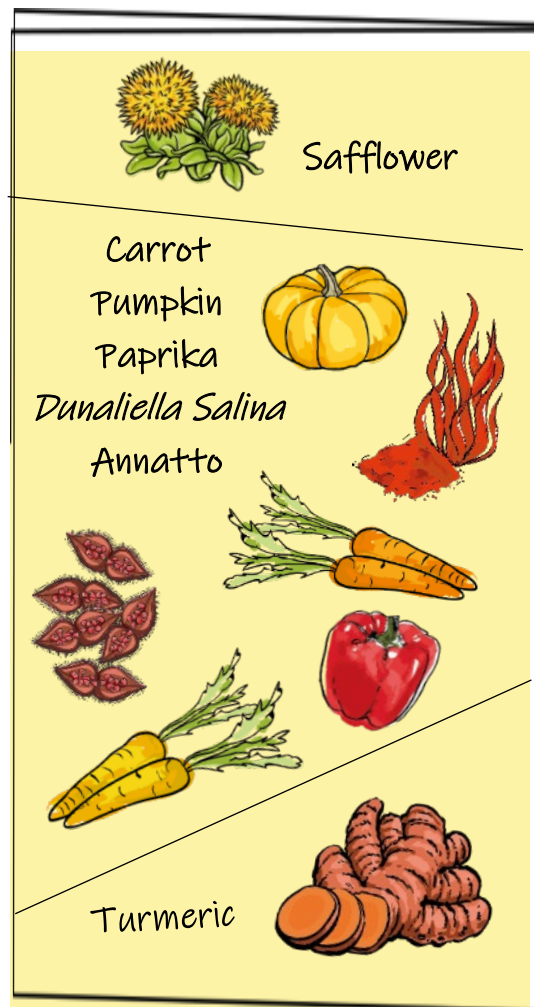


Clear orange EXBERRY® products are pH dependent.



# Color stability Yellow and orange EXBERRY®

## Raw materials



- **Clear yellow / orange EXBERRY®** made from raw materials containing **safflomin A** (safflower) are:

- Light and heat stable
- pH dependent for orange EXBERRY®

- **Cloudy EXBERRY®** products made from raw materials containing **carotenoids** are:

- Light stable (dependent on application)
- Heat stable
- pH independent

Light stability can be highly **improved** with **antioxidants** like ascorbic acid

- **Cloudy EXBERRY®** made from raw materials containing **curcuminoids** (turmeric) are:

- Less light stable
- Heat stable (heat can increase color intensity)
- pH independent





