

# PROTEIN FROM DAIRY, MEAT, FISH, AND PLANTS: WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE FOR MUSCLE RECOVERY IN ATHLETES?

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# Recovery is a crucial, but complex, concept for athlete health and performance

**R**ehydrate

**R**efuel

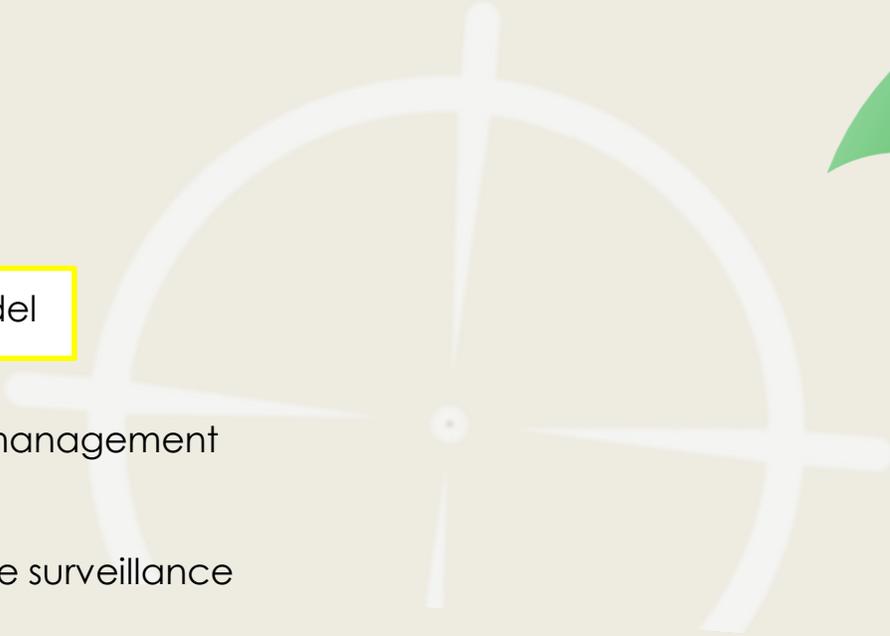
**R**epair

**R**emodel

**I**njury management

**I**mmune surveillance

**S**leep quality



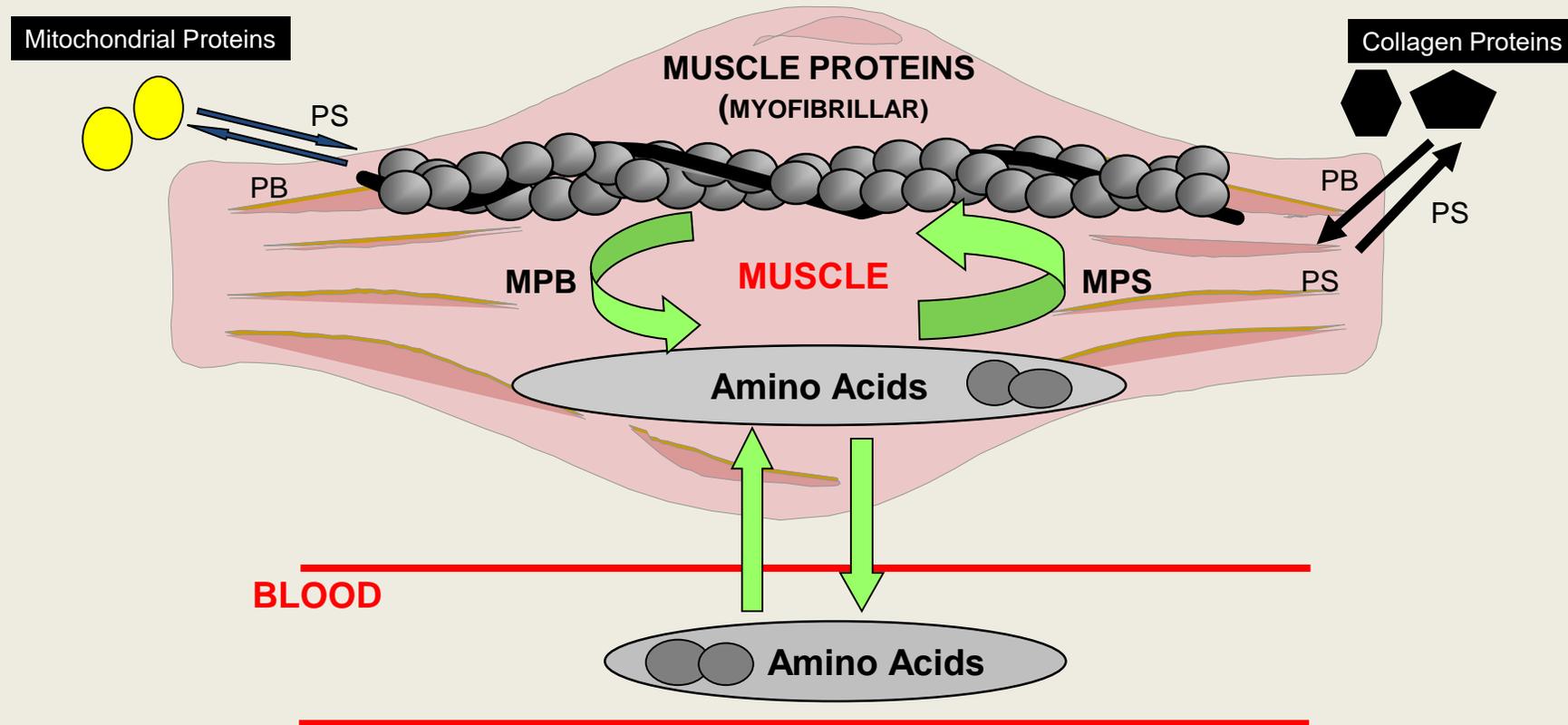
# What will be covered during this Dairy Council talk?



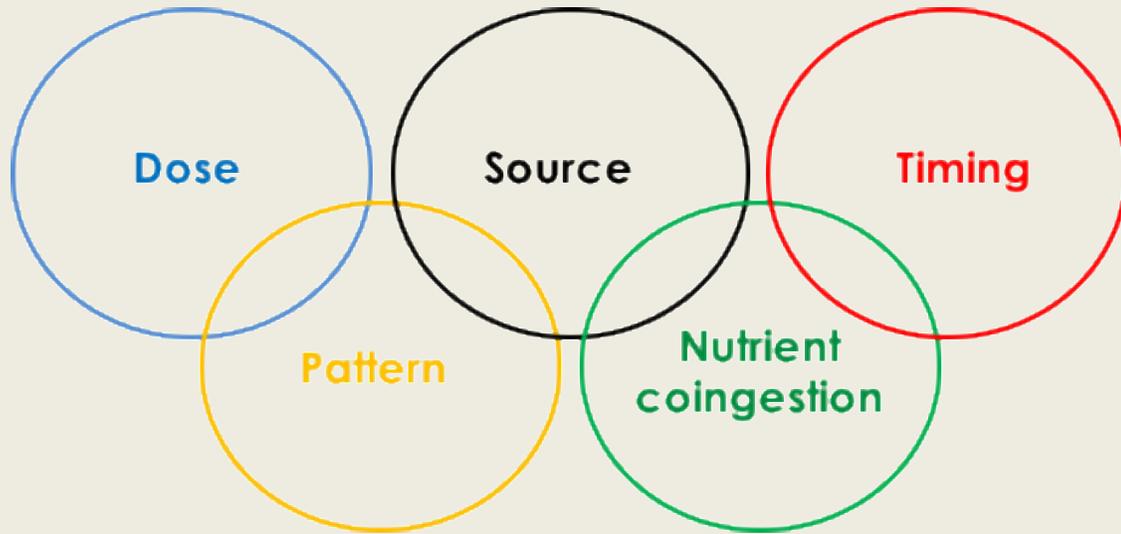
1. Highlight the importance of **muscle protein synthesis** in the muscle remodelling process during exercise recovery
2. Establish **3 key factors** that dictate the muscle remodeling properties of a given protein source, including dairy proteins
3. Compare the capacity of **dairy** vs. meat or plant-based protein sources to promote **muscle remodeling** during recovery in athletes
4. Dairy nutrition and global food **sustainability**
5. **Future** directions in dairy nutrition and athlete recovery



