



Paris, April 21st, 2023
Press Release

AVRIL ACCELERATES ITS PRESENCE IN THE PLANT-BASED PROTEIN SECTOR BY ACQUIRING SUNBLOOM PROTEINS

Avril announces its acquisition of Sunbloom Proteins, a young German company specialized in producing and marketing sunflower proteins for human consumption.

In line with its strategic objectives, this acquisition enables Avril to consolidate its position in the global plant-based protein food market and thus meet consumers' changing needs. As a pioneer for the last 40 years in the transformation of plant-based protein at every stage of the value chain, Avril is now accelerating the development of one of its fields of excellence, namely sunflower. Avril will be **the leading industrial player in the production and marketing of high value-added sunflower proteins.**

This acquisition demonstrates Avril's determination to accelerate its development, in addition to its partnership with DSM, dedicated to extracting rapeseed protein, and also with its business unit, Vivien Paille, for the production of pulse proteins ingredients.

Established in 2017 by capitalizing on the work of the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft in Munich, a prestigious German R&D institution focused on applied sciences, *Sunbloom Proteins* specializes in producing and marketing sunflower proteins. Based in Munich, the company employs 35 people and operates an industrial unit in Hungary.

Its core business activity consists of applying a unique, patented process to produce protein concentrates of high functional, organoleptic, and nutritional quality from sunflower seeds, a non-allergenic and non-GMO European vegetable raw material. *Sunbloom Proteins'* products fully meet the expectations of consumers and the industry. The company provides new sources of sustainable protein enabling a range of segments to be addressed, such as ready meals, vegetable drinks and desserts, bakery goods, and even sports nutrition.

Jean-Philippe Puig, Avril's Chief Executive Officer, commented, *"The acquisition of Sunbloom Proteins is a concrete expression of our ambition to develop the plant-based protein market and, more generally, the food ingredient market. This new business unit will be an excellent springboard for the growth of our activities. We are delighted to welcome the Sunbloom Proteins teams to the Group. This union of skills will enable us to provide new solutions to meet the growing challenge of food and environmental*

transitions, while continuing to develop new opportunities for the upstream agricultural sector, in line with our purpose, Serving the Earth."

Thomas Stuchly, CEO, Sunbloom Proteins, *"We are thrilled that Avril, the recognized European leader in oilseed processing, has decided to lend its strategic support to Sunbloom Proteins. Thanks to our new shareholder, we will be able to significantly increase our production capacity and enrich our product portfolio by joining our R&D capabilities to become a global player in plant-based proteins."*

About Avril

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Founded in 1983 as an initiative of the agricultural world to ensure sustainable outlets for French production, Avril is the main industrial and financial player in the vegetable oil and protein sector. The Group is built upon two complementary businesses that are key to the strength of its model. On the one hand, an industrial business organized around plant processing, from the seed to the processed product. And on the other hand, an investment business, carried out by its subsidiary, Sofiprotéol, through the acquisition of minority holdings in support of companies in the French agricultural and food company sectors. Present in sectors as diversified as consumer food, animal nutrition expertise, renewable energies, and green chemistry, Avril relies on a portfolio of well-known brands that are leaders in their fields both in France and abroad: Bunica (Romania), Costa d'Oro (Italy), Lesieur, Oleo100, Oleon, Puget, Sanders, and Taous (Morocco). For 40 years, the Group has remained true to its original mission: feeding people and animals, and preserving the planet. In view of the current challenges posed by the climate emergency and the demographic growth that is putting a strain on resources, Avril has chosen to reaffirm its power to act, expressed through its purpose: Serving the Earth. Serving the Earth and the six commitments that support this purpose are a genuine driving force for the men and women of Avril on a daily basis. They reflect the Group's new ambition to become the leader in plant-based solutions for the agricultural, food, and environmental transitions. In 2022, Avril generated revenue of €9 billion. Present in 19 countries, it employs nearly 7,367 people working in 73 industrial sites around the world. For more information: [avril.com](https://www.avril.com) | Twitter @Avril_Group | LinkedIn Avril

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