# Properties of BLUE & GREEN EXBERRY® Products



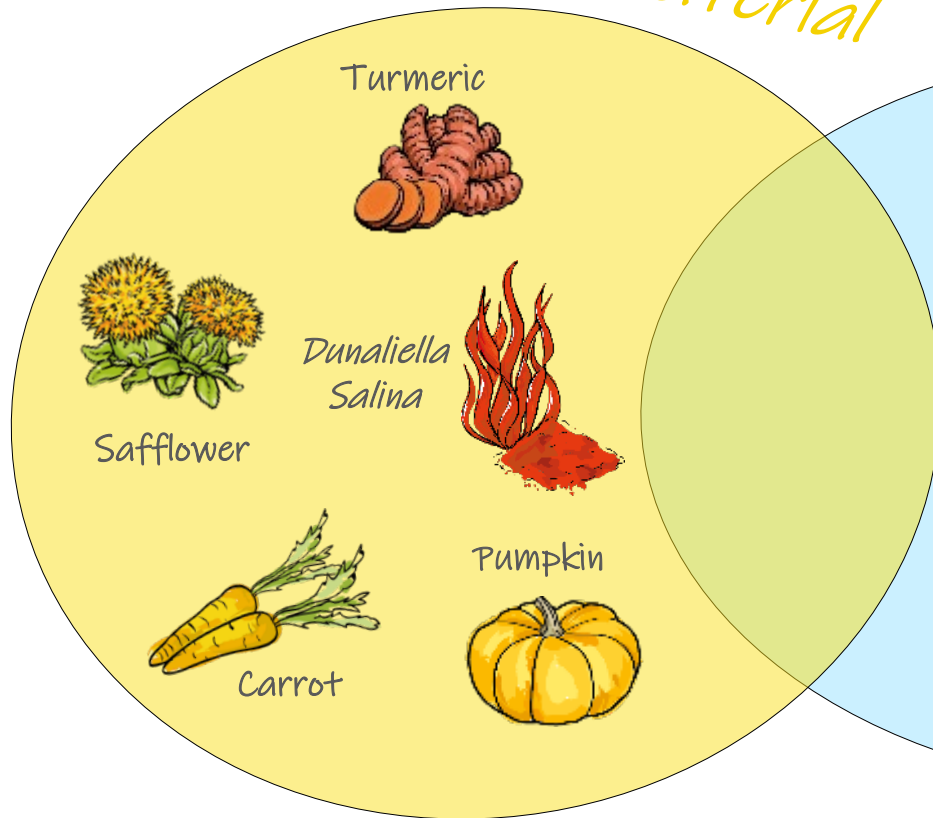


# Blue and Green plant-based solutions

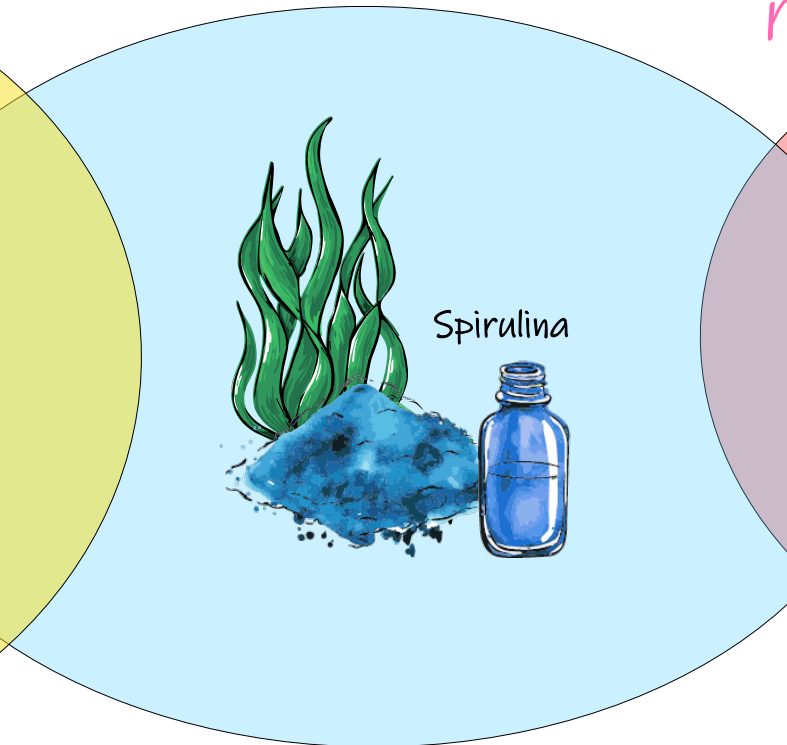


# Pigments: Blue, green (and violet) EXBERRY® raw materials

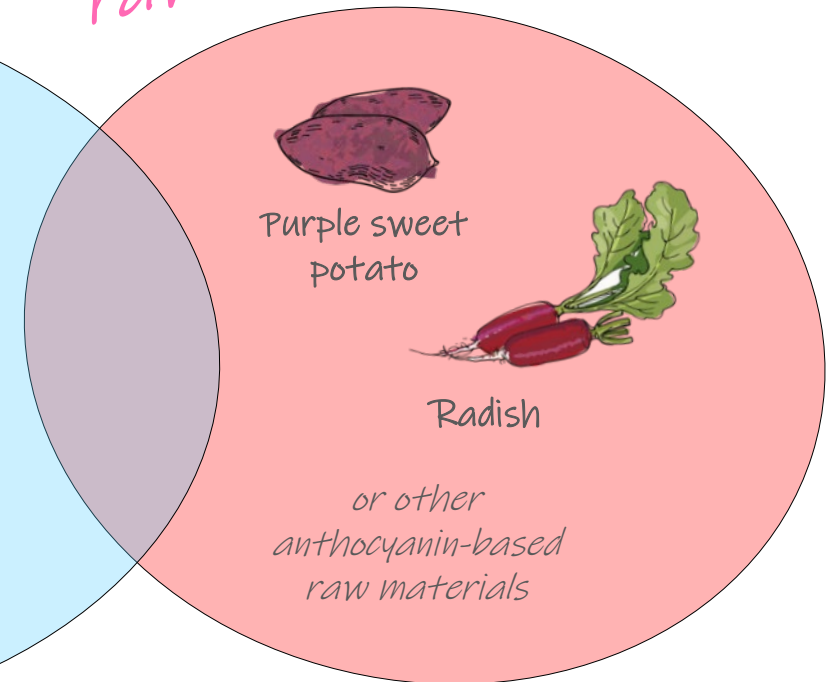
*Yellow  
raw material*



*Phycocyanin*



*Pink  
raw material*



# Product overview

Product parameters: Buffer pH 7



0.25% EXBERRY®  
**Shade Blue – HP**  
(spirulina)



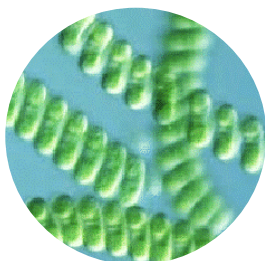
0.33% EXBERRY®  
**Shade Green**  
(spirulina, safflower)



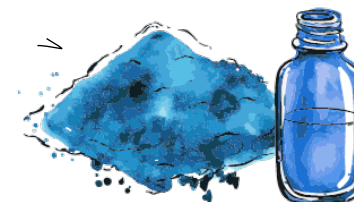
0.23% EXBERRY®  
**Shade Jade Green**  
(turmeric, spirulina)



0.23% EXBERRY®  
**Shade Lime Green**  
(turmeric, spirulina)



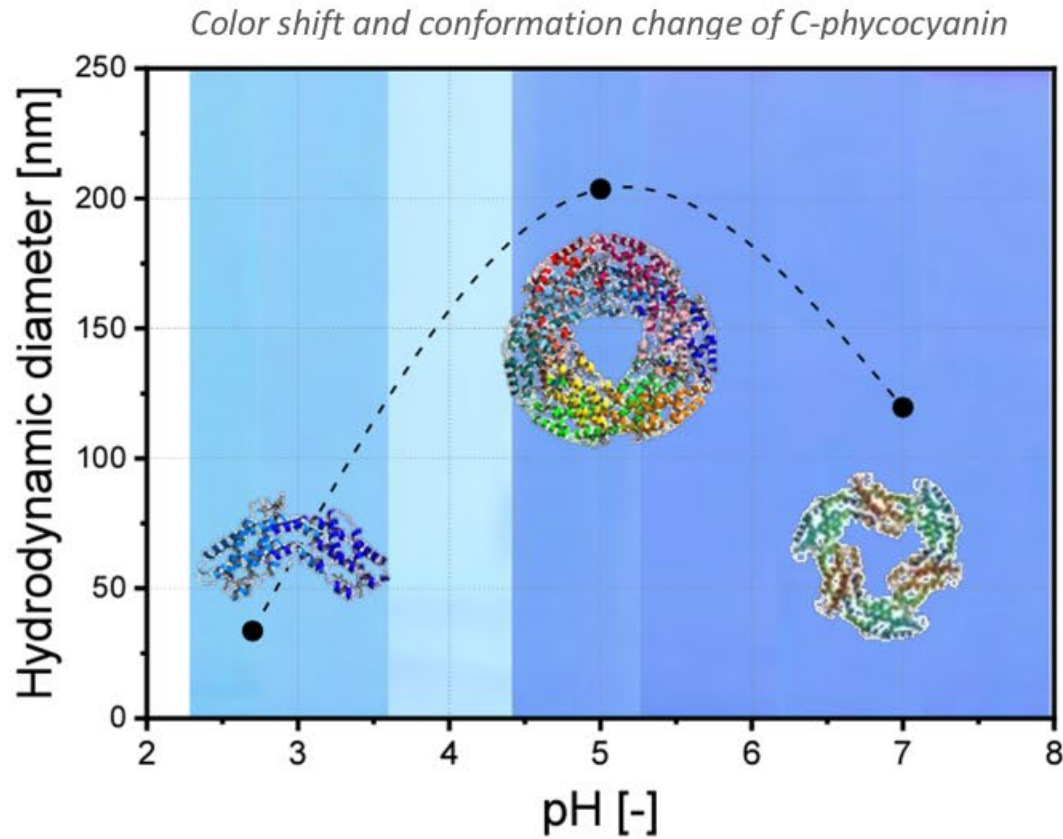
- All blue and green EXBERRY® products are **completely water soluble** or **water dispersible** depending on their raw material composition.
- The blue color is coming from the **Spirulina** algae\*.
- Coloring pigment is called **phycocyanin**.



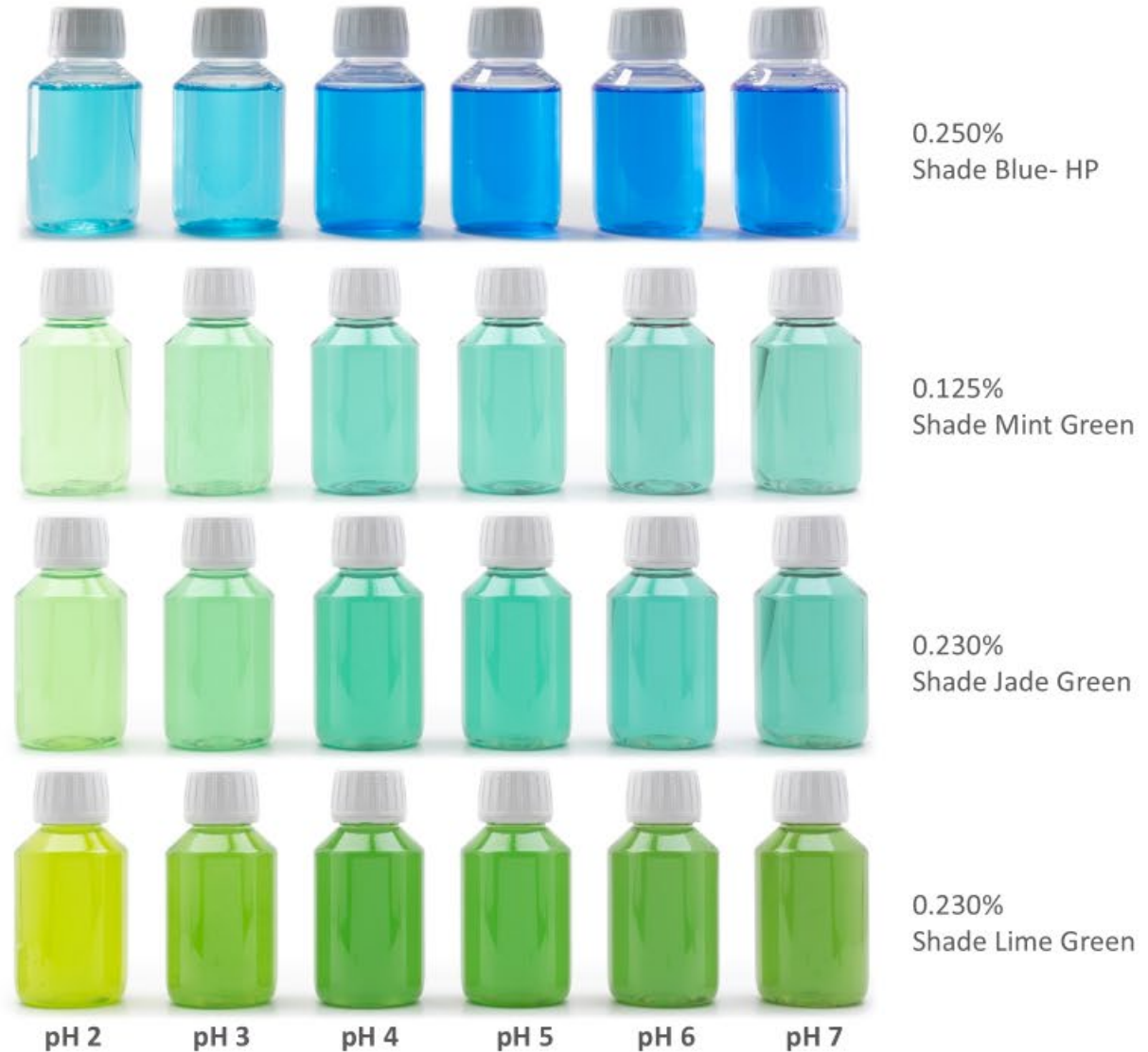
\*The common name “Spirulina” refers to the dried biomass of *Arthrospira platensis*.



