

## Living greenr: Bacterial Gum Keeps Your Teeth Clean



BASF is putting the good bacteria found in yogurt to a number of novel uses, the first a chewing gum, designed to keep the bad bacteria off your teeth and prevent tooth decay. Coming in 2007, the gum will likely be followed by a deodorant, as well as other products.

A chewing gum containing friendly bacteria that fight harmful bacteria, is in the developmental process by German chemical company, BASF. This gum contains Lactobacillus anti-caries, a bacteria that can suppress other bacteria which cause tooth decay and hence cavities.

“The effectiveness has been demonstrated and the first oral hygiene products containing probiotic lactobacilli are scheduled to appear in 2007”, Reindl added in the report published in the latest issue of the journal Chemistry & Industry.

Tooth decay affects about 5 billion people worldwide. Consuming refined foods that stick to the teeth, increased sugar intake, soft drinks and poor oral hygiene are the main reasons for the increased incidence of tooth decay.

Sources: [Food Consumer](#)

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