

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT KOZHIKODE



Working Paper

## IIMK/WPS/637/MM/2025/02

March 2025

Biophilic Seasoning": Can biophilic servicescape influence taste perceptions of consumers?

Deepak S Kumar <sup>1</sup>

© All rights belong to their respective authors. Please contact the corresponding authors, if you would like to access the full paper.

## Biophilic Seasoning": Can biophilic servicescape influence taste perceptions of consumers?

## **Abstract:**

While numerous studies have explored the impact of visual biophilia on consumer responses such as attention restoration, stress recovery, preference, and liking, its effect on taste perceptions has not yet been investigated in marketing. This study examines the impact of biophilia (visual representations of nature) during consumption on the consumers' taste perceptions. When biophilic stimuli is paired with food – the (biophilic) emotions can get transferred to the taste experience, which we refer to as "biophilic seasoning". Based on the theoretical backing of sensation transference - affective ventriloquism - the study sheds light on the fact that incorporating natural elements in servicescapes can create a positive emotional backdrop that enhances how people perceive and appreciate the taste of food and beverages.

Research Office Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode IIMK Campus P. O., Kozhikode, Kerala, India, PIN - 673 570

Phone: +91-495-2809237/ 238

Email: research@iimk.ac.in