# Blue & Green EXBERRY® products – Influence of pH value



- Color shifts from purple blue to aqua blue as the pH value decreases due to the change in protein quaternary structure.



## Part 1:

1. Mix 20 drops EXBERRY® Shade Blue - HP with a full pipette of citric acid solution (50 % w/w).
2. Add 200 mL invert sugar and mix again.

## Part 2:

1. Mix 20 drops EXBERRY® Shade Blue - HP with 200 mL invert sugar.
2. Add a full pipette of citric acid solution and stir again.

➤ What do you see?

- Direct contact of blue and green EXBERRY® with acids should be avoided.
- Blue and green EXBERRY® are sensitive to acid.



Part 1













Part 2

## Video: Heat sensitivity of blue & green EXBERRY®





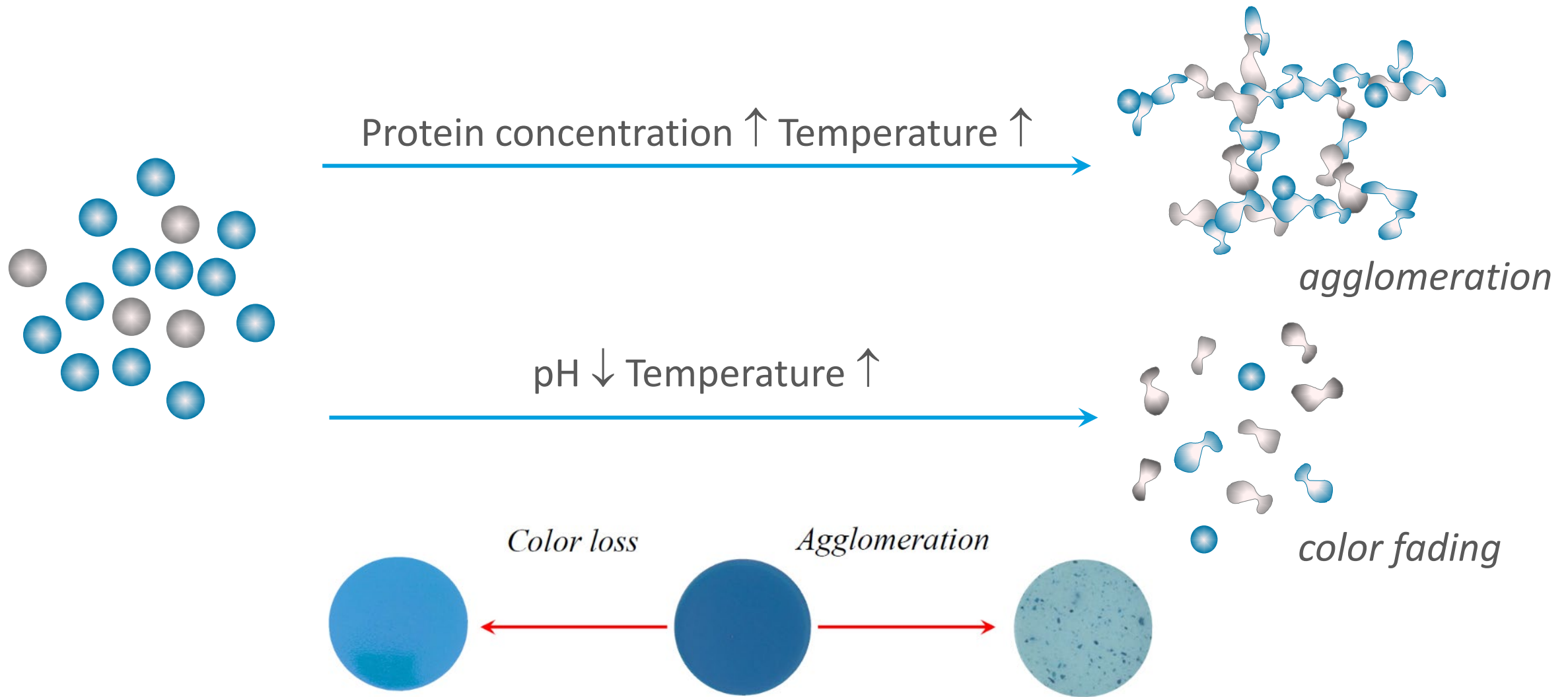
# Comparison of holding times at different temperatures in starch gums

		Holding time [min]			
		0	10	20	40
Temperature [°C]	75				
	85				
	95				

Visible  
change in  
color

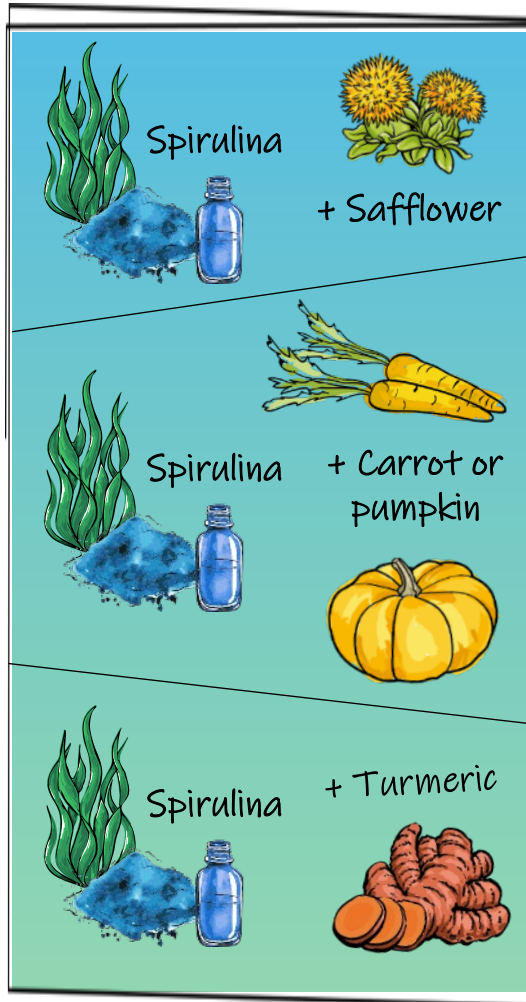
➤ During the holding time at 85 °C and 95 °C isolated agglomeration formation has occurred