# What is muscle protein synthesis and why should the athlete care?

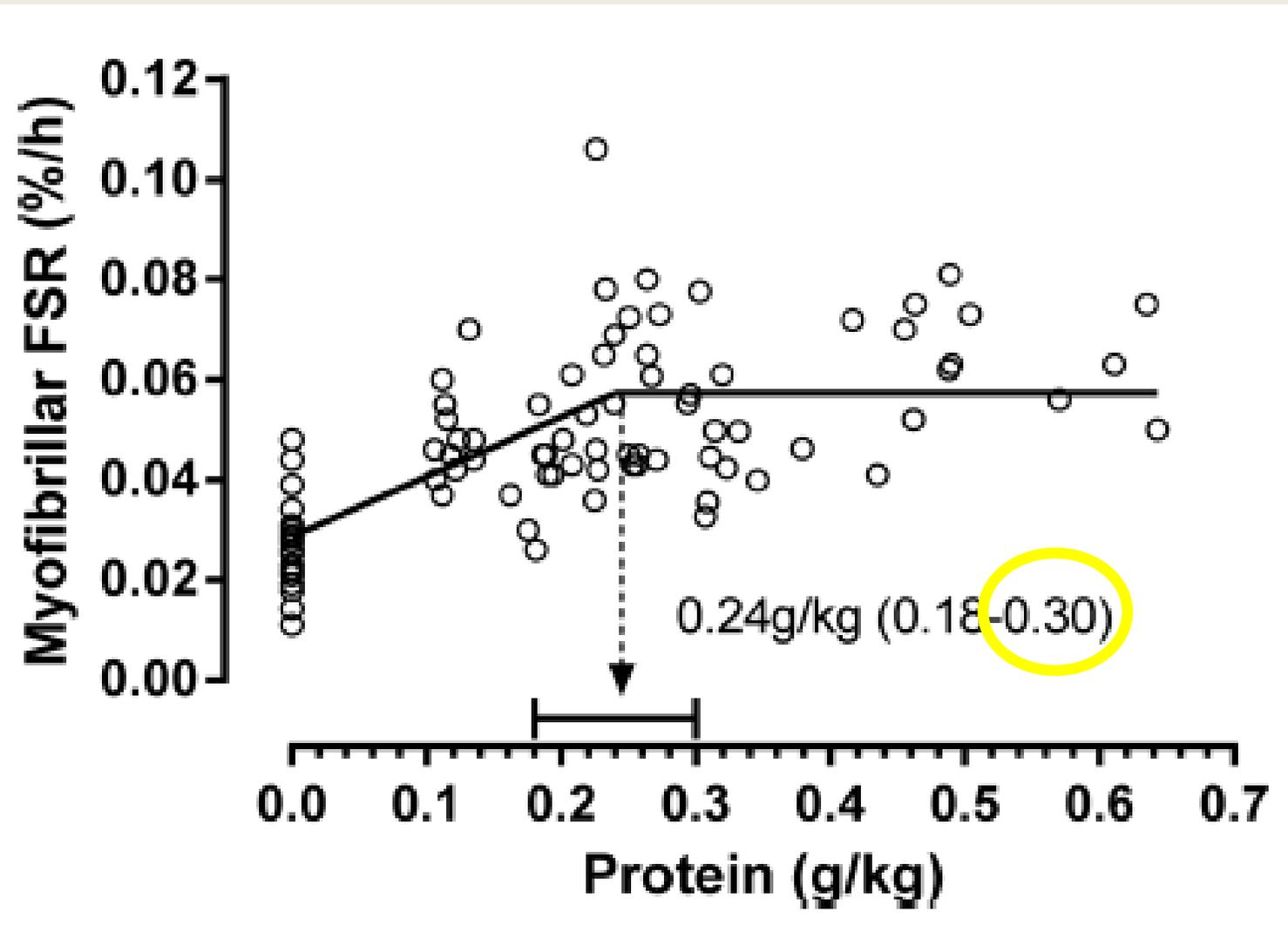


# Optimising protein nutrition for muscle remodeling is more complex than simply recommending a daily total protein intake



# A relative protein dose of $\sim 0.3$ g/ kg BM is sufficient to maximally stimulate MPS in trained young adults

Dose



So, what does a serving size of 0.3 grams of protein per kilogram body mass look like for different sized athletes?



Striker (female) (60 kg)



Midfielder (70 kg)



Defender (85kg)

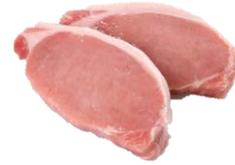
# Example protein foods for the 85 kg athlete



