
Blue Sky Botany

Company Profile

Blue Sky Botany is a leading UK manufacturer of botanical extracts. The company sources fresh, frozen and dried plant material from all over the world, and also grows a wide range of herbs on its 200 acre organic farm. Blue Sky Botany places a strong emphasis on the origin and ethical standard of the botanicals used. The compounds are extracted on site using a variety of solvents and techniques. The on-site facility operates to a very high technical and hygiene standard, enabling Blue Sky Botany to sell its extracts to a variety of global brands for incorporation into cosmetics, drinks and herbal supplement products.



Collaboration with BEACON

An important objective for Blue Sky Botany is to produce natural clear extracts that are strong in flavour and/or enriched with bioactives to meet the demands of the industry. In addition the company are seeking to gain a



greater market share by reducing overall production costs. Blue Sky Botany have had a number of interactions with BEACON aimed at improving their current processes to improve both efficiency and quality of end products. Collaboration with BEACON has allowed the company the opportunity to trial potential alternative (natural) approaches to their existing extraction processes at pilot scale, and to test the commercial viability and economic benefits of producing concentrated extracts.

Blue Sky Botanics

BEACON and Blue Sky Botanics worked together to identify a new sustainable process for the clarification of botanical extracts based on membrane separation technology. BEACON identified an appropriate membrane type and demonstrated that nanofiltration methods could be applied to remove colour from botanical extracts whilst retaining bioactives in the purified preparations. This led to a more detailed project on process development, funded through the BBSRC NIBB programme.

“Working with BEACON has enabled us to access equipment and methods that we could not trial anywhere else. This is vital as we can test whether a process works for our products before we invest in the equipment.”

*James Lambe
Managing Director*

Blue Sky Botanics has benefitted from the business innovation voucher scheme promoted by Innovate UK, which enables SMEs and start-up companies to obtain funding towards the cost of obtaining specialist, expert advice to help grow their businesses. Blue Sky Botanics are now also collaborating with another Welsh company via their link with BEACON.



**BLUE SKY BOTANICS**

For further information:
www.blueskybotanics.com