

February 9, 2022  
Otsuka Foods Co., Ltd.

## Otsuka Foods to Release Bon Curry Veggie Made Without Animal-Based Ingredients, for Today's Diverse Food Preferences

In Stores Across Japan from March 14, 2022,  
Approx. One Month After Retort Curry Day on February 12

TOKYO, Japan, February 9, 2022—Otsuka Foods Co., Ltd. (Head Office: Chuo Ward, Osaka; President: Koichi Shiraishi) announced today that it will release Bon Curry Veggie: Beans Keema Curry Medium and Bon Curry Veggie: Spicy Tomato Curry Hot, two new items that bring out the flavor of plant-based ingredients and do not use animal-based ingredients.\*<sup>1</sup> These latest additions to the Bon Curry series will be available across Japan from March 14, 2022.



Bon Curry Veggie  
Beans Keema Curry Medium



Bon Curry Veggie  
Spicy Tomato Curry Hot

February 12 is both “Retort Curry Day” and “Bon Curry Day.” Using its own innovative technology, Otsuka Foods launched Bon Curry, the world’s first commercial retort food product, on February 12, 1968. Since its launch, Bon Curry has been loved by consumers as the standard choice for retort curry.

In recent years, the market for retort curry has continued to grow. This growth is being driven by an increase in the tendency to eat alone or for family members to eat different things at meals due to a rise in single-person and two-person households, the increase in double-income households, and the ability to respond to the diversification of consumer preferences. Increased opportunities to cook at home due to new lifestyle changes are also contributing to the expansion of the retort curry market.

These new products constitute a new Bon Curry series that does not use animal-based ingredients, meeting the needs of these market conditions and responding to heightened health awareness and changes in consumer values. Made with vegetables and beans but without the flour-based roux used in ordinary curries, the new products are finished into a mellow, thick curry with several kinds of grated vegetables and fruits. What is more, ingredients have been carefully selected to ensure that vegans can choose these products.\*<sup>2</sup>

As a pioneer of retort food products, Otsuka Foods will keep providing products that can benefit consumers by continuing to evolve in response to the changing social environment.

\*1 Animal-based ingredients include beef, pork, chicken, eggs, milk, honey, and other livestock products, as well as seafood.

\*2 Otsuka Foods' approach to "products that vegans can choose" is as follows.

- Use no animal-based ingredients (which include beef, pork, chicken, eggs, milk, honey, and other livestock products, as well as seafood).
- Confirm that bone charcoal is not used in the filtration and decolorization process for the sugar labeled in the list of ingredients.
- Confirm that animal-based substances are not used as clearing agents in the purification and processing process for the alcohol labeled in the list of ingredients.
- Lines are cleaned before production, but the same lines may be used to manufacture products that contain animal-based ingredients.

\* Animal-based ingredients may be used in the source raw ingredients and manufacturing processes of source raw ingredients other than sugar and alcohol.

\* Otsuka Foods' products are not certified vegan.