**Raw salmon**  
1 medium fillet (150g) = 31 g protein



**Lean beef steak**  
1 medium fillet (150 g-raw) = 35 g protein



**Pork tenderloin**  
2 thin slices (150 g)  
= 31 g protein



**Canned in water tuna (drained)**  
1 can (130 g)  
= 31 g protein



**Cooked beans (Lentils/chickpeas)**  
2 cups (360 g) = 26 g protein



**Large eggs**  
3 pieces = 25 g protein

## What does ~30 g of protein look like?



**Emmental cheese**  
5 slices (110 g)  
= 33 g protein



**Whey Protein**  
1 average serving (1 scoop) (30 g)  
= 27 g protein



**Cooked chicken breast**  
1 small fillet (100 g)  
= 31 g protein



**Greek yogurt 0% fat or cottage cheese**  
1 cup (250 g)  
= 26 g protein



**Low Fat Chocolate Milk**  
750 mL = 26 g protein



**Peanut butter**  
7 heaped teaspoons (98 g)  
= 26 g protein

# What 3 **factors** determine the potential of a protein source, including dairy, to stimulate MPS?

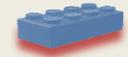


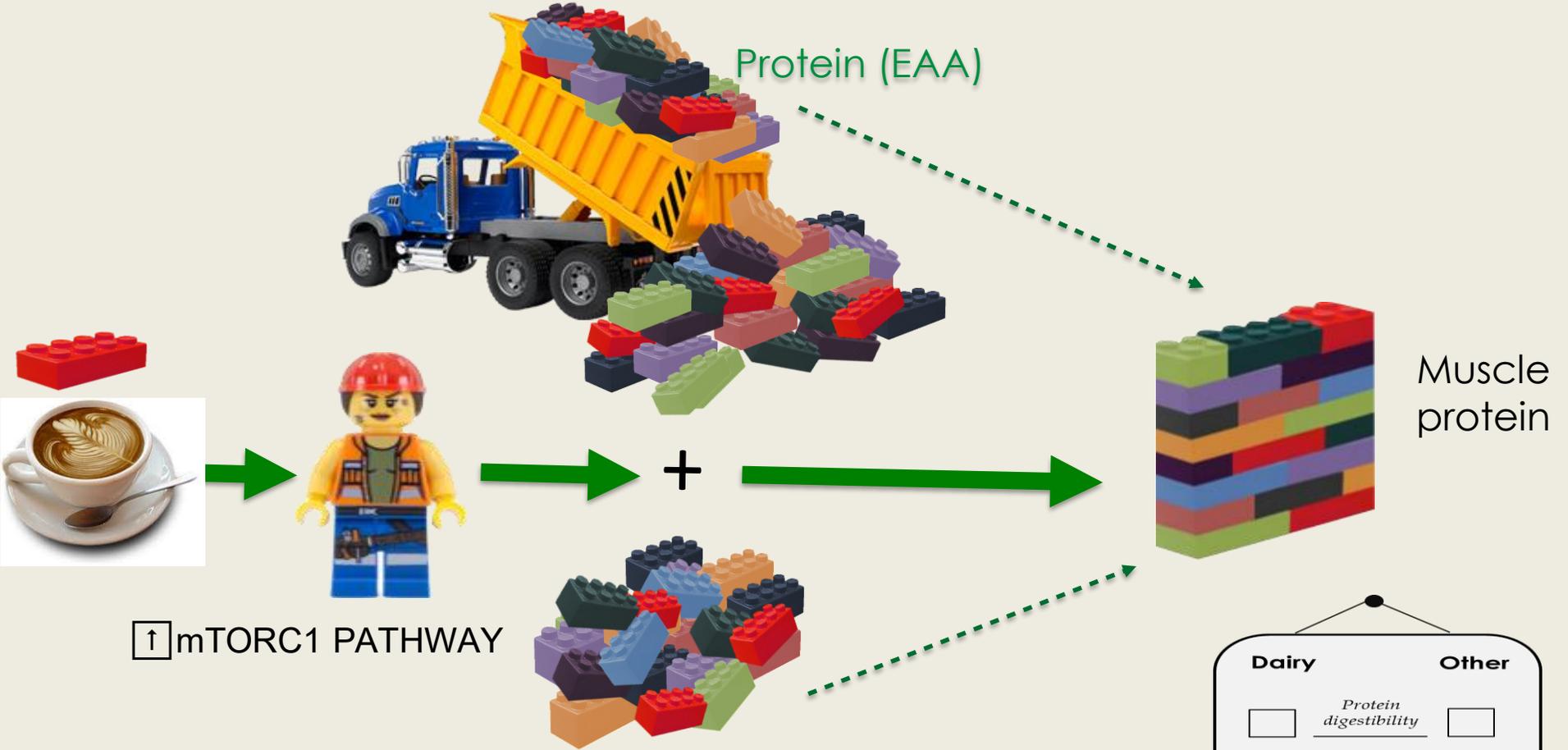
Source

Source A	Source B	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Protein digestibility</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>EAA profile</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Leucine content</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>



# Brick wall analogy: EAA profile and leucine content of protein source

-  Leucine
-  Isoleucine
-  Valine
-  Phenylalanine
-  Threonine
-  Tryptophan
-  Histidine
-  Methionine
-  Lysine

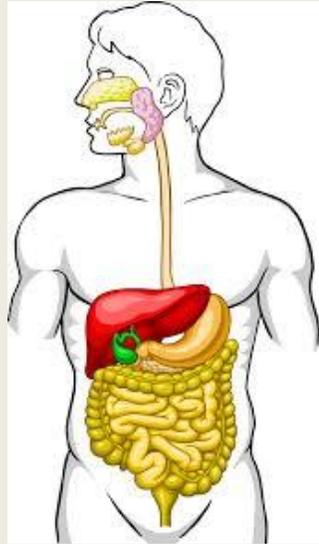
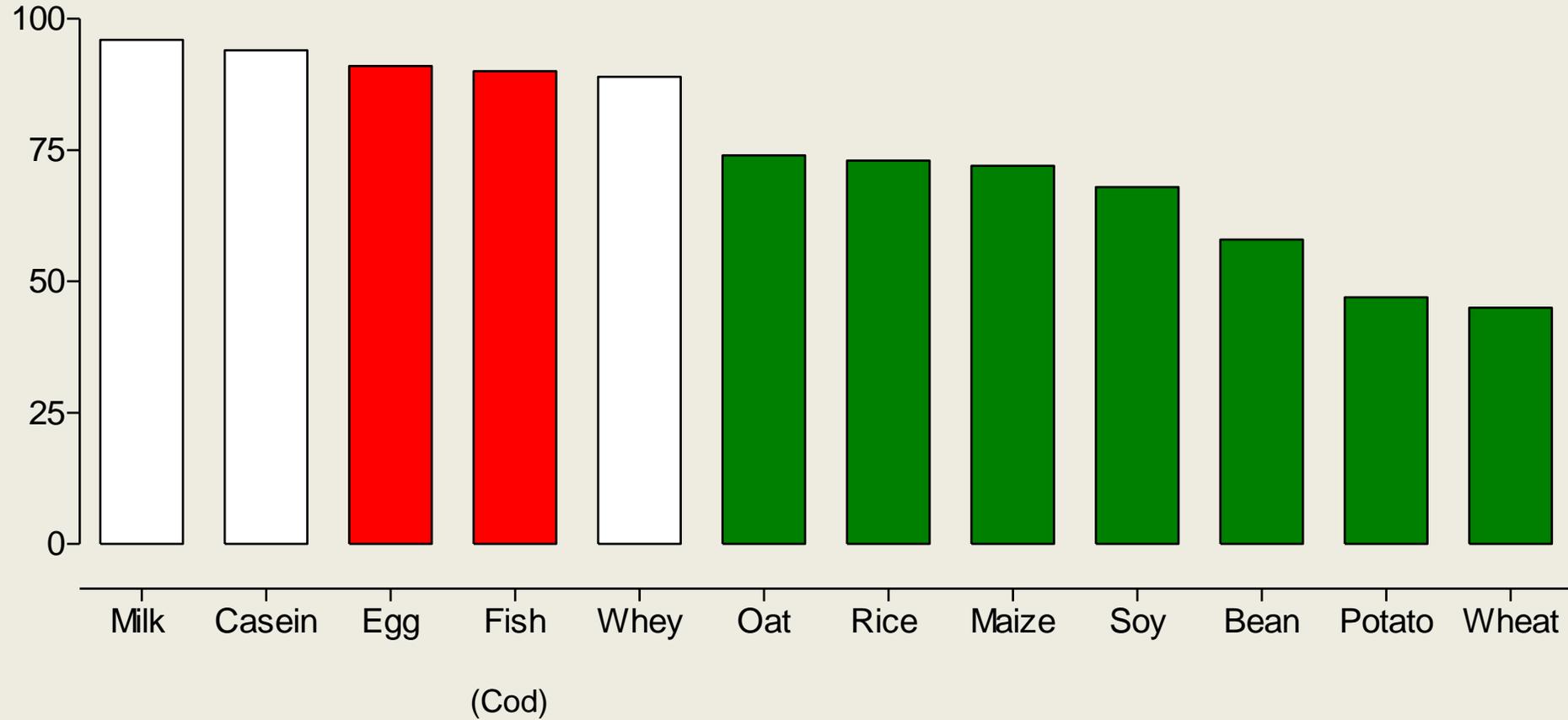


Dairy		Other
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Protein digestibility</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>EAA profile</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Leucine content</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>

# Total ileal protein digestibility of dairy vs. other common animal and plant-based dietary protein sources



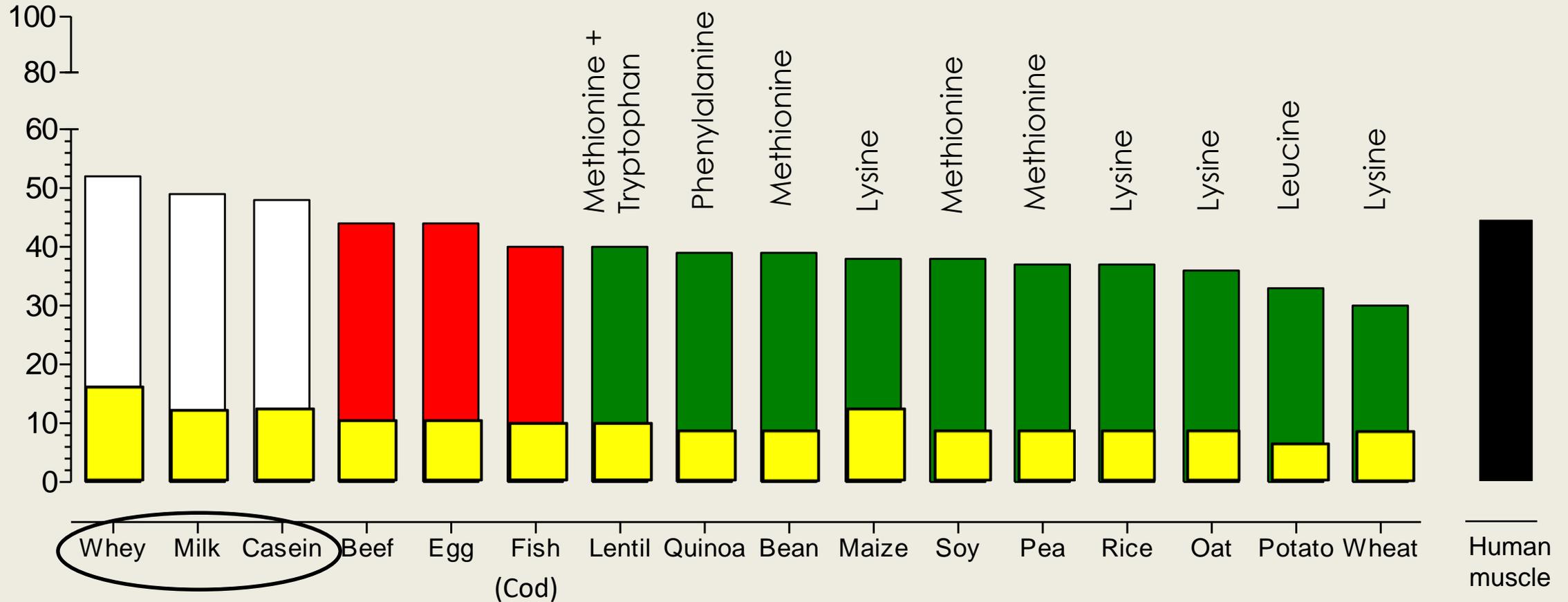
Protein digestibility (%)

