THE FOOD INSTITUTE REPORT

87th Year No. 37 A Weekly Publication SEPT. 15, 2014

BUMPER CROPS = LOWER GRAIN PRICES

Feed corn price projections for 2014-15 were reduced about 10% by **USDA** as the feed corn crop estimate was lifted over 300 million bushels to a record-high 14.4 billion bushels. The corn yield of 171.7 bushels per acre is also a record high, as are overall supplies for 2014-15, which are projected to hit 15.6 billion bushels. The usage forecast was lifted as well, but only by 170 million bushels with about half of that increase in the industrial usage sector.

The projected season-average corn farm price was lowered 40 cents per bushel, or 10%, to just \$3.20 to \$3.80 per bushel—as much as 30% less than 2013-14, and less than half of the \$6.89 per bushel farmers received in 2012-13.

A bumper soybean crop of 3.9 billion was projected as well, up 25 million bushels from the August estimate due to a higher yield forecast of 46.6 bushels per acre. If realized, ending stocks on Aug. 31, 2015 will be the largest since 2006-07 at 475 million bushels—almost a two-month supply. Soybean and product prices are projected lower for 2014-15. The U.S. season-average soybean price is projected at \$9.00 to \$11.00 per bushel, down 35 cents on both ends of the range. Soybean meal prices are projected at \$330 to \$370 per short ton, down \$10.00 on both ends of the range. Soybean oil prices are projected at 34 cents to 38 cents per pound, down 1 cent on both ends of the range.

While wheat production for 2014-15 is seen declining 5% from a year ago, a drop in anticipated exports resulted in USDA lowering its price projection for this crop as well by 40 cents at the midpoint to \$5.50 to \$6.30 per bushel.

As for other feed grains, the 2014-15 season-average farm price for sorghum is projected at 10% lower than one month ago, and as much as 30% less than in 2013-14, at \$3.00 to \$3.60 per bushel. Oat and barley prices projections were both lifted by about 10 cents per bushel, but are still about 25% below year-earlier levels.

Total beef production forecasts in 2014 and 2015 were reduced from last month as supplies of cattle coming out of feedlots has been below expectations. Beef production for 2015 is cut as lower placements of cattle in the second half of 2014 are expected to reduce supplies of fed cattle in 2015 despite heavier carcass weights.

Indeed, the cattle price forecast for 2014 is raised from last month on tightness in supplies of fed cattle, with steer projected to reach \$162 per cwt., slightly higher than current levels and almost 30% higher than in 2013.

UNDERSTANDING FOOD LABELING SEMINAR ON SEPT. 23

FDA is continually citing products for labeling violations, and many companies are unsure of the regulations that they need to follow. Food labeling laws are always changing to fit the needs of manufacturers and consumers, and it can be difficult to stay on top of new developments. For example, FDA is proposing to update the Nutrition Facts label found on most food packages in the U.S. for the first time in 20 years. The format of the label will be refreshed, with key parts of the label such as calories, serving sizes, and percent daily value made more prominent. This means companies will have a new set of rules to understand and implement. Why wait until you receive a violation? Make sure that your organization is knowledgeable about how to correctly label its products.

To aid food industry professionals in this process, **THE FOOD INSTITUTE** and **OFW LAW** will host their annual seminar on the details of food product labeling on Tuesday, September 23, 2014 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Newark Airport Renaissance Hotel in Elizabeth, NJ. The speakers will keep attendees up-to-date on the latest developments on the labeling of food products, as well as provide an overview of the basics of food labeling.

Topics for discussion include mandatory label information, exemptions, allergen labeling, country of origin marking, and nutrient content claims such as "GMO," "natural," and "organic." Attendees will also have the opportunity to examine class action lawsuits and other threats, and look into the future of food labeling, such as Nutrition Facts reform, menu/vending machine nutrition labeling, front of package nutrition labeling and other FDA initiatives.

For more information about the seminar, including a full agenda, please visit: http://tinyurl.com/labelingseminar.

WHAT'S INSIDE?

ICE CREAM, FROZEN NOVELTY SALES FALTER

Sales of ice cream and frozen novelty foods have been slow for the past several years, growing just 9% between 2008 and 2013 to $11.2 billion, according to **MINTEL**. When adjusted for inflation, the growth becomes a 1% decrease, reported *Dairy Foods* (August 2014).

The ice cream and sherbet category saw sales growth of 1.1% in the 52 weeks ending May 18, reaching $6.1 billion, with 1.1% growth in units also, reaching 1.6 billion.

Ice cream performed the best, accounting for $5.6 billion in sales with 1.6% unit growth. Frozen yogurt and tofu was significant slower but still positive, worth $346.8 million with 0.4% unit growth. The sherbet, sorbet and ice category suffered during the same period, with unit sales dropping 6.9%. The category was worth $204.5 million.

Among individual companies, **TALENTI** had the strongest performance in the ice cream category, with sales up 89% and units up 90%. **BLUE BELL** was up 7.3% in dollar sales and 5.4% in unit sales.

NESTLE's **DREYER'S GRAND ICE CREAM HOLDINGS INC.** saw significant growth, with sales up 10.4% and units up 14.4%. **HAAGEN DAZS** had sales up 10.4% with units jumping 11.5%.