# Blue & Green EXBERRY® products – Challenges in application



# Color stability: Blue and green EXBERRY®

## Raw materials



- **Clear** blue or green EXBERRY® made from raw materials containing **phycocyanin** (spirulina) and **safflomin A** (safflower) are:
  - Light stable
  - Heat and acid sensitive

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- **Cloudy** green EXBERRY® products made from raw materials containing **phycocyanin** and **carotenoids** are:
  - Light stable (highly dependent on application)
  - Heat and acid sensitive

*Light stability can be highly improved with antioxidants like ascorbic acid*

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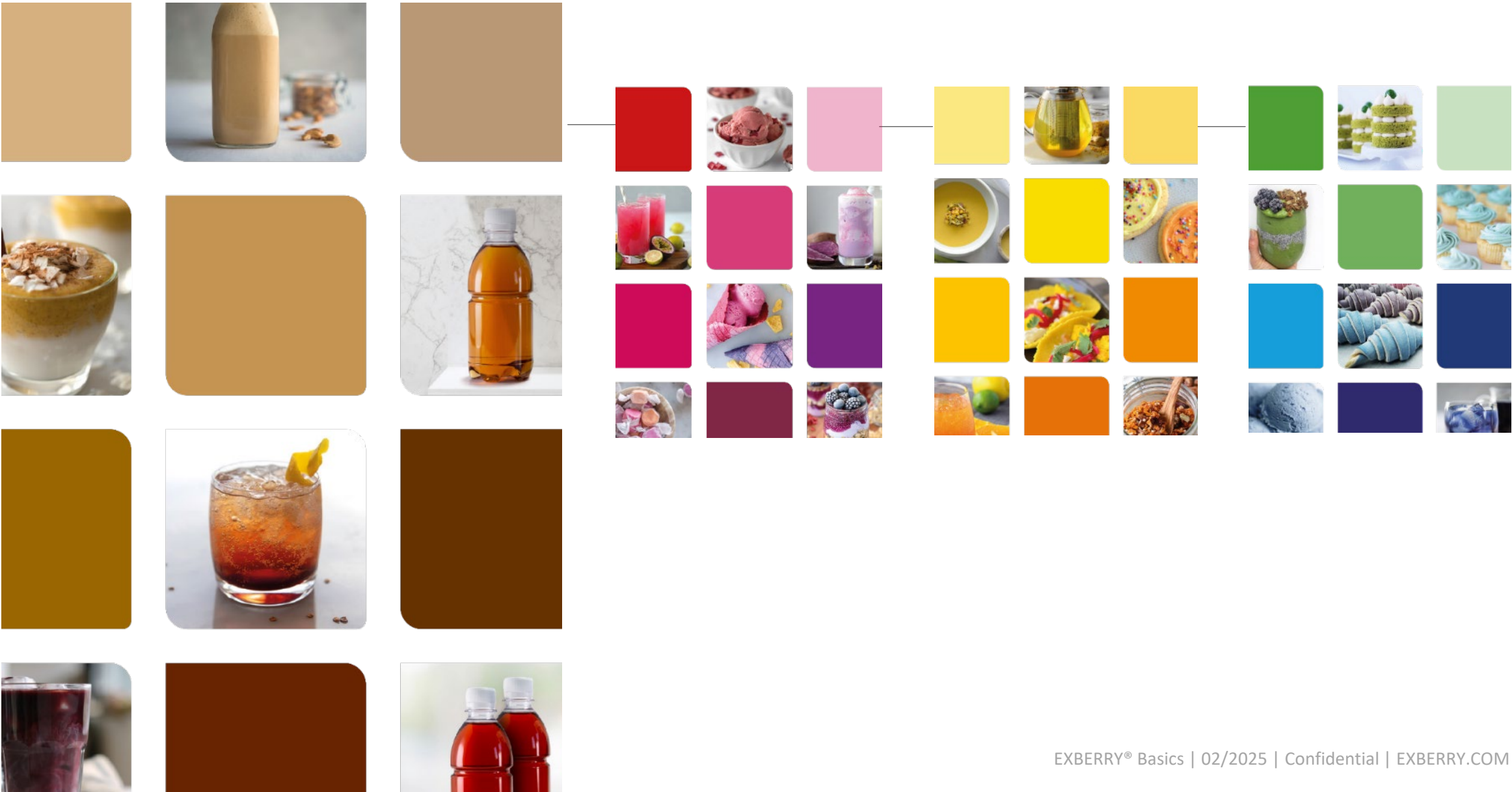
- **Cloudy** green EXBERRY® made from raw materials containing **phycocyanin** and **curcuminoids** (turmeric) are:
  - Less light stable
  - Heat and acid sensitive



