

Pea Pods

The Problem

In the UK, the quantity of peas produced annually is in the region of 200,000 tonnes. This processing of this volume of peas produces at least 300,000 tonnes of 'waste' byproduct in the entire supply chain, from field to fork, including pods and vines.

These byproducts are typically either ploughed back into the land, left to rot or added to livestock feed. These are inherently low-value activities that do not fully unlock the potential value of the chemical-rich materials which can be used in alternative market sectors such as biopolymers, transportation, home and personal care, and pharmaceuticals.

The Solution

Link2Energy Ltd successfully secured SPARK award funding through the Biosciences Knowledge Transfer Network and a subsequent Innovation Voucher for the technical development of a "Pea Pod Biorefinery". The work, carried out in conjunction with Green Chemistry Centre for Excellence at the University of York, brought together significant industry representatives from the supply chain and academic researchers to determine the range of extracts which could be viably produced were such a Biorefinery to be built. This work served to significantly raise awareness of the potential commercial opportunities that exist for the UK in successfully valorising food supply chain waste as an alternative carbon source for biochemicals, biomaterials and biofuels.

re:sourcing UK

Resource Innovation Case Study

Re:Sourcing UK is a practical service delivered by Link2Energy Ltd. At the forefront of developing creative solutions for companies with bulk industrial waste, Re:Sourcing UK solves problems through the application of Industrial Symbiosis and Resource Innovation.



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