

June 4, 2026

Yakult European R&D Center B.V. (Netherlands), established as a base for building a global R&D framework, commences full-scale operations

Yakult Honsha Co., Ltd. (President: Hiroshi Narita) established Yakult European R&D Center B.V. on 19 September 2025 at a business facility on the Wageningen Campus in the Province of Gelderland, the Netherlands, as a key step in building its global R&D framework. Since then, the company has undertaken extensive preparations to develop a fully integrated global research and development system. With these preparations now complete, the Center officially commenced full-scale operations following the opening ceremony held on May 18, 2026.

The opening ceremony was attended by representatives from the Government of Gelderland and other distinguished guests of Wageningen University & Research. Following the ceremony's opening remarks by Dr Heimovaara, President of Wageningen University & Research, participants used company presentations and laboratory tours as opportunities for engaging in active discussions focused on the overall structure of the company's global R&D system and consideration of future opportunities for collaboration.



In Europe, to adapt effectively to global food trends, regulatory requirements, and evolving consumer needs, we will strengthen collaboration with leading research institutions and industry partners. Central to this effort is Wageningen University & Research, a world-renowned centre of excellence in life sciences, which will play a key role in accelerating the company's R&D activities.

We primarily sell *Yakult*-series products across 40 countries and regions, including Japan. Looking ahead, we will establish other overseas R&D Centers in addition to the one in Europe and position them as global hubs for food innovation. Through these efforts, we will focus on research and development that addresses social challenges specific to local communities in each region.

• **Overview of Yakult European R&D Center B.V.**

1. **Name: Yakult European R&D Center B.V.**
2. **Location: Wageningen, Province of Gelderland, Kingdom of the Netherlands**
(Plus Ultra III, business facility on Wageningen Campus)
(Bronland 8, Plus Ultra III, 3rd Floor, 6708 WH Wageningen, Netherlands)
3. **Representative: Ken Nishikawa**
4. **Date of Establishment: September 19, 2025**
5. **Full-scale Operation: May 18, 2026**
6. **Legal Form: For-profit entity (non-listed company)**
7. **Capital: EUR 3.66 million (100% owned by Yakult Honsha Co., Ltd.)**

• Highlights of the opening ceremony day