UNILVER's **BEN & JERRY'S** sales were up 7.3% and units up 5.4%. **BREYERS** struggled with dollar sales down 6.3% and units down 5.8%, while **WELL**'s *Blue Bunny* was also down, with dollar sales dropping 14.2% and units down 12.9%.

Talenti was the only top sherbet producer to see all-around growth, with sales up 66.3% and units up 64.8% in the category. **COUNTRY FRESH INC.**'s *Dean's Country Fresh*, which was not in the top 10, saw the largest growth in the segment at 235.3% for sales and 255% for units.

Blue Bell had mixed results, with dollar sales up 1.6% and units down 1.2%. Haagen Dazs struggled with dollar sales down 11.6% and units down 13.2%, similar to **KEMPS** with dollar sales down 12.5% and units down 13.1%.

Every company among the top five frozen novelty producers showed units down. Nestle's *Drumstick* brand saw dollar sales up 2% but units down 0.9%. Its *Skinny Cow* brand saw dollar sales drop 16.1% and units down 25.9%.

GOOD HUMOR's *Klondike*'s sales were down 3.6%, while its units dropped 6.2%.

The standout in the category was Dreyer's *Outshine*, which saw its dollar sales increase 534.6% and its units jump 474.1%. The good performance in a stagnating category was attributed to the introduction of its fruit and veggie bar, which is unique in the category.

Ice Cream Sales

(Source: Dairy Foods; IRI)

Rank	Brand	Dollar Sales (Millions)	% Change vs. Year Ago	Unit Sales (Millions)	% Change vs. Year Ago
1	Private Label	$1,127.5	-1.7%	356.3	0.1%
2	Blue Bell	$619.9	7.3%	160.5	5.4%
3	Ben & Jerry's	$493.5	7.2%	119.0	6.9%
4	Breyers	$453.0	-6.3%	127.5	-5.8%
5	Haagen Dazd	$421.9	10.4%	101.2	11.5%
6	Dreyer's/Edy's Slowchurned	$282.1	-4.4%	73.6	-3.2%
	Total Category	$5,606.3	1.4%	1,531.7	1.6%

Ice Cream Novelty Sales

(Source: Dairy Foods; IRI)

Rank	Brand	Dollar Sales (Millions)	% Change vs. Year Ago	Unit Sales (Millions)	% Change vs. Year Ago
1	Private Label	$458.9	-1.7%	163.4	-3.2%
2	Nestle Drumstick	$309.9	2.0%	74.1	-0.9%
3	The Skinny Cow	$173.7	-16.1%	38.0	25.9%
4	Klondike	$169.1	3.6%	54.4	-6.2%
5	Wells Dairy Weight Watchers	$165.3	-17.5%	37.1	-18.2%
6	Dreyer's Edy's Outshine	$163.0	534.6%	42.2	474.1%
	Total Category	$4,163.4	-2.3%	1,452.2	-3.9%

Base: U.S. sales for the 52 weeks ending May 18, 2014

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Membership Dues: $795 annually, $320 for Schools annually, which includes a year's subscription to *THE FOOD INSTITUTE REPORT*. Additional copies may be purchased by **MEMBERS for only $250 annually.**

Printed in U.S.A. Periodicals postage paid at Upper Saddle River, NJ, and at additional offices.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:
THE FOOD INSTITUTE REPORT, 10 Mountainview Road, Suite S125, Upper Saddle River, NJ 07458

DOMESTIC OLIVE OIL PRODUCTION POISED TO COMPETE WITH IMPORTS

As health-conscious consumers look for healthier alternatives, olive oil consumption in the U.S. has been on the rise for decades, and the trend is likely to continue. Consumers are using olive oil as a substitute for other cooking oils or butter, and its health benefits have been linked to helping lower the risk of diseases from breast cancer to Alzheimer's, reported *Quartz* (Sept. 4).

The commodity has experienced growth worldwide as well, with the global olive oil market currently worth $11 billion and production doubling since 1990 to 3 million metric tons. The U.S. has taken a large share of the increase, with its imports of olive oil doubling during this period.

While the U.S. traditionally imports olive oil from Italy and Spain, imports from Greece, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey are on the rise. Australia, Argentina and Chile are also potential producers, but room for growth exists for domestic olive oil, which only accounts for a tiny portion of U.S. consumption, but is quickly growing.

U.S. producers brought about 4,000 metric tons of olive oil to the market in 2012, accounting for just 2% of olive oil sold in the U.S. That number jumped to 10,000 metric tons in 2013, according to the **INTERNATIONAL OLIVE COUNCIL**, with California producers in particular gaining acceptance in a market that traditionally favors imports.

About 40% of olive oil consumers prefer extra-virgin olive oil, according to the **U.S. INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION**. Olive oil marketed as Italian also tends to attract customers. However, fraudulent claims of being "extra-virgin" or being "from Italy" are rampant in Europe, leading domestic producers to call for tighter controls on imports to differentiate legitimately pure products.

Researchers at the **UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS** found that the U.S. has the technology and knowledge to produce olive oil that is "at least as good" as Europe's best offerings, according to director of the UC-Davis Agricultural Issues Center Daniel Sumner. He stated that domestic olive oil production should be able to service all segments of the retail market, including both retailers and foodservice from standard chains to high-end locations.

