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Spent coffee grounds make much more than waste: Exploring recent advances and future exploitation strategies for the valorization of an emerging food waste stream

C. Kourmentza, ChN. Economou, P. Tsafrakidou, M. Kornaros



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5 C. Kourmentza^{1,*}, Ch.N. Economou², P. Tsafrakidou², M. Kornaros²

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7 ¹*Department of Food and Nutritional Sciences, University of Reading, PO Box 226,*

8

Whiteknights, Reading RG6 6AP, UK

9

²*Laboratory of Biochemical Engineering & Environmental Technology (LBEET),*10 *Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Patras, 26504 Patras, Greece*

11

12 **Abstract**

13

Coffee is one of the most popular beverages, directly linked with tradition,

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highlighting its cultural and social effect worldwide. Coffee consumption has been

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continuously increasing, generating huge amounts of solid residues in return in the

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form of Spent Coffee Grounds (SCG). In recent years, global environmental

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awareness and strict legislation have driven research towards the implementation of

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sustainable processes. Innovative and environmentally sound methodologies for the

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exploitation of waste-streams have gained interest among the scientific community.

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In the frame of circular economy, wastes are perceived as sources for the recovery of

* Corresponding author: Constantina Kourmentza

School of Chemistry, Food and Pharmacy

Department of Food and Nutritional Sciences

e-mail: k.kourmentza@reading.ac.uk; ckourmentza@gmail.com

Tel: +44 (0) 118 378 6217

fax: +44 (0) 118 931 0080

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