BioBoost
Accelerating biobased horticulture

Dry mouth ice cream

Crop	Sechuan button *Acmella oleracea L.*
Croppart	Flower
Application area	Pharma Food & feed
Status	Commercial stage
Public availability	Semi-public
Relevant plant compounds	Extracts from flowers

Description

Specially developed for patients with a dry mouth
Many patients struggle with a dry mouth daily. It may seem like a minor problem, but anyone who experiences it knows how annoying it can be. It makes eating difficult, talking tiring, and often causes pain or a burning sensation.

That's why the people at **David's Gelato** in Gouda, together with nutritionist **Rick from LUMC Leiden**, have developed a unique ice cream. This ice cream contains a natural extract of the **Sichuan Button flower®**, which gently stimulates the **salivary glands** to produce more saliva. The result: the mouth becomes moist again, symptoms decrease, and patients can enjoy a delicious fruit ice cream.

Why a dry mouth is so unpleasant
A dry mouth often occurs due to medication, treatments such as chemotherapy or radiation, or due to aging. The result:

- Difficulty swallowing
- Difficulty speaking
- Dry lips or a burning sensation
- Faster cavities and dental problems

For many patients, this means a daily battle. Drinking water often only helps for a short time. Chewing gum or candy sometimes provides relief, but isn't always pleasant or healthy.

That's why David's Gelato set out to find a better solution.

The power of the Sichuan button® (Champagne leaf or ABC herb) flower
The base of the ice cream is **the extract of the Sichuan button flower**. This small plant has a unique effect: it stimulates the salivary glands in the mouth. As a result, the mouth immediately produces more saliva.

Saliva is incredibly important. It protects the teeth, makes swallowing easier, and makes food taste good again. Thanks to this extract, the body receives a natural stimulus to produce more saliva.

The beauty is that this happens completely naturally, without artificial additives or harsh substances.

Fresh fruit and natural ingredients
This project didn't just happen. In collaboration with nutritionist Rick from LUMC Leiden, David's Gelato investigated how they could use ice cream to help with dry mouth.

Rick's knowledge of nutrition and health, combined with David's Gelato expertise in ice cream making, resulted in a unique product. Not only delicious, but also beneficial for people who often struggle with these complaints.

Collaboration with LUMC medical centre Leiden
David's Gelato uses only pure ingredients. The following has also been chosen for the Dry Mouth Ice Creams:

- Fresh fruit of the highest quality
- No artificial colors
- No chemical flavors
- A soft, creamy texture

This way, you not only get relief from dry mouth, but also a healthy and tasty ice cream.

Why ice cream as a solution?
Many people ask: why ice cream in particular? The answer is simple. Ice cream combines several benefits in one:

1. **Cooling**: the cold is soothing and provides an immediate feeling of well-being.

Resources

https://www.davidsgelato.nl/droge-mond-ijsjes/ Initiative website