A UC-Davis study found that improved public relations have been key in improving overall olive oil sales in the country. Researchers estimated 100 more articles on the health or culinary benefits of olive oil could increase the value of U.S. annual olive oil imports by about $1.6 million, according to the study in *Agricultural Economics* (July 9).

CALIFORNIA PUSHES FOR STRICTER LABELING

THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE is considering requirements including testing and certification for purity and quality for olive oil. New labeling would also be introduced, barring common terms such as "light" and "pure," reported *Los Angeles Times* (Sept. 3).

"Light" is commonly used for oils that have been refined with chemicals or additives, while consumers may understand it as meaning lower in calories, while "pure" oil comes from a second pressing of olives. Instead of "light" or "pure" designations, labels would have to read "refined olive oil" and "olive pomace oil," respectively.

The standards also call for taste panels to taste for defects, such as rancidity. Chemical testing would follow the steps recommended by the International Olive Council.

The proposed standards were created by the **OLIVE OIL COMMISSION OF CALIFORNIA**, a board of growers and millers established in 2013 to help improve the competitiveness of the state's olive oil industry. They would only affect growers and millers that handle at least 5,000 gallons of olive oil annually.

While domestic producers are in favor of the rules, importers have come out against them. While the standards would apply only to the largest California producers, opponents are concerned that the plans are a blueprint for standards that will also be applied to foreign products. Proponents of the standards note that the regulations will improve California-made olive oil's reputation as a premium product, helping it contrast against European brands that don't adhere to the same standards.

TEXAS BECOMING HOME TO MORE OLIVE GROVES

Due to the combination of the popularity of olive oil and the local food movement, olive groves are expanding in Texas as consumers look for oils coming from closer to home, according to **TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION SERVICE**. While **USDA**'s 2002 census didn't record any olives in the state, it recorded 760 acres in 2012 and Texas A&M estimates there may be as many as 2,000 acres today.

AgriLife Extension has been met with questions from producers ranging from small acreage farmers to large operations.

To further develop the state's crop, AgriLife Extension is planning multiple trials in 2015 to help research the best practices for growing olives in Texas, with the ultimate goal of creating a guidance for producers. Researchers will be looking for the best growing conditions, soil types, varieties and fertility needs. Other issues, such as the number of trees per acre and how to combat disease, will also be considered.

AS CONSUMERS SEEK NEW FOODS, SPECIALTY FRUIT VARIETIES ON THE RISE

With consumers increasingly looking for new flavors and multicultural experiences, specialty fruit sales are on the upswing. With common choices such as mango, pomegranate and coconut to exotic options such as figs, passion fruit or Cactus pear, the category offers options for a variety of consumers, reported *Produce Business* (August 2014).

While specialty produce accounts for just 2% of all fruit sales, the average total for baskets containing specialty fruits is 45% larger than those with just traditional produce, according to Kelli Beckel, senior marketing manager for **NIELSEN PERISHABLES GROUP**.

At the same time the number of consumers looking to purchase specialty fruits is rising, with more than 25% of households buying it in the 52 weeks ending April 26. This makes specialty fruit the third fastest growing category in terms of average dollar sales, and sales have remained steady despite significant price increases over the past year.

Among the top 5 bestselling specialty fruits, mango and pomegranate experienced average dollar and volume per store per week increases of 10%.

While not yet as common, guava is experiencing large growth due to its use in Hispanic cuisine, with average dollar and volume sales both up about 30%. The fruit is also becoming more common, with the number of distribution points up 61% during the same period.

The "other specialty fruit" category, including items such as dragonfruit and peacharines, experienced a 40% increase in average dollar sales and a 26% increase in volume sales. More stores are also carrying more obscure fruit, with points of sale for other specialty fruit rising nearly 40%.

The biggest market for specialty fruit are highly affluent people, with the biggest segment being those 55 to 65 years old without children. Affluent couples aged 25 to 34 and 55 to 64, and families aged 35 to 44 with children under 10, are also common purchasers of organic and natural products that are heavily represented in the category.

Adding in-store education and signage with instructions on how to select and prepare the fruit could attract more customers from middle-class homes looking for convenient meal options, or those looking for kid-oriented products. Merchandising specialty fruit as a quick, grab-and-go snack could make inroads with mainstream customers.

Changing consumer values and methods of increasing convenience can turn specialty fruits into more mainstream items. The recent growth in pomegranates, now the third bestselling item in the category, is largely attributed to **POM WONDERFUL**'s marketing campaign that poses the fruit as a superfood and packaging techniques that allow prepackaging of pomegranate arils.

The fruit's most popular method of consumption is as a juice, combining the most convenient method of consumption with consumers' desire for its health benefits.

