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Vegetable protein concentrates: a process to increase protein concentration of soybean and other oilseeds

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Soy protein concentrate (SPC) has been available to the market since the early 1960's for human consumption and for specialty feeds through the use of hydrous ethanol extraction (HEE).

Starting in 2004, modifications of the HEE process were made to the starting material so that the resulting SPC became cost competitive for the first time as a feed for salmon.

Since then the feed market for SPC has grown to over 600,000 metric tons per year is expected to expand further. The feed market now includes calves and piglets as a milk replacer. Margins are significantly higher for SPC than soy bean meal.

Highlights include the uses for SPC, an overview of the HEE process used in manufacture of SPC for human and feed applications, along with the potential for applying the HEE Process to other oilseeds, such as canola and sunflower.