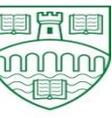


Data taken from 2011 FAO consultation on "Protein quality evaluation in human nutrition"

# EAA profile and leucine content of dairy vs. other common animal and plant-based dietary protein sources

EAA (leucine) content (%)



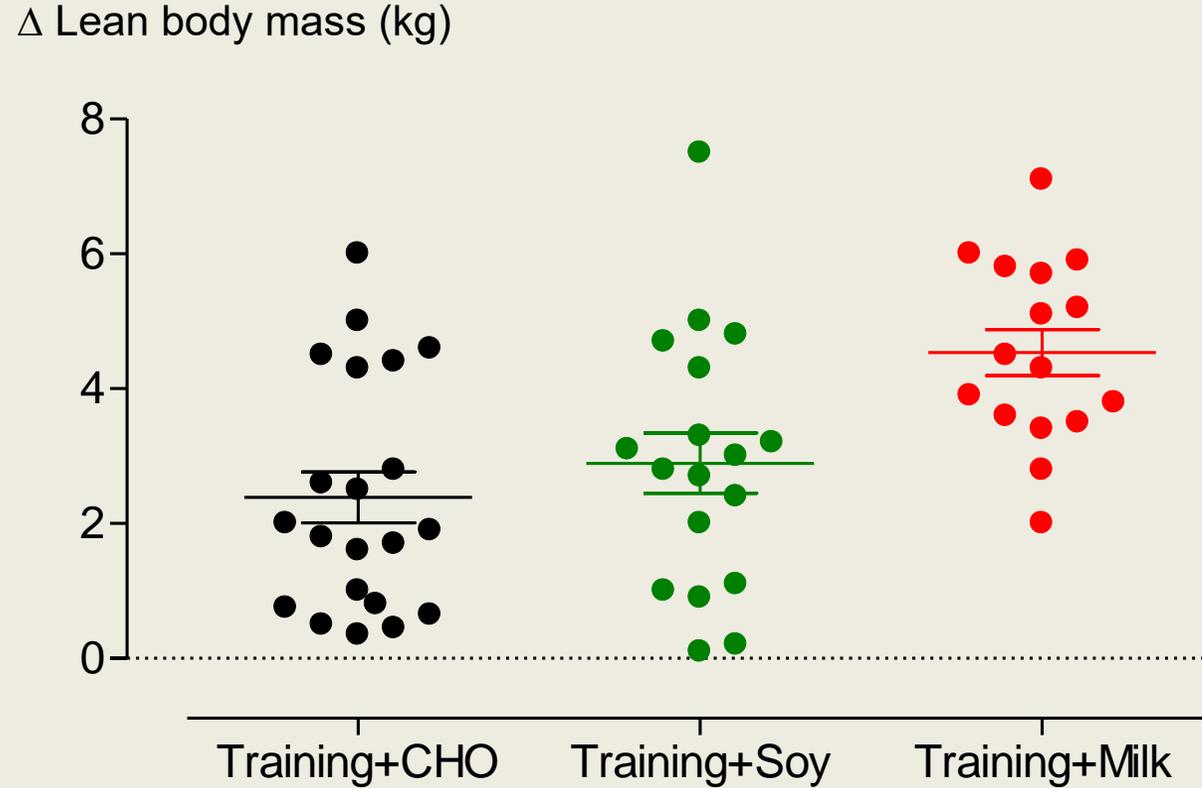
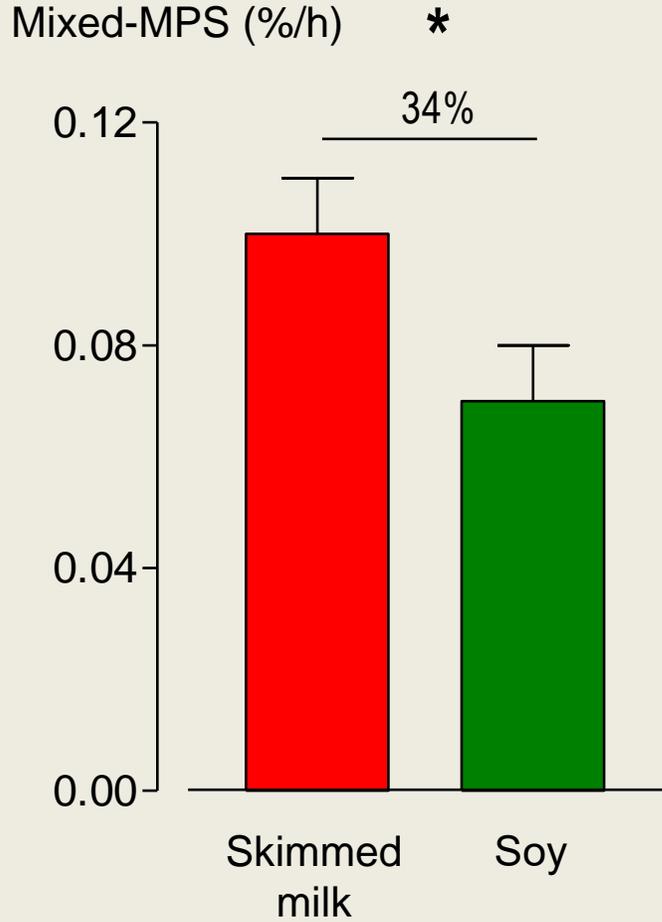


## Protein from **dairy** vs. plant-based protein sources:

What's the difference for muscle remodelling during exercise recovery?



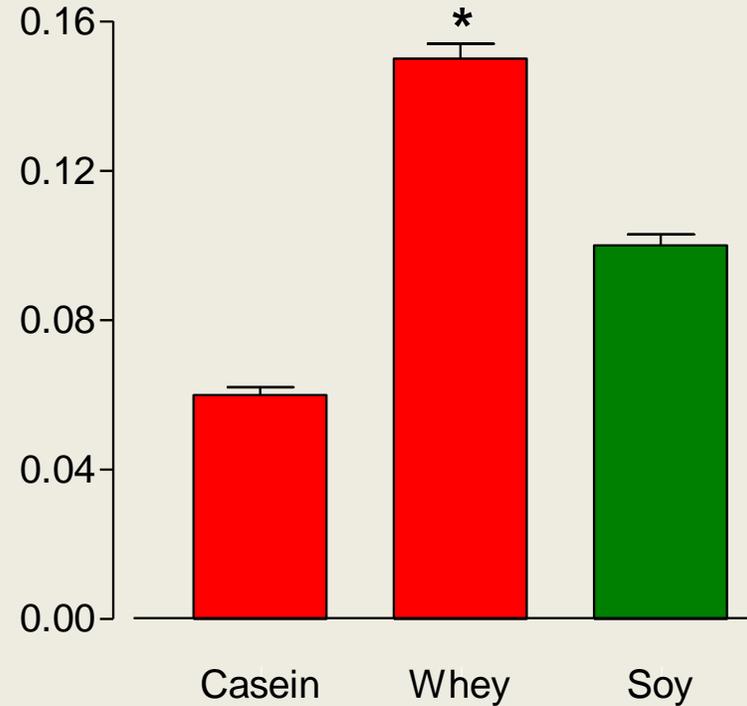
# Milk ingestion after exercise promotes greater muscle anabolism compared with soy in trained young men