Top Selling Specialty Fruit

(Source: Produce Business)

Fruit	Market Share
Mango	39.3%
Kiwi	19.2%
Pomegranate	12.0%
Papaya	11.0%
Tomatillo	5.2%
Dates	4.6%
Coconut	2.2%
Figs	1.6%
Persimmon	1.1%
Guava	0.8%
Other Specialty Fruit	0.8%
Star Fruit	0.8%
Cactus Pear	0.4%
Sapote	0.2%
Kiwano Melon	0.2%
Cherimoya	0.2%

Ranking of 21 varieties over a 52 week period

MILLENNIALS PREFER ORGANIC PRODUCE, NATURAL PRODUCTS, FRESH MEAT

In the coming year, Millennials will spend more on fresh produce and meats, organic foods and natural products, reported *The Atlantic* (Sept. 9). A report from **BOSTON CONSULTING GROUP** polled Millennials on what products will see increased spending, and which will be avoided.

At the same time the segment will spend less on soda, which is already struggling in general.

Millennials are also spending less on restaurants, which can be attributed to the generation's general avoidance of luxury items.

Five Growing Categories in Millennial Spending

(Source: Boston Consulting Group; The Atlantic)

Category	Spend More*	Spend Less*
Fresh Fruit & Vegetables	37%	8%
Ogranic Food	25%	9%
Natural Products	23%	10%
Environmentally Friendly Home-cleaning Items	20%	10%
Fresh Meat	19%	10%

**Spending plan over the next 12 months*

Five Shrinking Categories in Millennial Spending

(Source: Boston Consulting Group; The Atlantic)

Category	Spend More*	Spend Less*
Soda	7%	27%
Apps	8%	30%
Handbags	6%	29%
Luxury Brands	9%	34%
Restaurants	9%	42%

**Spending plan over the next 12 months*

MERGERS & ACQUISITIONS

ASSOCIATED WHOLESALERS INC. (AWI), Robesonia, PA, entered an asset purchase agreement with **C&S WHOLESALE GROCERS**, Keene, NH, in which C&S will acquire substantially all of AWI's assets, including its **WHITE ROSE** distribution business. To facilitate the transaction process, AWI and its subsidiaries filed voluntary petitions for reorganization under Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code. AWI and White Rose are expected to continue operating as normal during the sale.

BRIX HOLDINGS LLC, Dallas-based multi brand franchising company, acquired **SOUPER SALAD**, Boerne, TX, and **GREENZ**, Dallas. These companies will be used to grow Brix's portfolio of concepts specializing in healthier dining experiences and lighter fare. Souper Salad operates seven company-owned and 30 franchised all-you-care-to-eat soup and salad bar restaurants in seven states located primarily in the South and West. Greenz, with two Texas units, features salads, soups, sandwiches and smoothies.

CHANTICLEER HOLDINGS INC., Charlotte, NC, acquired **THE BURGER COMPANY**, Charlotte, NC. Chanticleer will franchise restaurants under the brand both domestically and internationally to spearhead its growth in the better burger market.

DOLLAR GENERAL CORP. went hostile by taking its $9.1 billion offer to Family Dollar Stores' shareholders. Family Dollar wants Dollar General to assume all the risks if U.S. regulators stop the deal...*Reuters* (Sept. 10)

Meanwhile, **DOLLAR TREE INC.** received a request from the **FTC** asking for more information about its proposed takeover of **FAMILY DOLLAR STORES INC.** The two discount retailers expect to receive regulatory approval for the deal with it closing as early as November. For prior details, see *Food Institute Report* Sept. 8, page 5...Wichita Eagle (Sept. 9)

FLINT HILLS RESOURCES, Wichita, KS-based refining, chemicals and grain processing company, reached an agreement to acquire an ethanol plant in Camilla, GA, from Southwest Georgia Ethanol, Pelham, GA. This will be Flint Hills Resources' seventh ethanol plant and the first outside of the Midwest. Flint Hills Resources is a subsidiary of **KOCH INDUSTRIES INC.**, Wichita, KS.

GENERAL MILLS INC., Minneapolis, agreed to acquire **ANNIE'S INC.**, Berkeley, CA, for about $820 million. Annie's will join General Mills' U.S. natural and organic products portfolio, which include the *Cascadian Farm*, *Muir Glen*, *LARABAR* and *Food Should Taste Good* brands. Net sales for these General Mills brands totaled approximately $330 million in the latest fiscal year ended May 2014. Annie's, with more that 145 products, had net sales of $204 million in the latest fiscal year ended March 2014. The transaction is expected to close this year.

MARKET FRESH PRODUCE, Nixa, MO, acquired **HARLIN FRUIT COMPANY**, Monett, MO-based produce firm. Market Fresh is in the process of upgrading its facility to serve as a repacking center.

THE MIDDLEBY CORPORATION, Elgin, IL, acquired **CONCORDIA COFFEE COMPANY INC.**, Seattle. Concordia, with approximately $15 million in annual revenues, sells automated and self-service coffee and espresso machines to convenience stores, hotels, restaurant chains and institutional customers.

FOREIGN DEALS

AJINOMOTO CO. INC., Tokyo, entered into an agreement, through its subsidiary **AJINOMOTO NORTH AMERICA INC.**, to acquire **WINDSOR QUALITY HOLDINGS LP** for $800 million. Texas-based Windsor Quality Holdings manufactures ethnic frozen foods under brands such as *Ling Ling* and *Jose Ole*. Ajinomoto, Japan's biggest seasoning maker, is making the purchase to increase its revenues from the North American frozen food market. The transaction is expected to close in November.

