

24.06.2025

Re: Letter of Recommendation for Mr Shalev Yaacov, ID number *****

To whom it may concern,

I am pleased to recommend Mr. Shalev Yaacov, who joined my laboratory as a master's student in the Biotechnology program at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Shalev was awarded the Faculty of Biotechnology Excellence Scholarship and joined our group with a strong academic foundation, having graduated with distinction (GPA 90.5) from his B.Sc. studies in Marine Biotechnology. He was involved in our lab's research activities for approximately seven months.

In our lab, Shalev participated in a collaborative project with the biotechnology company Miruku, focusing on plant-based production of recombinant proteins. The project addressed both scientific and practical challenges associated with producing high-value proteins in sustainable, plant-based systems. His research focused on the expression, extraction, and characterization of bovine Lactoferrin and human Keratin proteins, using both *E. coli* and *Arabidopsis thaliana* as expression systems.

Shalev played a key role in the project, handling everything from executing transformation protocols to cultivating and selecting transgenic plants. He also adapted workflows to match the specific biochemical properties of the target proteins. He worked methodically, kept detailed records, and communicated his progress clearly—both within the lab and with Miruku's R&D team. He consistently showed a problem-solving attitude, attention to detail, and a performance-driven mindset.

He also contributed to scientific writing in the lab, including co-authoring a forthcoming chapter on molecular farming technologies, which will appear in the volume *Alternative Dairy Products* Technologies.

Beyond his technical skills, Shalev possesses strong interpersonal abilities, intellectual curiosity, and high motivation. His ability to quickly adapt to multidisciplinary settings and communicate effectively across academic and industry teams made him a valued member of our group.

I highly recommend Shalev for any academic or professional opportunity in the field of biotechnology and molecular biology. I am confident he will make meaningful contributions to any team or research program he joins.

Sincerely,

Prof. Oded Shoseyov

Protein Engineering and Nano Biotechnology