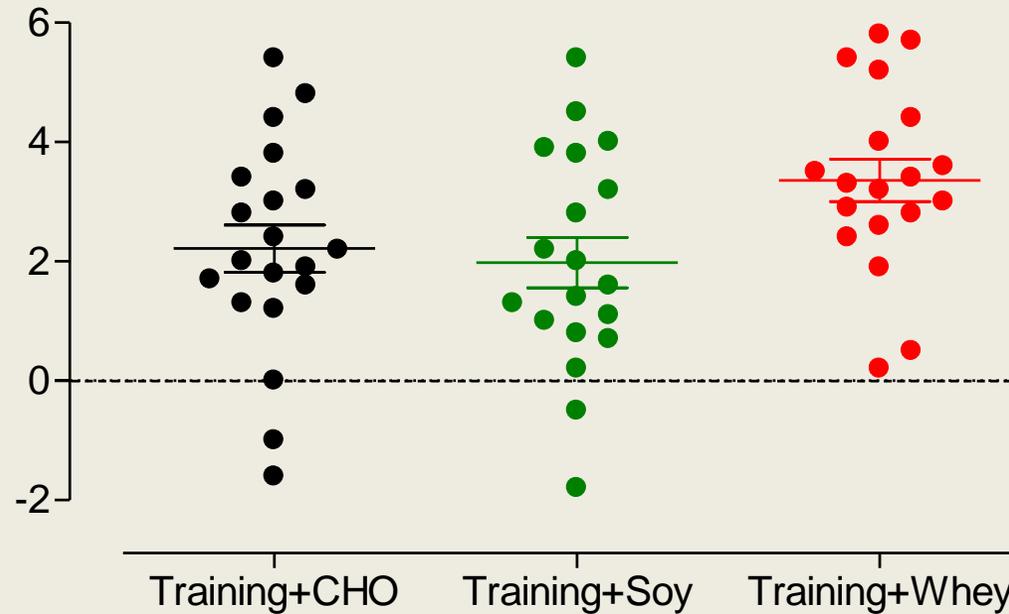
Milk		Soy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Protein digestibility	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	AA absorption kinetics	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Splanchnic uptake of AA	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	EAA profile	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Leucine content	<input type="checkbox"/>

# The **whey** component of milk is primarily responsible for the greater response of MPS to milk ingestion vs. **soy** protein

Mixed-MPS (%/h)



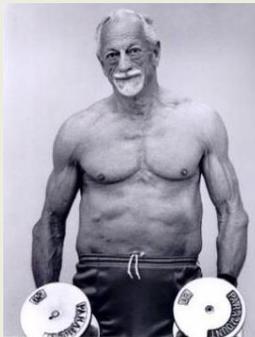
$\Delta$  Lean body mass (kg)



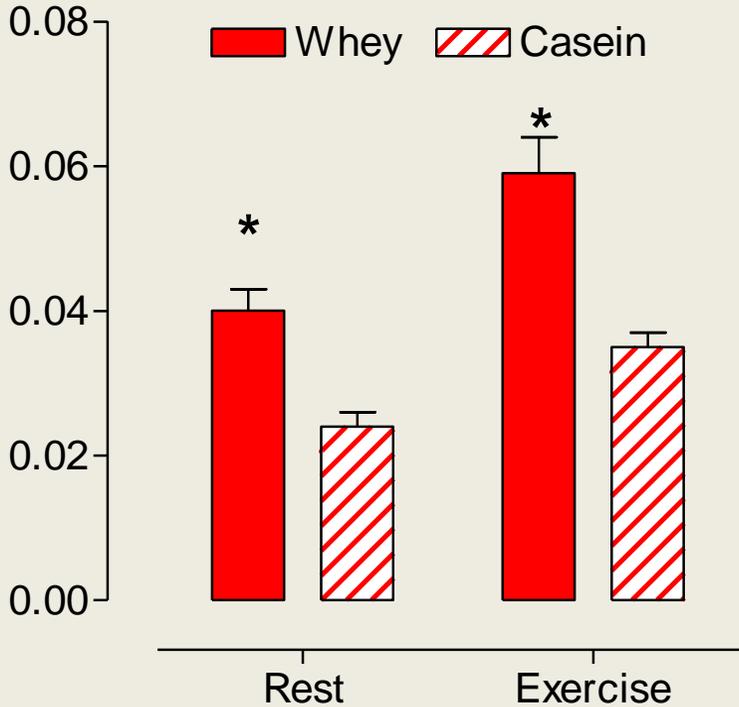
Whey		Soy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Protein digestibility	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AA absorption kinetics	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Splanchnic uptake of AA	<input type="checkbox"/>
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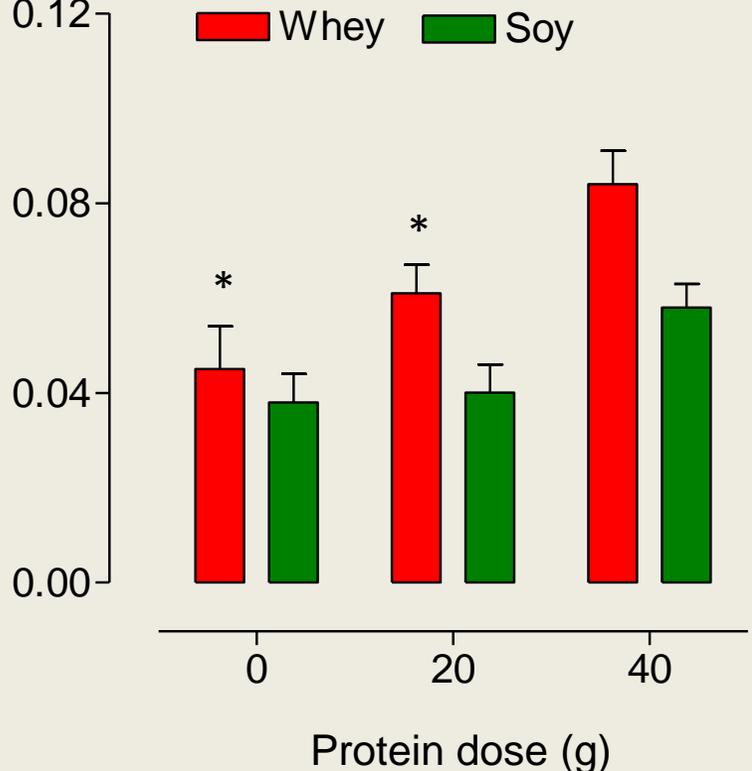
# The **whey** component of milk is primarily responsible for the greater response of MPS to milk ingestion vs. **soy** protein



Muscle protein synthesis (%/h)



Muscle protein synthesis (%/h)