CHIQUITA BRANDS INTERNATIONAL will postpone a vote on its proposed merger with Irish fruit company **FYFFES** as it awaits a new bid from another potential buyer. Chiquita received a waiver from Fyffes allowing it to hold talks for a best and final offer from investment firm **SAFRA GROUP** and Brazil's **CUTRALE GROUP**. The company also extended the employment of CEO Edward Lonergan through Oct. 8, 2015 to ensure continuity. For prior details, see *Food Institute Report* Aug. 18, page 5...*Houston Chronicle* (Sept. 8)

Meanwhile, Chiquita signed a confidentiality agreement with the two Brazilian firms that are seeking to acquire the company. Cutrale and Safra will have access to Chiquita's finances and management team as talks continue...*Charlotte Observer* (Sept. 10)

BUSINESS BUZZ

DAVE & BUSTER'S ENTERTAINMENT INC. filed an initial public offering, seeking to raise about $100 million in its second return to the public markets. The Dallas-based restaurant and arcade chain plans to use proceeds from the IPO to repay debt. Dave & Buster's, owned by **OAK HILL CAPITAL PARTNERS**, currently operates 69 stores in 26 states and Canada and plans to expand overseas in 2016...*CBS* (Sept. 8)

PIONEER FOOD GROUP, South Africa, will spin off its **QUANTUM FOODS** unit. Pioneer seeks to have Quantum listed separately on the Johannesburg stock exchange Oct. 6...*Reuters* (Sept. 5)

SAN MIGUEL CORP., Philippines, is considering making a bid for **UNITED BISCUITS**, a British snack producer. United Biscuit's owners, **BLACKSTONE GROUP** and **PAI PARTNERS**, have worked on plans for the sale or public share listing of the company, with the auction reported to be worth $3.2 billion. Other companies that expressed interest include **KELLOGG** and China-based **HONY CAPITAL**...*Reuters* (Sept. 10)

SMART & FINAL STORES INC. filed for an initial public offering. Smart & Final could raise as much as $188 million, and the company would be valued at $995 million at the top end of its price range...*Reuters* (Sept. 11)

TAKING CARE WITH SOCIAL MEDIA CUES

While it is useful, relying on social media as the sole source of tracking trends can be useful, as seen by the rise and fall of **CRUMBS** and the artisan cupcake fad. Even though cupcakes were praised online as the next big thing a longterm trend never materialized and cupcakes never appeared on more than 2% of menus nationwide, reported *Fast Company* (Sept. 5).

The most important measure to look for is whether a food will one day be on more than 5% of menus among the nation's 750,000 restaurants, according to Paolo Lorenzoni, vice president of product development at **FOOD GENIUS**. While online buzz is still useful for tracking future trends, analyzing and evaluating business opportunities is still required.

Buzz can still be useful when looking for broader trends. While Sriracha sauce is big at the moment, the product is only seen on about 2% of menus. However, its rise coincides with a jump in the overall hot sauce category from 19% of menus to 21% of menus, making it part of a bigger trend.

Popularity on the internet fades, often quickly. The Cronut hit its peak in August 2013, and dropped to just 28% of its maximum searches in **GOOGLE** trend within six months.

Keeping an eye out for scalability can also help detect trends early. Chorizo chili is getting buzz in New Mexico and parts of the Mountain West, likely do to the large Latino immigrant community. By finding other areas with similar demographics, such as Chicago in this case, companies can track where a trend may be headed next if it continues growing.

WHAT AMERICA EATS

Parade Magazine worked with **NPD GROUP** to poll 1,000 Americans and learn their eating habits (Sept. 5). Some of the facts the study uncovered:

- **The number of consumers avoiding gluten fell** to 29% in 2014 from 30% in 2013.
- **Fresh fruit was the most common item** in the lunchboxes of children aged 6 to 12, packed by 48% of parents.
- **The number of consumers eating hummus** has grown 200% since 2000.
- **The average consumer eats 405 savory snacks**, 366 sweet snacks and 357 healthier snacks each year.
- **Twenty-five percent of consumers eat organic products**, up from 13% a decade ago.
- **The average number of restaurant meals dropped** to 191 per person in 2014 from 215 in 2013.
- **Fast food accounts for 79% of all meals** eaten at restaurants.
- **Seventy-seven percent of consumers eat breakfast at home**; 11% don't eat breakfast.
- **Hot sauce use at home tripled** since 1980.
- **Wraps and sandwiches account for 47%** of breakfast meals ordered at restaurants.

LATEST FINANCIAL REPORTS (000 OMITTED)

1-800 FLOWERS.COM (WESTBURY, NY)

	Current Year	% Change Year Ago
Qtr. To June 29:		
Sales:	$187,369	8.3%
Net Income:	$3,052	...
12 Mos.:		
Sales:	$756,345	2.8%
Net Income:	$14,675	19.1%

CAMPBELL SOUP CO. (CAMDEN, NJ)

	Current Year	% Change Year Ago
Qtr. To Aug. 3:		
Sales:	$1,852,000	7.5%
Net Income:	$137,000	...
12 Mos.:		
Sales:	$8,268,000	2.7%
Net Income:	$818,000	78.6%

CASEY'S GENERAL STORES INC. (ANKENY, IA)

	Current Year	% Change Year Ago
Qtr. To July 31:		
Sales:	$2,291,186	8.3%
Net Income:	$52,290	-6.1%

COFFEE HOLDING CO. INC. (BROOKLYN, NY)

	Current Year	% Change Year Ago
Qtr. To July 31:		
Sales:	$26,628	-17.7%
Net Income:	$783	...
9 Mos.:		
Sales:	$79,373	-20.9%
Net Income:	$3,453	...

