

Daiya

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Daiya Foods Inc. is a Canada-based dairy alternative food company located in Vancouver, British Columbia. The company was established in 2008 by Andre Kroecher and Greg Blake.^[1] Daiya is made from cassava and arrowroot and is known for its cheese-like consistency and melting properties. It contains no animal products or soy, casein, lactose, whey, wheat, barley, gluten or nuts.^[2]

Daiya is sold in natural and conventional food stores within Canada and the United States, and is featured on restaurant menus and in packaged food products made by Amy's Kitchen and Turtle Island Foods. Daiya has won many awards for its products, including the 2009 Veggie Award for Product of the Year.^[3] In 2011, *BC Business* magazine named Daiya one of the 20 most innovative companies in British Columbia.^[4]

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Ingredients

Daiya contains the following ingredients:

Filtered water, tapioca and /or arrowroot flours, non-GMO expeller pressed canola and /or non-GMO expeller pressed safflower oil, coconut oil, pea protein, salt, inactive yeast, vegan natural flavors, vegetable glycerin, xanthan gum, citric acid (for flavor), annatto, titanium dioxide (a naturally occurring mineral).

Products

- Daiya Cheddar Style Shreds
- Daiya Mozzarella Style Shreds
- Daiya Pepperjack Style Shreds
- Daiya Cheddar Style Wedge
- Daiya Jack Style Wedge
- Daiya Jalapeño Garlic Havarti Style Wedge

Daiya also partners with other companies that make products with Daiya:

- Amy's Dairy Free Rice Macaroni & Cheeze^[5]
- NuLife Grilled "Cheese" Sandwich
- NuLife Round Ultimate "Cheese" Pizza
- Gardein meatless products
- The Higher Taste Vegan Supreme Buzzito
- Tofurky Pizza^[6]

Uses

Daiya can be used as an alternative to cheese in various vegan dishes:

Daiya Foods Inc.



Type	Private
Industry	Retail, food service, ingredient supply
Founded	2008
Headquarters	Vancouver, British Columbia
Key people	Andre Kroecher (co-founder, VP Innovation, Director) Greg Blake (co-founder, CEO, Director), Paul Wong (VP R&D), Dave Beryar (VP Finance), Michael Lynch (VP Marketing), Mike Cooke (VP Sales), Rich Simons (Chairman), Eric Patel (Director), Terry Tierney (Director), Hans Knapp (Advisor)
Products	Dairy alternatives
Website	http://www.daiyafoods.com/

History

Andre Kroecher first began developing Daiya in 2005. Greg Blake partnered with Kroecher in 2007 and the two spent 1 year developing the Mozzarella and Cheddar Style Shreds now in stores based on Kroecher's early innovations. Food Scientist Paul Wong was brought on in early 2008 to help with scaleup and refining the formulations. Daiya Foods Inc's alternatives were first introduced at the Natural Products West Expo in Anaheim, California in 2009 and were an instant success. In late 2009, Daiya Foods moved to a dedicated facility to ensure the highest level of food safety (Daiya Foods Inc. is an SQF certified facility)^[7]



Vegan enchilada with Daiya cheese substitute at Bandidas Taqueria, Vancouver, BC, Canada

Awards

2013:

- Natural Health Magazine's 2013 3rd Annual Good Food Award: Daiya Jalapeño Garlic Havarti Style Wedge
- April 2013 issue of VegWorld Magazine Hot Pick: Daiya Cream Cheese Style Spreads
- VegNews Magazine's 2013 Best in Show - Best New Vegan Product Award: Daiya Chive & Onion Cream Cheese Style Spread
- CEO of the Year, Canadian Institute of Food Science and Technology: Daiya CEO & Co-founder, Greg Blake

2012:

- PETA 2012 Best Dairy Alternative Libby Award - Best Dairy Alternative: Daiya Cheddar Style Wedge
- VegNews Magazine's 2011 Veggie Awards - Gold Winner: Favorite Vegan Cheese
- Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award, Emerging Category: Daiya Founders Andre Kroecher and Greg Blake
- WholeFoods Magazine's 2012 Vegan Natural Choice Award: Daiya Shred Style Products
- BC Food Processors Association's 2012 Product of the Year Award
- CIFST Gordon Royal Maybee Award Winner
- VegNews Magazine's 2012 Best of Show Awards: Daiya Jalapeño Garlic Havarti Style Wedge

2011:

- VegNews Magazine's 2011 Veggie Awards: Favorite Vegan Cheese

2010:

- PETA^[8] Company of the Year Proggy Award
- VegNews^[9] Magazine's 2010 Veggie Awards: Daiya Mozzarella & Cheddar Style Shreds won Best Vegan Cheese

2009:

- VegNew's Magazine's 2009 Veggie Awards: Product of the Year
- PETA Best Vegan Cheese Libby Award
- VegNews Magazine's 2009 Best of Show Awards at Expo West: Best New Vegetarian Product - Daiya Shreds
- BC Innovation Council (BCIC) 2009 Commercialization of Agricultural Technology Competition - 1st place.^[10]

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External links

- Official site (<http://www.daiyafoods.com>)

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Categories: Vegan cuisine | Cheese analogues | Food companies of Canada | Companies based in Vancouver | Retail companies established in 2008

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