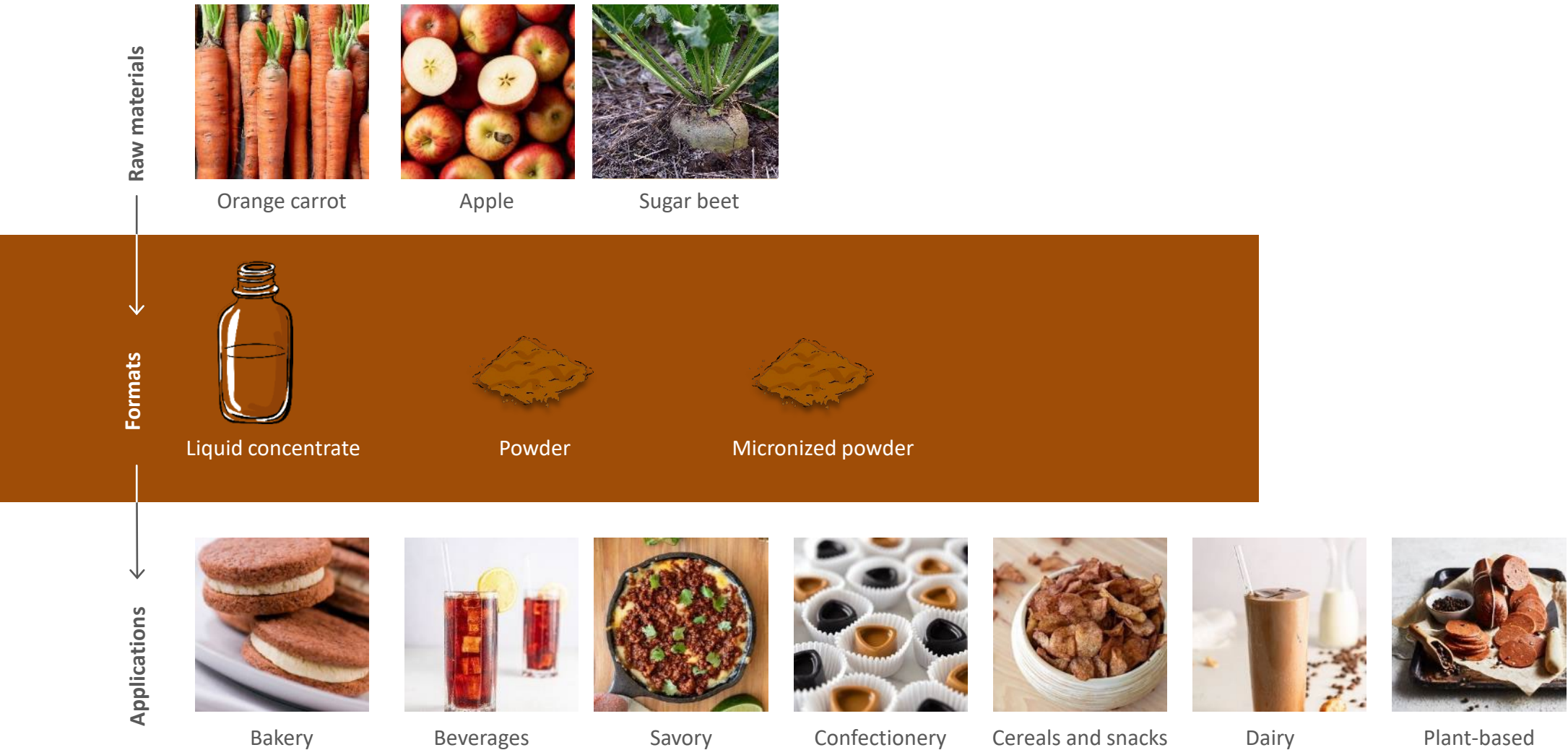




# Properties of BROWN & BLACK EXBERRY® Products



# Brown plant-based solutions





# Overview: Brown EXBERRY®

## Clear EXBERRY®



0.17 % EXBERRY®  
**Shade Golden Brown**  
(caramelized sugar  
syrup, apple)



0.17 % EXBERRY®  
**Shade Autumn Brown**  
(caramelized sugar  
syrup, carrot)



0.12 % EXBERRY®  
**Shade Brown - HP**  
(carrot, safflower,  
spirulina)

- Clear EXBERRY® products are completely **water soluble**.
- Shade Golden Brown and Autumn Brown are based on caramelized sugar syrup (and apple or carrot).
- Shade Brown - HP is a mix of purple carrot, safflower and spirulina concentrate.

## Cloudy EXBERRY®



0.31 % EXBERRY®  
**Shade Russet Brown**  
(apple)



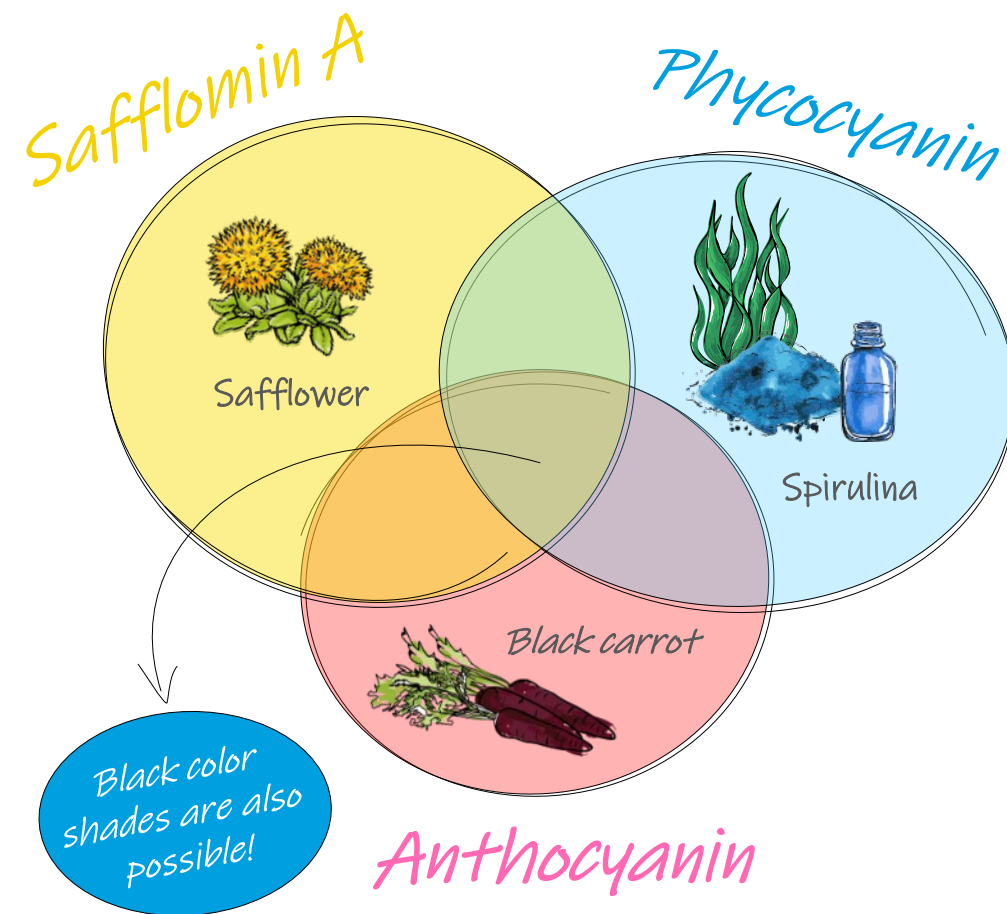
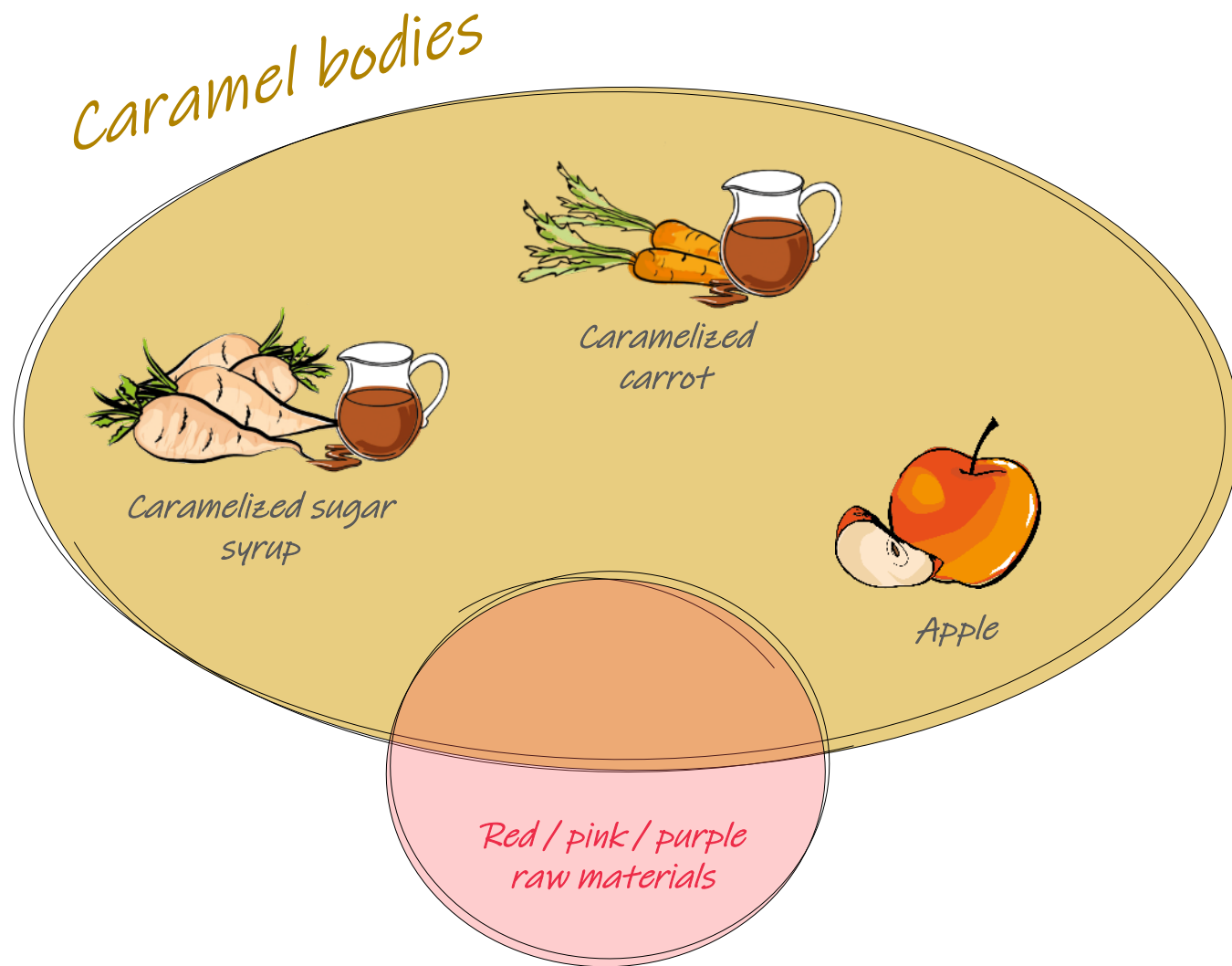
0.20 % EXBERRY®  
**Shade Brown**  
(caramelized carrot,  
carrot)