EL POLLO LOCO HOLDINGS INC. (COSTA MESA, CA)

	Current Year	% Change Year Ago
Qtr. To June 25:		
Sales:	$86,904	6.3%
Net Income:	$6,569	1502.2%
6 Mos.:		
Sales:	$168,331	6.1%
Net Income:	$12,039	3339.7%

KRISPY KREME DOUGHNUTS INC. (WINSTON-SALEM, NC)

	Current Year	% Change Year Ago
Qtr. To Aug. 3:		
Sales:	$120,516	6.9%
Net Income:	$5,752	21.9%
6 Mos.:		
Sales:	$242,096	3.7%
Net Income:	$15,408	21.2%

KROGER CO. (CINCINNATI, OH)

	Current Year	% Change Year Ago
Qtr. To Aug. 16:		
Sales:	$25,310,000	11.6%
Net Income:	$347,000	9.5%
6 Mos.:		
Sales:	$58,271,000	10.6%
Net Income:	$848,000	6.3%

LIMONEIRA CO. (SANTA PAULA, CA)

	Current Year	% Change Year Ago
Qtr. To July 31:		
Sales:	$36,476	21.9%
Net Income:	$8,932	35.2%
9 Mos.:		
Sales:	$87,160	23.5%
Net Income:	$9,826	64.0%

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APPLE INTRODUCES MOBILE PAYMENT SYSTEM

APPLE will launch Apple Pay, a mobile payment platform that supports credit and debit cards from **AMERICAN EXPRESS, MASTERCARD** and **VISA**, in October. The service will use near field communication (NFC) to transfer payments. For more on NFC, see *The Food Institute Report*, Sept. 30, 2013, page 1.

Many mobile payment systems, which are also supported by NFC, are already available on Android-powered devices. Shipments of phones with NFC capabilities reached 275 million in 2013; a 128% increase from 2012's 120 million. Services that use NFC include **GOOGLE** Wallet, **LOOPPAY** and **PAYPAL**, which are faced with the problem of merchants not having the equipment to receive payment, reported *The Wall Street Journal* (Sept. 9).

Apple, however, worked with banks and retailers to get them on board before the service launched. The service will be accepted at retailers and fast food locations, including **MCDONALD'S**, **SUBWAY**, **WALGREENS** and **WHOLE FOODS MARKET**. Other companies, like **STARBUCKS**, **TARGET** and **OPENTABLE**, will integrate Apple Pay into their smartphone apps.

Apple's hardware is also different. The new iPhones will be equipped with an encrypted chip that will hold a unique number, which will be used to authorize transactions instead of the security code on the credit card.

"When you're using Apple Pay in a store, restaurant or other merchant, cashiers will no longer see your name, credit card number or security code, helping to reduce the potential for fraud," stated Apple's senior vice president of Internet Software Services, Eddy Cue. "Apple doesn't collect your purchase history, so we don't know what you bought, where you bought it or how much you paid for it."

Google Wallet tracks purchases and uses the data to target ads, which are a large part of the company's revenue source, reported *The Journal*. Consumers are concerned about security and privacy when it comes to mobile payments. Research by the **FEDERAL RESERVE** in March also found that about 75% of smartphones users believed it was easier to pay with traditional methods.

In the 12 months before March, 17% of smartphone users used their phone to make a payment at the point of sale, up from 6% in 2012. More than a third of those consumers used a barcode or QR code, while 14% tapped or waved their phone, reported *The Journal*.

"It will still be many years before mobile payments reach critical mass," stated **FORRESTER RESEARCH** analyst Denee Carrington. Many consumers will have access to Apple Pay, as the company has 800 million credit cards on file, making it easy to activate the service, reported *Wired* (Sept. 10).

Merchants, however, are not equipped with NFC readers. When Apple Pay launches in October, 220,000 stores will accept it, which is only about 2.4% of the U.S. merchants that accept credit cards, reported *TIME* (Sept. 9).

With new card technology being launched next year by credit card companies to reduce fraud, merchants may see some incentives to upgrade their point-of-sale system.

"It's not an easy change," stated LoopPay co-founder and CTO George Wallner. "It can take six to eight months to even certify a new system. Retailers look at the bottom line, and they see nobody is offering a financial incentive for them to change." Nonetheless, Wallner believes NFC will have a significant market share in a decade.

