

HCS Pharma is part of the European consortium ScaLABLE-MEAT with the BIOMIMESYS® technology

Lille, France – 2020/05/28 : **The exclusive BIOMIMESYS® technology from HCS Pharma is used in the Eurostar ScaLABLE-MEAT project to invent the next generation of food - sustainable, safe and respectful to animals.**

“Clean meat” also known as “cultured meat” or “lab-grown meat” is meat that is grown in cell culture, rather than in an animal’s body. Since the first lab-grown burger presented in 2013 by Mosa Meat (Maastricht, The Netherlands), many companies have been created and the market has always been revised upwards. Indeed, the worldwide meat consumption would increase by 73% by 2050, according to a 2011 United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) report, while the conventional livestock sector will not be able to satisfy the growing demand because of scarcity of agricultural land and environmental impact. Clean meat has also others potential benefits like animal welfare and food safety.

The ScaLABLE-MEAT project, founded by Eurostar program, will develop a technology to produce lab-grown meat based on Nobel prize winning stem cell technology. The consortium is composed of four European companies: Meatable (Holland), Bit Bio (UK), Ebers (Spain) and HCS Pharma (France). It will deliver a technology platform consisting of bovine cell lines that are easily transformed into fat and muscle cells, a highly efficient cell expansion process, and a tailor-made bioreactor-scaffold combination to generate pieces of meat.

The exclusive BIOMIMESYS® technology from HCS Pharma will be used to develop an eatable substrate for 3D cell culture, adapted to the expansion and differentiation of bovine cells, that can be loaded in perfusion bio-reactors. This hydro scaffold will provide a surface for cell differentiation into fat and muscle, and at the same time provide a moulding for pieces of minced meat. This is a new use of the BIOMIMESYS® technology, originally dedicated to drug discovery with 3D cell culture in an “organ-like” environment.

ScaLABLE-MEAT is a 2019-2022 Eurostar program during which the technology platform will be developed and converted to a production line for small-scale semi-commercial production. It will be followed by a scale-up phase (2022-2026) with several investments and a regulatory approval of the product, before mass production.

HCS Pharma

HCS Pharma is a biotechnology start-up, located in Lille (France), which develops and commercializes products for 3D cell culture and offers research and development services to the pharmaceutical, dermo-cosmetic and food industries based on its proprietary and patented BIOMIMESYS® technology. Its expertise: the development of new organ-specific matrix for 3D cell culture and in vitro tests (thanks to its exclusive BIOMIMESYS® technology) and their use in medium/high throughput screening using high-speed cellular imaging technology (High Content Screening).

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