0.22 % EXBERRY®  
**Shade Dark Brown**  
(caramelized carrot,  
carrot)

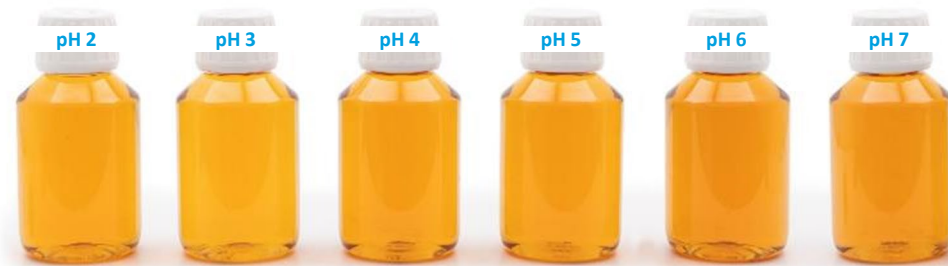
- Cloudy EXBERRY® products are not completely water soluble but **water dispersible**.
- Shade Russet Brown is based on apple.
- Shade Brown and Dark Brown contain caramelized carrot and carrot.

# Pigments: Brown EXBERRY® raw materials



# Influence of pH value: Brown EXBERRY® (1)

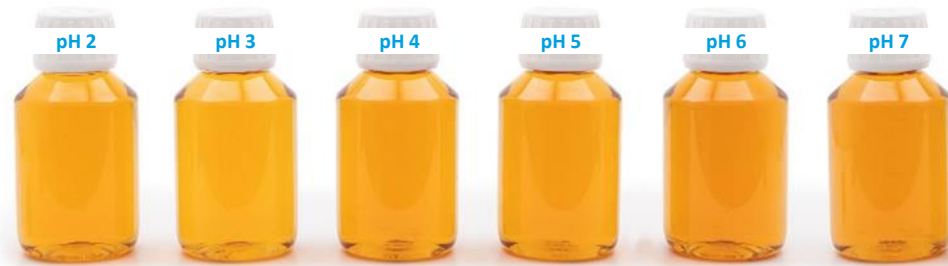
0.09 % EXBERRY®  
**Shade Golden Brown**  
(caramelized sugar  
syrup, apple)



0.17 % EXBERRY®  
**Shade Russet Brown**  
(apple)



0.10 % EXBERRY®  
**Shade Brown**  
(caramelized carrot,  
carrot)

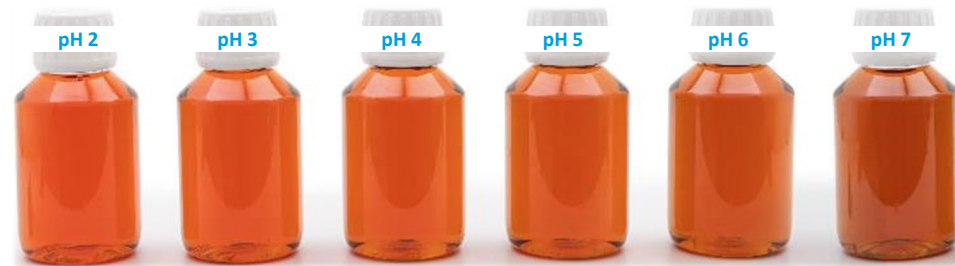


EXBERRY® Shade Golden Brown, Russet Brown and Brown are not pH dependent.



# Influence of pH value: Brown EXBERRY® (2)

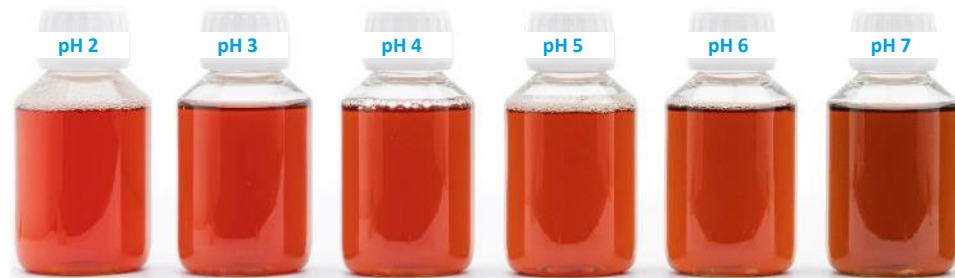
0.09 % EXBERRY®  
**Shade Autumn Brown**  
(caramelized sugar  
syrup, carrot)



0.12 % EXBERRY®  
**Shade Brown - HP**  
(carrot, safflower,  
spirulina)



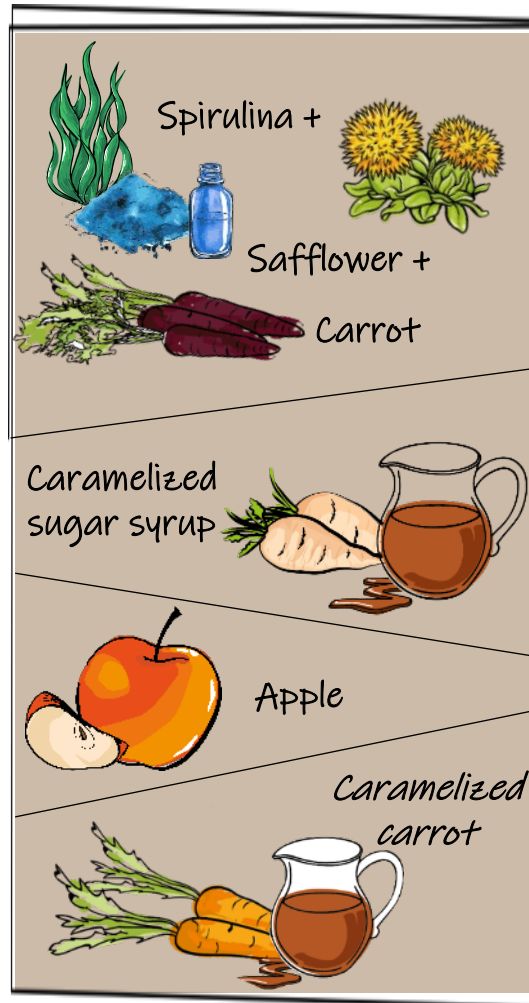
0.22 % EXBERRY®  
**Shade Dark Brown**  
(caramelized carrot,  
carrot)



EXBERRY® Shade Autumn Brown, Brown - HP  
and Dark Brown are pH dependent.

