

Deal Mane Ltd

Introduction - Deal Mane Ltd is an early-stage Northern Ireland business developing high-quality functional mushrooms, including Lion's Mane, Reishi and Cordyceps. The company is focused on refining cultivation and processing methods to create a range of functional food products, while ensuring product quality and preparing for future commercial scale-up.

Challenge - Deal Mane Ltd needed to develop and optimise the cultivation, drying and processing of functional mushrooms, with an initial focus on Lion's Mane. Key challenges included strain and cultivar trials, developing efficient drying and powder production methods, maintaining product quality and functional properties, and ensuring food safety and regulatory compliance in preparation for commercial scale-up.

Solution - SRC provided end-to-end technical support, from concept development through to commercial readiness. This included market and competitor research, cultivation trials, and the development and validation of production methods for dehydrated Lion's Mane and mushroom powders. SRC also supported packaging selection, nutritional and food labelling, product trials, and the development of HACCP-based food safety, traceability and standard operating procedures.

Impact - The project enabled Deal Mane Ltd to establish robust, validated production processes that improve product consistency, quality and retention of functional properties. It strengthened the company's food safety and regulatory readiness, reduced production risks and provided the technical foundation for future commercial scale-up. The work also created opportunities to expand into additional value-added products, including extracts, tinctures and capsules, supporting the company's entry into the growing functional food and nutraceutical market.



Testimonial:

"Working with SRC has been extremely valuable for the development of DEAL MANE LTD. The support provided by Lydia Reilly and the Food Innovation team has helped us strengthen our R&D processes, improve food safety and regulatory compliance, and build confidence as we develop innovative functional mushroom products. The guidance has been practical, professional and directly relevant to our business, and we look forward to continuing our collaboration with SRC"