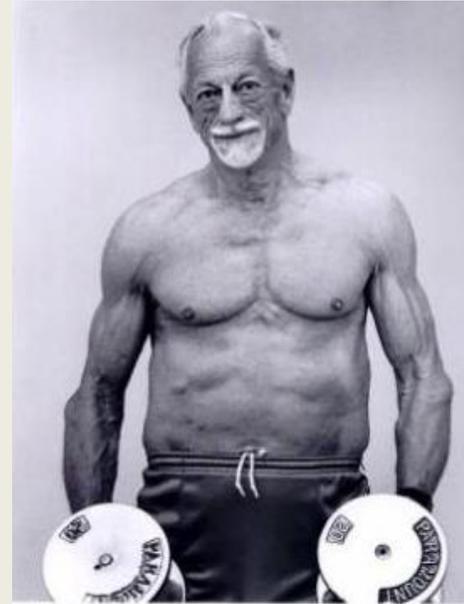
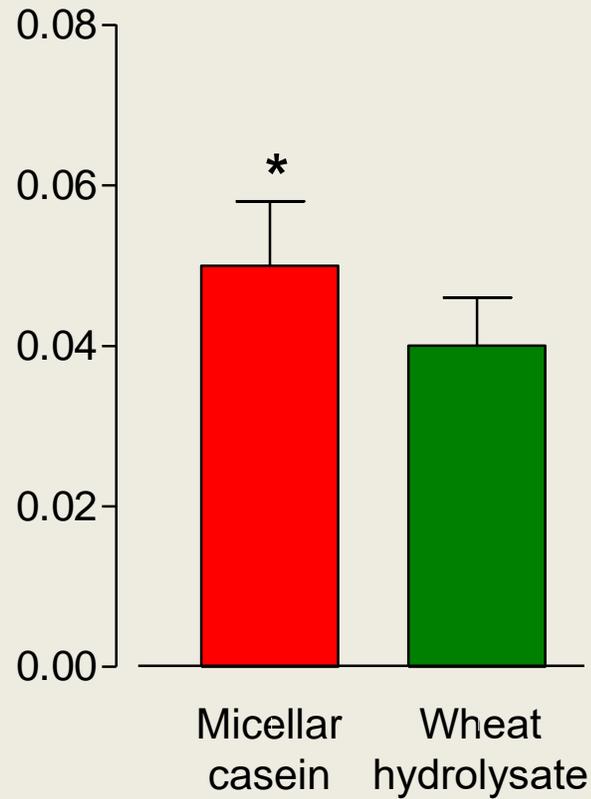
Burd et al 2009 Br J Nutr

Yang et al 2012 Nutrition and Metabolism  
Yang et al 2012 Br J Nutr

# Casein ingestion stimulates a greater response of myofibrillar-MPS vs. wheat protein in older adults



Myofibrillar-MPS (%/h)



Casein		Wheat
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Protein digestibility</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>AA absorption kinetics</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Splanchnic uptake of AA</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>EAA profile</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>Leucine content</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>

But, what about the **vegetarian** athlete.....?



# Which plant proteins are **complementary** for stimulating muscle protein synthesis in athletes?

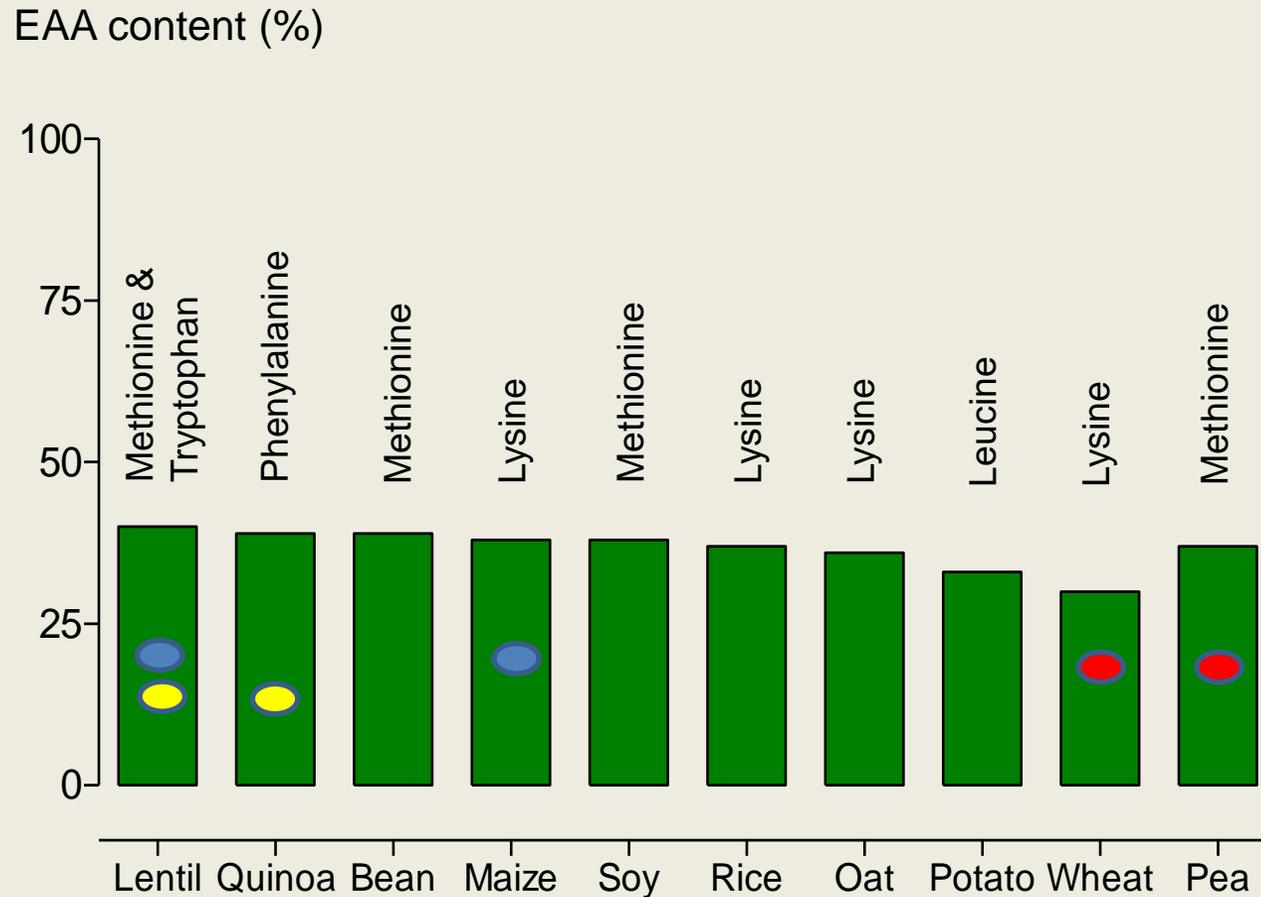


Figure adapted from **van Vliet** et al 2015 J Nutr

# A food first approach: example meal plan

## Quinoa, red kidney bean and green bean bowl:

- Red kidney beans, cooked (150g / 1 cup)
- White and red quinoa, cooked (100 g / ½ cup)
  - Spinach, sautéed (100 g / ¼ cup)
  - Peas, boiled (80 g / 1 tablespoon)
    - Watercress (20 g / ½ cup)

Energy = 414 kcal  
Carbohydrate = 52 g  
Fat = 5 g  
**Protein = 25 g**  
**Leucine = 3 g**  
Fibre = 26 g