THE WHERE, WHEN AND WHAT OF AMERICAN SNACKING

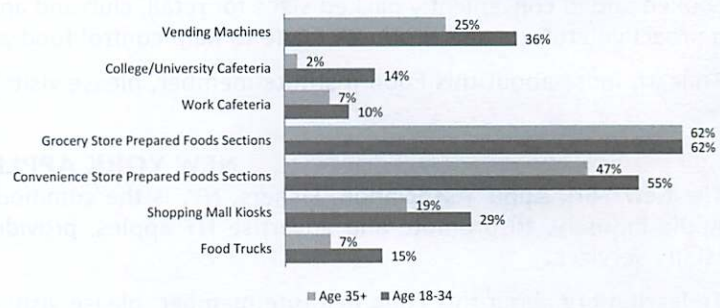
With 51% of U.S. consumers snacking at least twice a day, the market is growing rapidly. A wider assortment of foods and beverages are being considered snacks, and Americans' reasons for snacking are varied as well, reported *Prepared Foods* (August 2014).

About 54% of consumers reported hunger as a motivation to snack, while 25% snack when they are hungry but don't have time for a proper meal. Thirty-two percent cite boredom as a hunger motivator, while 28% snack just to snack.

Habit also plays an important role, with 37% of consumers snacking during certain activities.

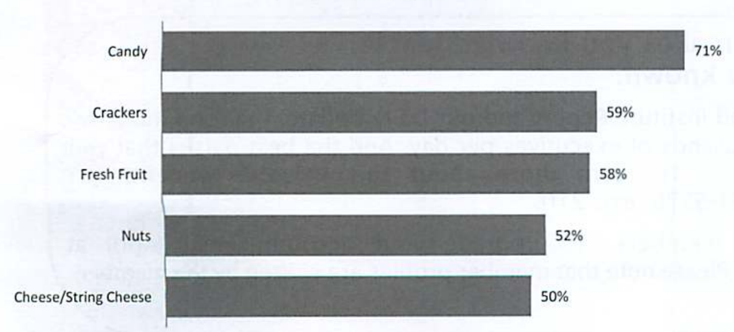
Where do you Purchase Snacks at Least Occasionally?

(Source: Technomic; Prepared Foods)



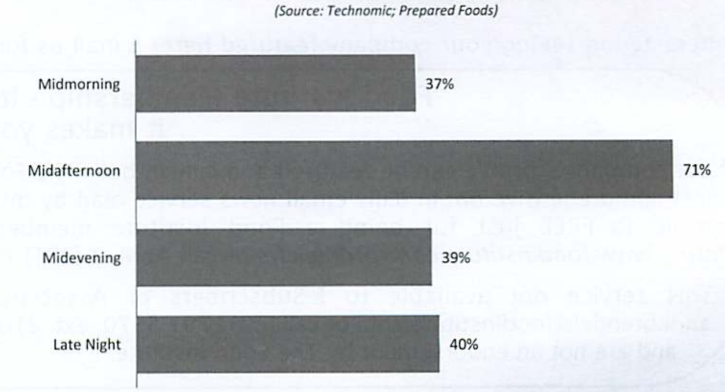
Which of the Following Snacks do you Purchase at Least Occasionally?

(Source: Technomic; Prepared Foods)



What Time of Day do you Typically Snack?

(Source: Technomic; Prepared Foods)



FI MEMBER PROFILE

IMPERIAL FROZEN FOODS

Headquartered in Monterey, CA, Imperial Frozen Foods is a leading supplier of Frozen Fruits, Frozen Vegetables, and Juice Concentrates to Industrial, Foodservice, and Retail accounts. Packer Label and Private Label packaging. For over 50 years, Imperial has delivered what they promised and always at the price quoted.

To learn more about this Food Institute member, please visit: www.imperialfrozenfoods.com.

ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

The Economic Research Service (ERS) is the main source of economic information and research from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. ERS offers accurate, timely, and comprehensive economic analysis on issues related to agriculture, food, the environment and rural America. ERS strives to provide public and private decision makers with the information they need to conduct business, formulate policy or learn about the farm, rural and food sectors.

To learn more about this Food Institute member, please visit: www.ers.usda.gov.

CHERRY MARKETING INSTITUTE

Headquartered in Lansing, MI, the Cherry Marketing Institute (CMI) is an organization funded by North American tart cherry growers and processors. Tart cherries are America's hottest new Super Fruit Tart cherries are high in antioxidants and are linked to a variety of health benefits. Research suggests that tart cherries may reduce inflammation and are an all natural way of dealing with what life throws at you. New science in the U.S. and in the U.K. shows that tart cherries improve muscle recovery by reducing muscle soreness, while maintaining muscle strength. CMI's mission is to increase the demand for tart cherries through promotion, market expansion, product development and research.

To learn more about this Food Institute meber, please visit: www.choosecherries.com.

SUZANNA'S KITCHEN INC.

Founded in 1960, Duluth, GA-based Suzanna's Kitchen has grown to be one of the premiere food companies in the South. With 359,000-sq. ft. of storage and processing space, Suzanna's Kitchen produces a broad range of prepared foods including battered, breaded, charbroiled, smoked and oven-roasted chicken, turkey, beef, pork veal and veggies, all fully cooked and in conveniently packed sizes for retail, club and and foodservice. And their product line continues to grow. With a proactive attitude and products made to help control food and labor costs, Suzanna's Kitchen is ready to serve you.

To learn more about this Food Institute member, please visit: www.suzannaskitchen.com.

