

### WHY DOES MERCHANDISING MATTER?

For supermarkets stocking plant-based products, having them integrated amongst animal-based products or segregated in their own aisle is a key point of contention.

Is it better for vegans and vegetarians to have a one-stop aisle shopping experience, where they can find all of their plant-based products in one place without being confronted by meat and dairy products?

Or is it a more effective sales technique to integrate plant-based products with their meat alternatives, thus allowing non-vegan shoppers to more easily transition to plant-based?



## AT PROVEG INTERNATIONAL, WE RECOMMEND WHAT IS KNOWN AS AN 'INTEGRATED-SEGREGATED' APPROACH.

An integrated-segregated approach means having plant-based products grouped together but positioned within the animal-based-product aisle.

This merchandising approach can boost sales and aid sustainability, while still allowing vegans to access their favourite products.

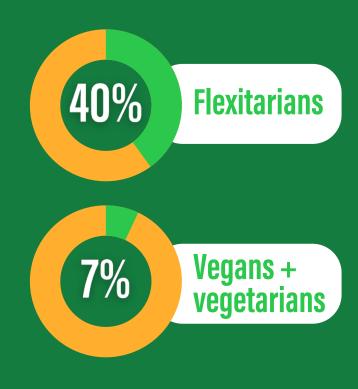




### TARGETING FLEXITARIANS

A survey found that almost 40% of EU consumers now identify as either flexitarian, vegetarian, pescetarian, or vegan.

Targeting this larger group with the integratedsegregated approach means a chance for your business to sell more plant-based products and boost your bottom line.





### THE POWER OF MERCHANDISING





A study by US retailer Kroger found that integrating plant-based alternatives into conventional-meat aisles increased sales of the former by 23% compared to control stores.<sup>2</sup>

When asked what changes would help them choose healthier and more sustainable options while shopping,

of consumers agreed that stocking meat-free products in the "meat" aisle would help.<sup>3</sup>

**57%** 



# Not only will this boost your store's profits, but it will also help to promote sustainability.

A recent study found that plant-based sausages and burgers are up to 10 times more sustainable than their animal-based equivalents.4

Stocking these kinds of plant-based products in easily accessible and visible in-store locations will have substantial benefits for both animals and the planet.





The best way to support flexitarians in reducing their meat intake is probably through interventions that make it easy to turn intentions into action, [such as] increasing the availability of tasty plant-based products, [or] making it easy to identify stores or restaurants that have a wide range of plant-based options."

#### DR FILIPPO BIANCHI

Senior Advisor at The Behavioural Insights Team



### **OVERCOMING CHALLENGES**



Customers will need to adapt to the changes made to the aisles.

However, this challenge can be made easier with a combination of informative store signage, as well as helpful communication from store employees about benefits of the integrated-segregated approach.



### **KEY TAKEAWAYS**



The integratedsegregated approach can promote sustainability

Challenges can be overcome through effective communication



Want more? Check out ProVeg International's New Food Hub for further insights into this topic and others!

### **WORKS CITED**

- 1) Smart Protein Project (2021): 'What consumers want: A survey on European consumer attitudes towards plant-based foods. Country-specific insights' European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme (No 862957). Available at: https://smartproteinproject.eu/consumer-attitudes-plant-based-food-report/ Accessed 2022-08-17
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- 3) Skeggs, H. (2021): Segregation or integration Ranging plant-based products to drive sales. Institute of Grocery Distribution. Available at: https://www.igd.com/articles/article-viewer/t/segregation-or-integration--ranging-plant-based-products-to-drive-sales/i/27924 Accessed 2022-08-16
- 4) Clark, M., Springmann, M., & M. Rayner. (2022): Estimating the environmental impacts of 57,000 food products. PNAS 119:33. Available at: https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2120584119 Accessed 2022-08-17