**Butternut squash risotto**



**Blackbean veg curry**



**Chickpea and veg tagine**

# .....What about edible insects?

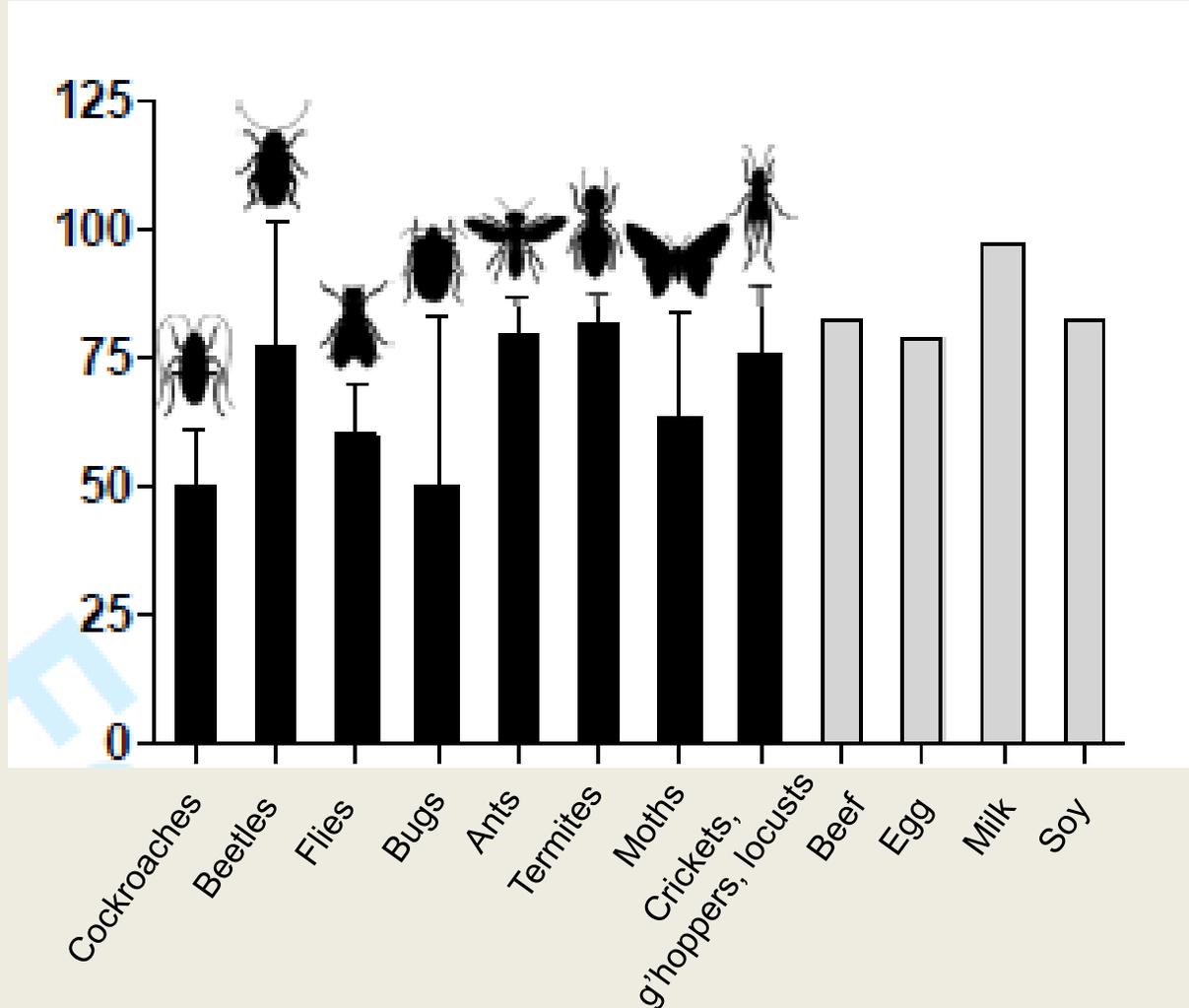


Figure adapted from Churchward-Venne et al • 2017 • Nutrition Reviews

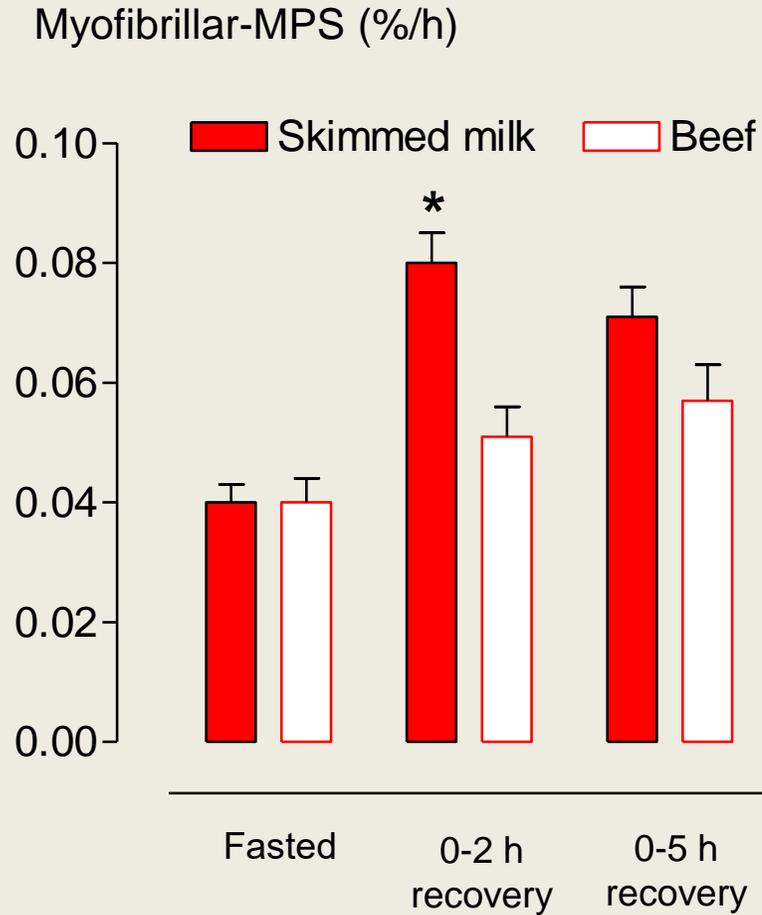
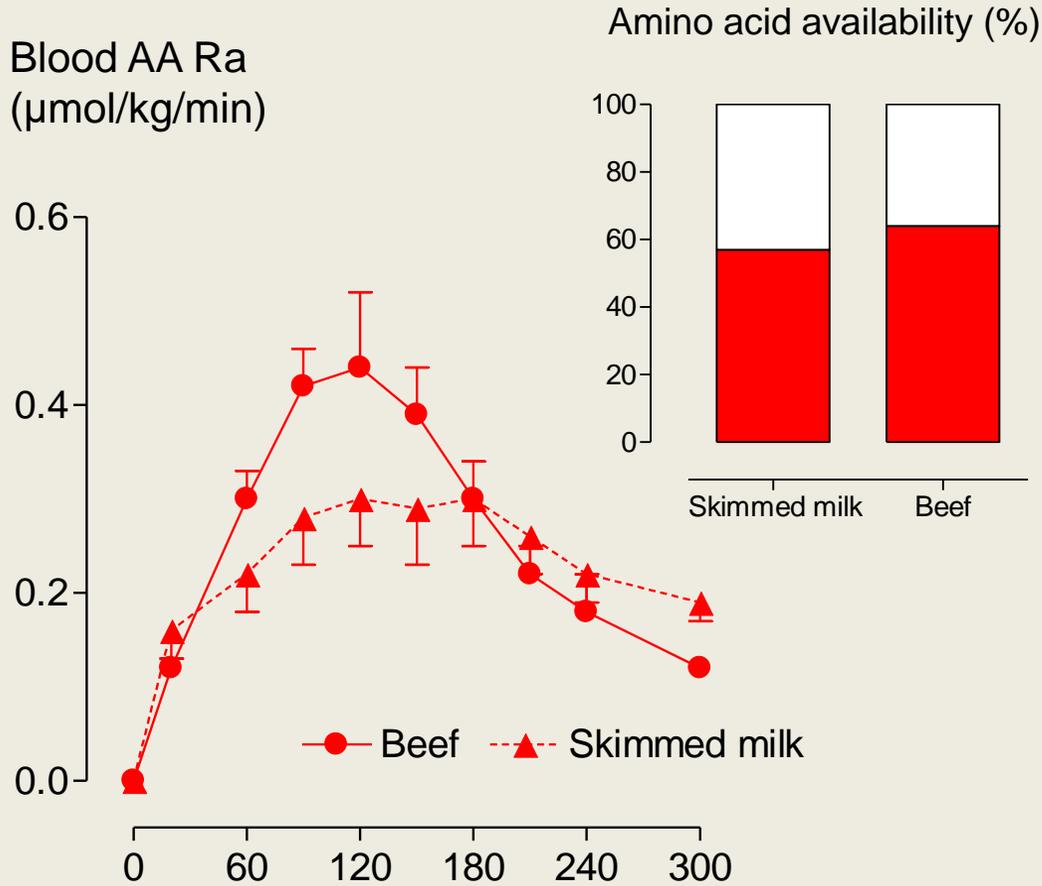


# Protein from **dairy** vs. other animal-based protein sources:

What's the difference for muscle remodelling during recovery?