# Color stability: Brown EXBERRY®

## Raw materials



- **Clear brown EXBERRY®** products made from raw materials containing **safflomin A, anthocyanins and phycocyanin** are:
  - Light stable
  - Heat sensitive
  - Acid sensitive and pH dependent
- **Clear or cloudy brown EXBERRY®** made from **caramelized sugar syrup, apple or caramelized carrot** are:
  - Light stable
  - Heat stable
  - pH independent

GNT also offers products with a more chocolate brown color shade. These have additional black carrot and are therefore pH dependent.







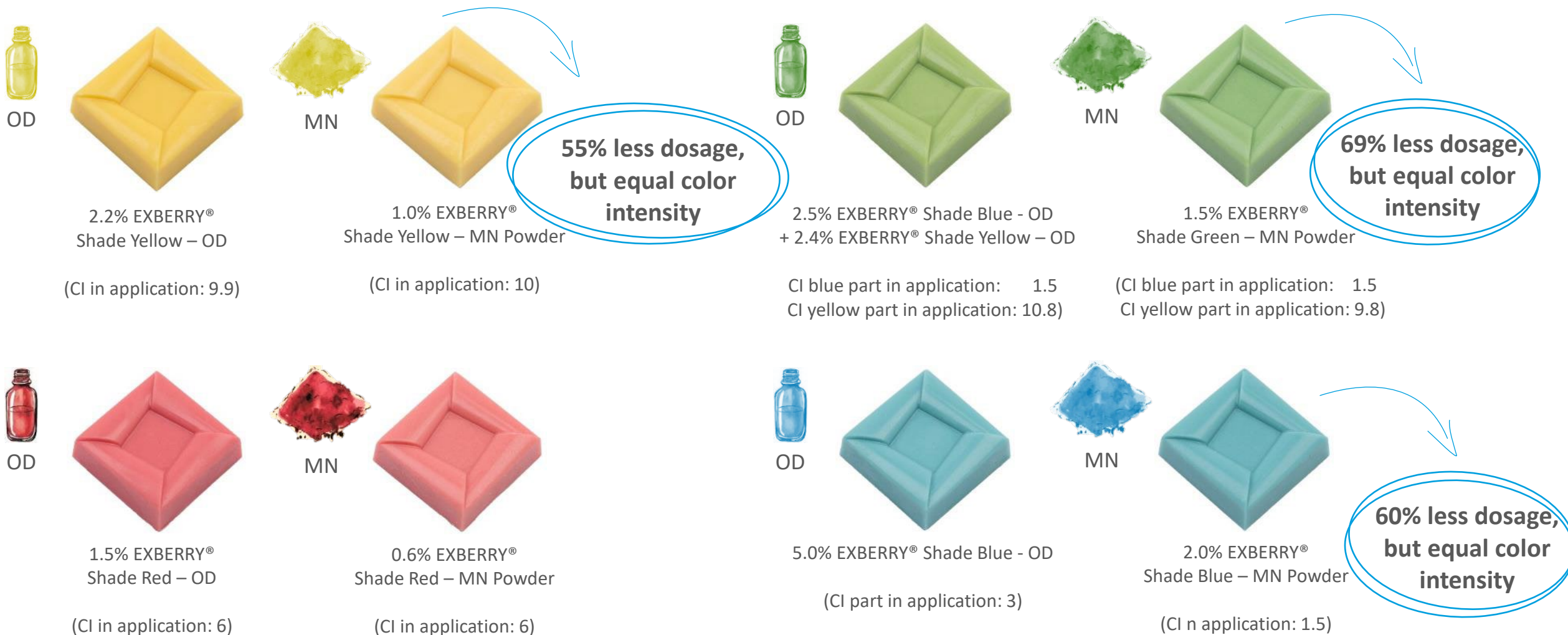


## EXBERRY® in fat-based applications

GROWING COLORS

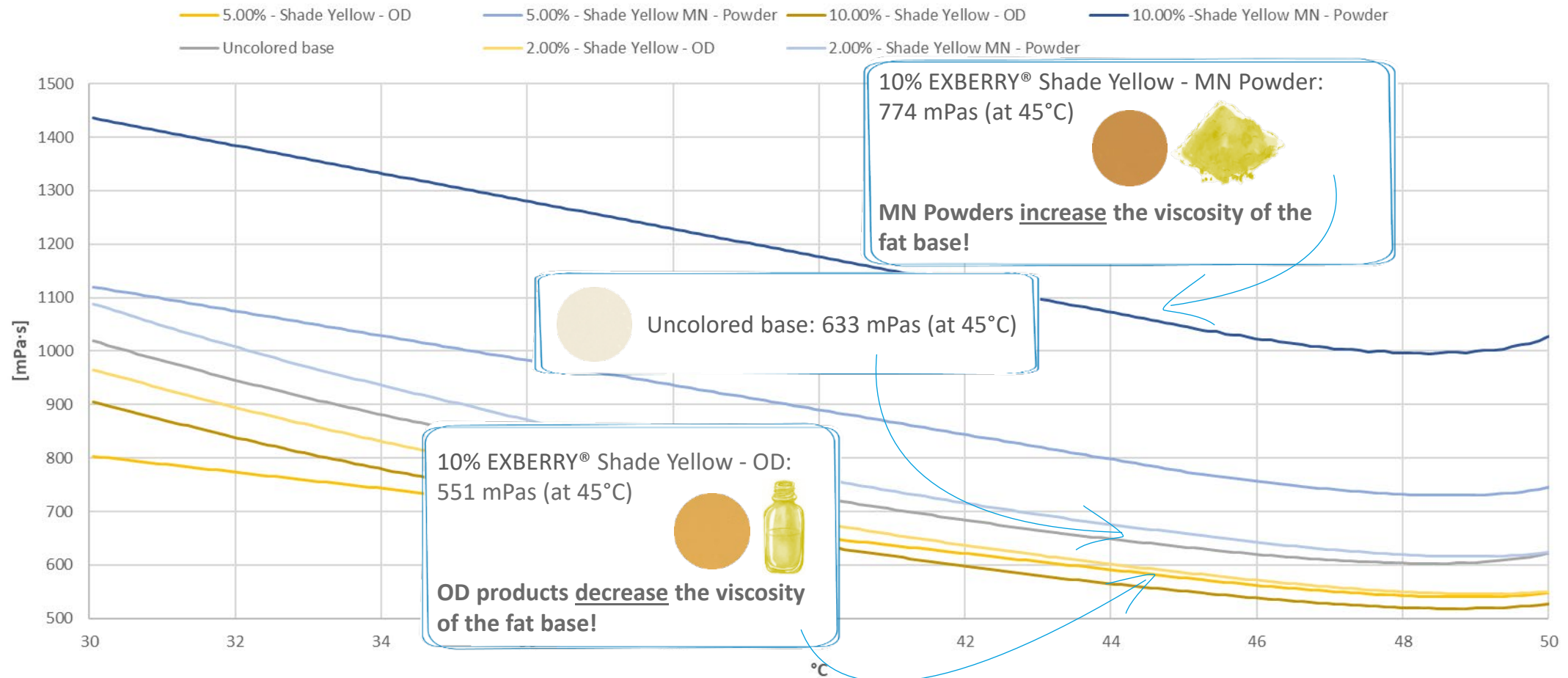
**EXBERRY®**

# Higher “color yield” with EXBERRY® MN - Powder



# Influence of high dosed OD and MN Powders on viscosity

Viscosity measurements of EXBERRY® Shade Yellow - OD and Shade Yellow MN - Powder







# Interactions with EXBERRY®

**EXBERRY®**

# Interactions Part I – Background color

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# EXBERRY®: Experiment

1. Add a drop of EXBERRY® Shade Brilliant Pink to each bottle.
2. Shake well.

➤ What do you see?

