



Australia: Prawns

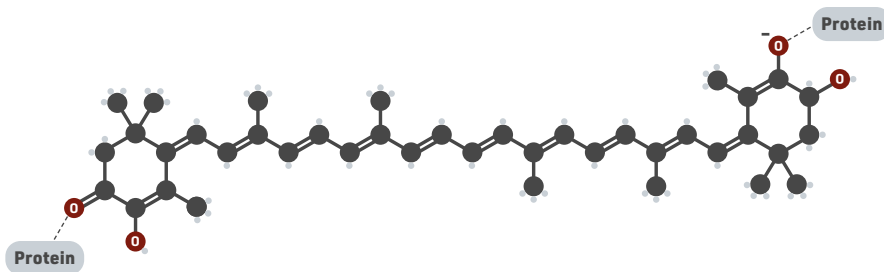


Australians often grill prawns for Christmas. In uncooked crustaceans, the compound astaxanthin is bound to the protein crustacyanin. The negatively charged enolate ion this creates is blue in colour. The crustacyanin protein denatures when cooked. This releases the astaxanthin, producing a red-orange colour.

KEY: ● Carbon ● Oxygen ● Hydrogen

Astaxanthin
(bound form)

Blue



Astaxanthin
(unbound form)

Red

