



Ryan Pandya

Co-Founder & Chief Executive Officer

Ryan Pandya is the co-founder and Chief Executive Officer of Perfect Day, a consumer biology company on a mission to create a kinder, greener tomorrow by developing new ways to make the foods you love today — starting in the dairy aisle. Ryan, in partnership with co-founder Perumal Gandhi, leads a diverse team of scientists, engineers, chefs, food developers, and storytellers who are working in harmony to make their dream of animal-free dairy a reality.

Ryan’s inspiration for Perfect Day, named one of TIME’s 2020 Best Inventions, began over a decade ago when his concern for the environment and animal welfare inspired him to adopt a vegan diet. He found the transition difficult for one main reason: his love of dairy. An unfortunate incident with a bagel and a sad soy “cream cheese” substitute led him to search for a better way to make the dairy foods he loved. While digging into how to create animal-free dairy that didn’t compromise on taste or texture, Ryan was connected to Perumal Gandhi — who, on the other side of the country, was driven to solve the very same problem. Together, Ryan and Perumal set out to create a company to revolutionize the dairy industry and, in 2014, Perfect Day was born.

Ryan studied Chemical & Biological Engineering at Tufts University, where he contributed to seminal research on tissue engineered meat at the Kaplan Lab. Following graduation, he worked on breakthrough upstream process development for biotechnology company MassBiologics.

Ryan’s deep knowledge of biomaterials and biotechnology laid the foundation for Perfect Day’s innovative approach: applying the same well-established technology that has driven world-changing innovation in the pharmaceutical industry to solve other global issues. Perfect Day has started with an issue that was personal to him — the need for better dairy alternatives — but this is just the beginning of what is possible. Ryan is driving Perfect Day towards a vision of building a more equitable, resilient, and diverse food system for everyone.

Perfect Day is currently pioneering a new category in the dairy market by using fermentation to create proprietary “flora-made” dairy protein, without a single cow. Named one of Forbes’ 30 Under 30 in 2019, Ryan is committed to making delicious, nutritious food that does less damage to our planet.