- With the addition of juices to your drink you add:
  - Sugars and **acids**
  - Vitamins and **minerals**
  - **Background color**
  - Cloudiness (e.g. orange juice, pineapple juice)





# Interactions Part II – Ascorbic acid

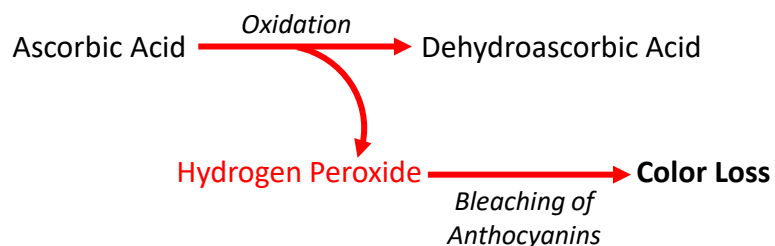
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# Influence of ascorbic acid: Red EXBERRY® products

Product parameters: 8° Brix  
pH 3.0  
Cold preserved

- Ascorbic acid oxidation products can **irreversible bleach anthocyanins**.



Without Ascorbic Acid



Reference Storelight

With Ascorbic Acid



Reference Storelight

0.03% EXBERRY®  
Shade Vivid Red

- When using ascorbic acid and **anthocyanin**-based EXBERRY® in a drink:
  1. Keep the technological necessary dose of ascorbic acid as low as possible (GMP).
  2. Avoid very low EXBERRY® levels.
  3. Remember that ascorbic acid can also be added via fruits (e.g. acerola, citrus).
  4. Avoid high vitamin C claims. Ascorbic acid is often overdosed to ensure that the claimed dosage is still present at the expiration date.
  5. Shorter best before dates are preferred to longer ones.
- Heat, time and oxygen level are the main factors promoting color degradation.
- Vegetable based EXBERRY® concentrates are more stable than fruit concentrates (e.g. elderberry).

# Influence of ascorbic acid: Red EXBERRY® products

- **Beetroot**-containing EXBERRY® (Shade Fiesta Pink) are very heat sensitive, especially with high temperature or long time.
- Ascorbic acid will reduce color loss during pasteurization to some extent.
- Nevertheless, color loss over shelf life will be still **worse** compared to all other red, pink and purple EXBERRY® products at. Those should be preferred in low-pH beverage applications.





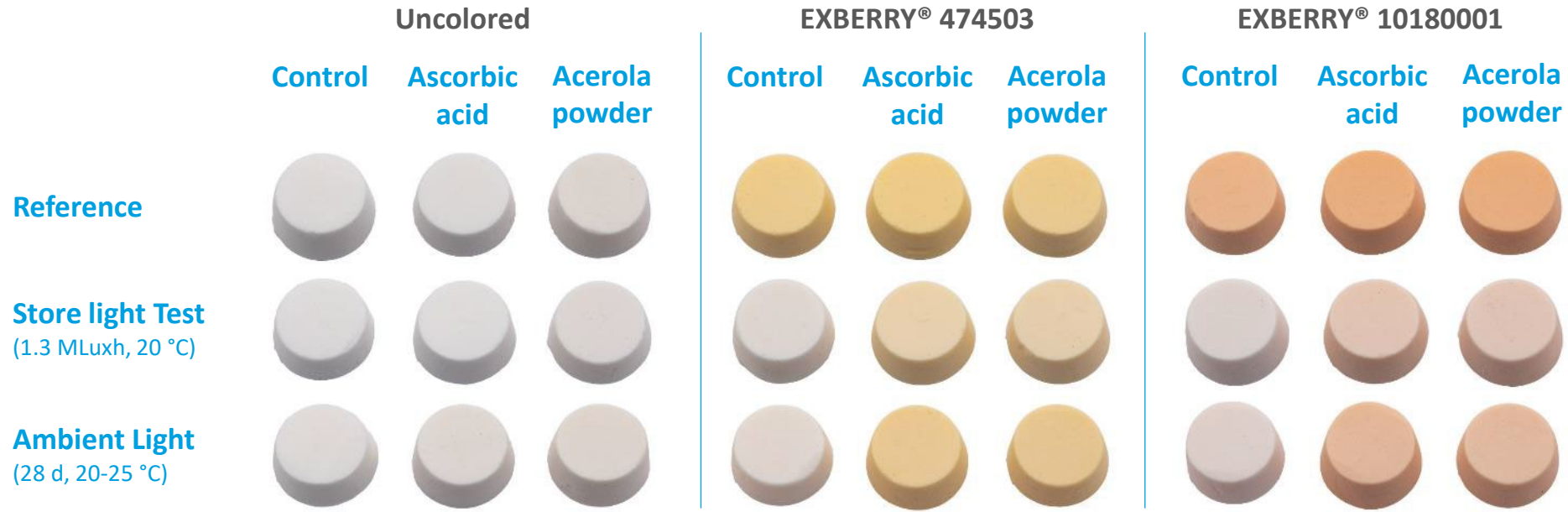
# Influence of ascorbic acid: Yellow and orange EXBERRY®

- Ascorbic acid prevents **carotenoid**-based EXBERRY® products from oxidation.
- It has no influence on EXBERRY® Shade Lemon Yellow and Bright Yellow.



- When using ascorbic acid and **carotenoid**-based EXBERRY® products in a drink:
  1. Ascorbic acid is needed, especially when using clear packaging.
  2. The amount of ascorbic acid depends on the EXBERRY® product, intended shelf life and processing.
  3. Recommended dosage levels:
    - 300-400 ppm for EXBERRY® Shade Yellow – Cloudy
    - 250-300 ppm for EXBERRY® Shade Mandarin

# Carotenoid-based EXBERRY® in aerated fruit gums



- The addition of ascorbic acid or acerola powder has a protective effect on the light stability of carotenoid-based EXBERRY® products in aerated fruit gums

# Interactions Part III – Light

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**EXBERRY®**



# Influence of the light source on color appearance



Daylight  
D65

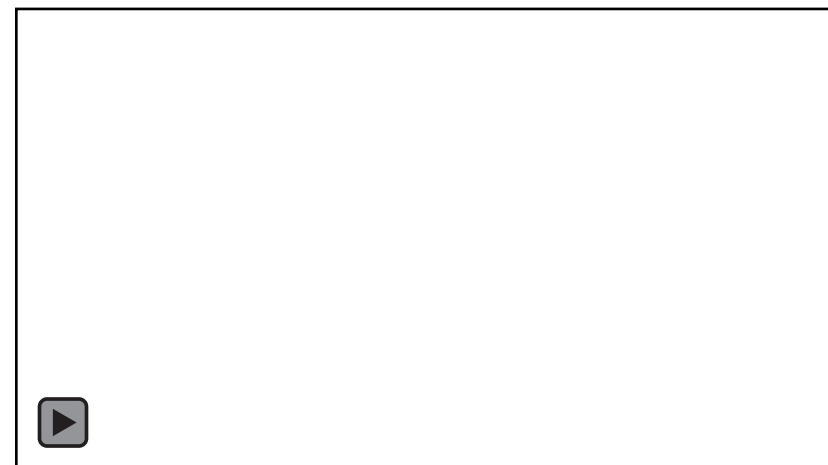
Supermarket  
Light

Light  
Bulb

0.03 % EXBERRY® Shade  
Brilliant Pink



Verivide Viewing Cabinet



# Interactions Part II – Layer

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# Influence of the layer thickness on color appearance

Product parameters: 8 °Brix  
pH 3.0  
Cold preserved



**0.033% EXBERRY®  
Shade Brilliant Pink**



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