

March 31, 2022  
Otsuka Foods, Co., Ltd.

## **Otsuka Foods to Launch Sugoi Oat Milk, a Whole Oat Beverage, and Sugoi Hiyoko Milk, a Whole Chickpea Beverage**

**New Plant-Based Milks Made Using Otsuka's Original Method  
In Stores Across Japan Starting April 4, 2022**

TOKYO, Japan, March 31, 2022—Otsuka Foods Co., Ltd. (Head Office: Chuo Ward, Osaka; President: Koichi Shiraishi) announced today that it will launch Sugoi Oat Milk, a whole oat beverage, and Sugoi Hiyoko Milk, a whole chickpea beverage. These new plant-based milks are whole ingredient beverages made using Otsuka's original method. The company will start selling the two new products across Japan on April 4, 2022.

In recent years, plant-based beverages made from various ingredients have appeared around the world, and the market for such products is expanding in Japan, as well. These new products are innovative plant-based milks that combine great taste and nutrition. They are made using Otsuka's original "micro-creamy" process<sup>\*1</sup> cultivated over 20 years of producing the Sugoi Daizu series of beverages made from whole soybeans.

Ordinary soymilk and oat milk are produced by removing fiber and other nutrients. With Otsuka's original method, however, since the whole ingredient is used, the nutrition of the ingredients remains intact, and no strained pulp is generated in the process. Adding these new products to the existing Sugoi Daizu series, the company will develop it as Otsuka's Whole Ingredient Sugoi Series, working to expand the plant-based beverage market in Japan.

By bringing out the rich flavor of the ingredients, Sugoi Oat Milk and Sugoi Hiyoko Milk are beverages that allow everyone to enjoy the natural sweetness and rich taste of the whole ingredients.

Sugoi Oat Milk, made only with whole oats, which are said to be a grain with a low environmental impact in the cultivation process, provides iron with low fat, and has pronounced sweetness from the ingredient. Sugoi Hiyoko Milk, made only with whole chickpeas,<sup>\*2</sup> which are rare in the plant-based beverage market but are attracting attention as a next-generation plant-based protein source, provides protein, dietary fiber, and folic acid, and is characterized by the slight sweetness of the ingredient.

Otsuka's Whole Ingredient Sugoi Series supports customers' health with the nutrition of whole ingredients and contributes to achievement of the SDGs with an environmentally friendly production method that does not generate strained pulp.

\*1 This process technology pulverizes ingredients at the micro level and homogenizes raw materials to create a beverage with a smoother texture. It makes it possible to make silky smooth beverages out of whole ingredients.

\*2 Sugoi Oat Milk is made using oat flour, and Sugoi Hiyoko Milk is made using chickpea flour (made with the thin peels of the chickpeas removed).