# Skimmed milk ingestion stimulates a similar response of MPS during exercise recovery vs. minced beef

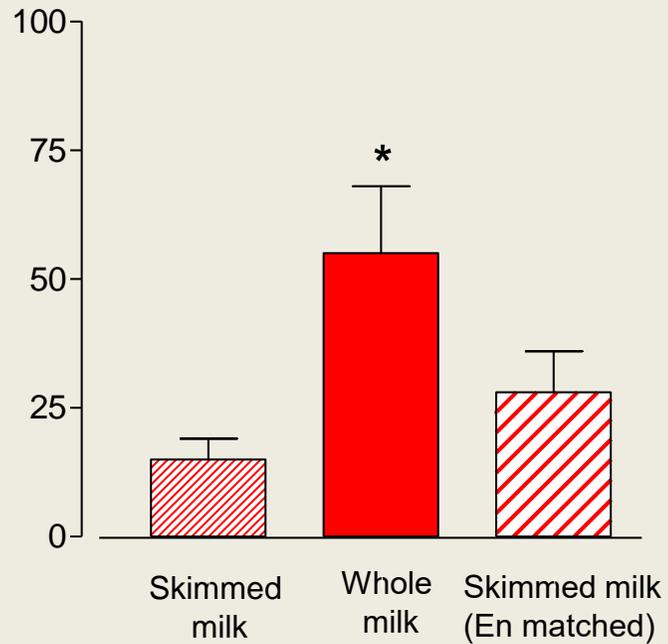


	Sk. milk	Beef
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protein digestibility	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> AA absorption kinetics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Splanchnic uptake of AA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EAA profile	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leucine content	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

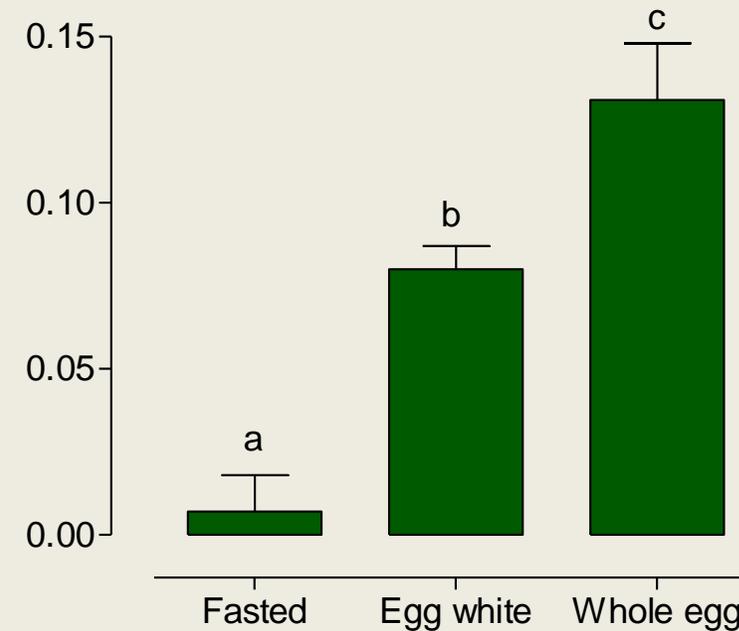
# Whole milk ingestion results in greater utilisation of ingested amino acids during exercise recovery vs. skimmed milk



Amino acid utilisation from ingested protein (% ingested threonine)



Myofibrillar-MPS (%/h)



Elliot et al • 2006 • Med Sci Sp Ex

Van Vliet et al • 2017 Am J Clin Nutr

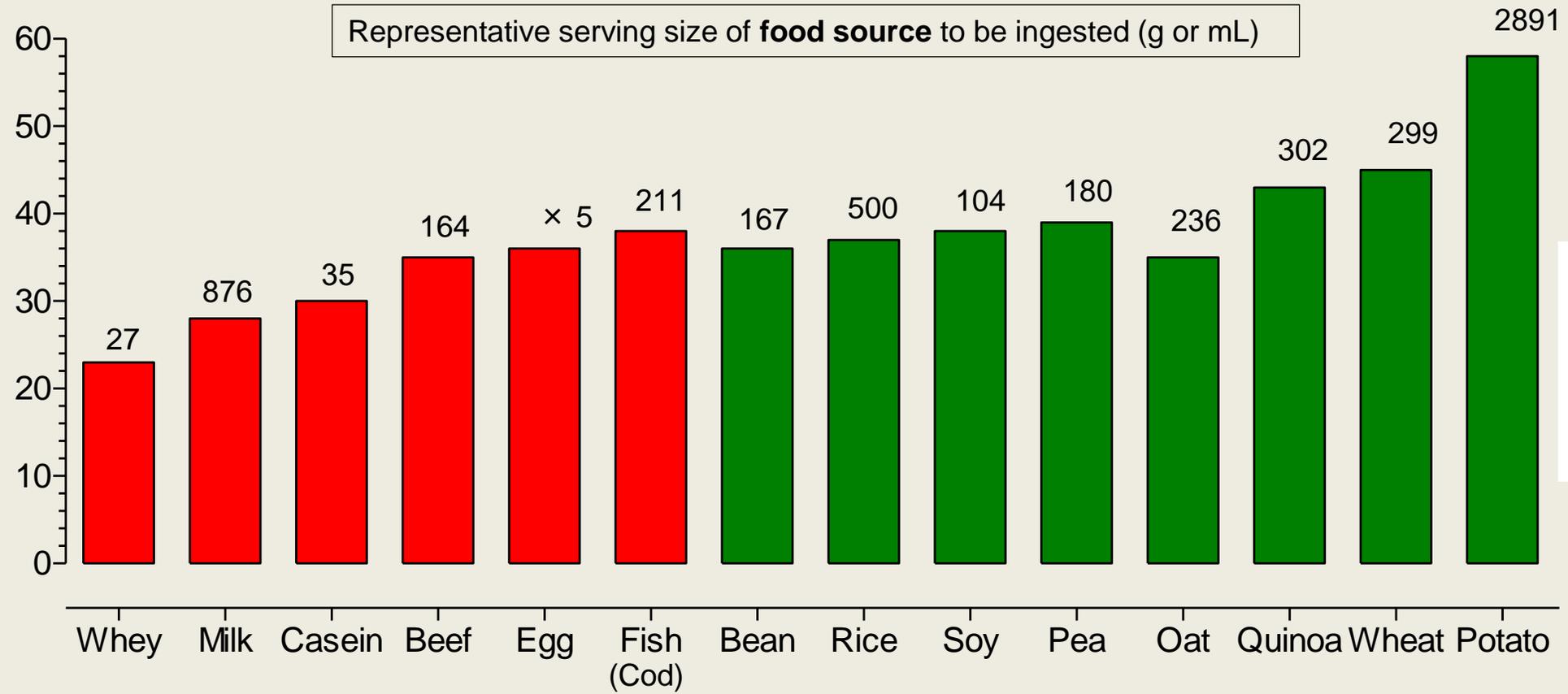


Greenhouse gas emissions  
(CO<sub>2e</sub>/kg edible weight)



# What is the **representative** per meal dose of protein from plant-based protein for maximal stimulation of MPS?

Representative amount of **protein** to ingest (g)



## Take home messages:

# Protein from dairy, meat and plants: What's the difference for athlete recovery?

- ✓ **Muscle remodelling** is crucially important for athlete recovery
- ✓ The potential of a protein source to promote muscle remodeling is dictated by **3 key factors**
- ✓ Gram for gram, **dairy** proteins are more potent than **soy** and **wheat** proteins for stimulating muscle protein synthesis during exercise recovery
- ✓ The notion that animal proteins, including the dairy proteins, are less **sustainable** than plant proteins may not necessarily be accurate in the context of muscle remodeling!



# Dairy nutrition for muscle recovery: Where are the gaps in research?

- What is the **optimal dose of milk** for maximal stimulation of muscle protein synthesis after training in athletes?
- Does the ingestion of **whole milk** stimulate muscle protein synthesis to a greater extent than **skimmed milk** in athletes?
- How does casein compare to other protein sources in terms of stimulating **overnight** muscle protein synthesis in athletes?
- How potent are other dairy proteins, e.g. **yoghurt and quark**, for stimulating MPS in athletes?



# What is the nutritional content of **yoghurt** and **quark**?



	Energy (kcal)	Protein (g)	CHO (g)	Fat (g)
Fat Free Greek Yogurt (per 100 g)	57	10.3	4.0	0
Graham's Protein 22 (per 100 g)	80	11.2	7.7	4.0
Graham's Original Quark (per 100 ml)	65	12.2	3.7	0.1



# Acknowledgements