NEW YORK APPLE ASSOCIATION

The New York Apple Association, Fishers, NY, is the commodity board, trade organization that represents the New York Apple Industry, to promote and advertise NY apples, provide grower informational services, and carry out government affairs services.

To learn more about this Food Institute member, please visit: www.nyapplecountry.com.

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WASHINGTON

FDA MODIFIES RULES FOR ARTISANAL CHEESE PRODUCERS

FDA on Sept. 8 again re-assured the makers of artisanal cheese that it has not banned, nor does it intend to ban, the traditional wooden boards used in the aging process.

In June, nine artisanal producers of Roquefort, Tomme de Sovie, Morbier and other cheeses were placed on Import Alert 12-10 after tests showed they were above 2010 threshold levels set for non-toxic E. coli, which doesn't cause illness but does suggest the cheese was made under unsanitary conditions, in this case the use of traditional wooden boards or shelves.

The alert was the latest in a series of encounters with artisanal cheesemakers since 2010. At that time, strains of listeria were discovered on wooden boards used at some domestic companies. The issue resurfaced in isolated incidents in 2012, then again in January of this year, when a letter to FDA from New York State dairy officials seeking clarification of certain rules fueled rumors that the boards would be banned.

Adding to the rumors was a June 11 statement issued by New York Agriculture Commissioner Richard A. Ball.

Ball said he was "very concerned about the damage [FDA] policy could do to these businesses, not only in New York, but across the country, and respectfully request a suspension of any enforcement actions until a full science-based peer review is completed. Aging artisanal cheeses on wood is a common practice used by cheesemakers for centuries."

In its own June 11 memo, FDA said that regulators "have not and are not prohibiting or banning the long-standing practice of using wood shelving in artisanal cheesemaking. Nor does the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) require any such action,"adding that the New York letter penned in January and FDA's response had "prompted concerns in the artisanal cheesemaking community.

FDA went on to explain that its response to the January letter was not intended as an official policy statement, but was provided as background information on the use of wooden shelving for aging cheeses and as an analysis of related scientific publications. "Further, we recognize that the language used in this communication may have may have appeared more definitive than it should have, in light of the agency's actual practices on this issue."

UNDERSTANDING

After talks with the **AMERICAN CHEESE SOCIETY**, FDA in its Sept. 8 update said it was working toward better understanding how artisanal cheesemakers ensure the safety of their products, and is modifying its testing processes to take artisanal cheeses into consideration. At the same time, FDA also lifted the ban on six of the nine producers placed on Import Alert 12-10 indicated in an alert modification issued Sept. 2.

All the same, fears that the artisanal cheese industry would suffer continued as late as this week, when media outlets, including the Milwaukee *Journal Sentinel* continued to criticize FDA for failing to understand the artisanal cheese process.

USITC TO INVESTIGATE BEVERAGE BREWING CAPSULES

The **U.S. INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION** (USITC) has complied with a California inventor's request and will conduct an investigation of individual capsules used in consumer machines for brewing or making beverages such as coffee and tea.

The investigation is based on a complaint filed by inventor Adrian Rivera of Whittier, CA, and **ARM ENTERPRISES, INC.** of Santa Fe Springs, CA, on Aug. 4. In his complaint, Rivera claimed the companies violated his patent for a beverage brewing capsule and related productions.

Rivera also seeks to bar the importation and sale of those products from China.

COMPANIES

AMAZON.COM and **MELITTA USA INC.** are among the companies USITC has identified as respondents, along with the following companies: **SOLOFILL LLC**, Houston, TX; **DONGUAN HAI RUI PRECISION MOULD CO., LTD**, Dong Guan City, GuanDong Province, China; **EKO BRANDS LLC**, Woodinville, WA; **EVERMUCH TECHNOLOGY CO. LTD**, Shenzhen, China; LBP MFG. INC., Cicero, IL; **LBP PACKAGING SHENZSEN CO. LTD**, Guangdong, China; **SPARK INNOVATORS CORP.**, Fairfield, NJ; and **B. MARLBOROS INTERNATIONAL LTD.**, Hong Kong.

In his complaint, Rivera claimed the companies violated his patent for a beverage brewing capsule and related productions. Rivera also seeks to bar the importation and sale of those products from China.

In May, he received a patent for his "Pod adaptor system for single service beverage brewers" (U.S. Patent No. 8,720,320).

Rivera alleged in his complaint that Melitta USA Inc., Eko Brands LLC, Spark Innovators Corp. and Solofill LLC infringed his patent, and that Amazon and others induced customers to use the products in single-serve coffee machines like those made by Keurig. Rivera claimed his products improved on Keurig's own reusable My K-Cup in several ways, including being easier to use and tamping the grounds to make better coffee.

POST-IMPORT

Amazon is included in the complaint because, as part of its fulfillment by Amazon Program, the company helps store and sell the products after they are imported.

Amazon also directly sells the Chinese product EkoBrew, which is not available from Eko Brands after it's imported.

Rivera seeks a limited exclusion order to permanently exclude the accused beverage brewing capsules from entry in the U.S., and a permanent cease and desist order to stop the importation, warehousing and sale of the allegedly infringing capsules.

As part of the complaint, the patent generally relates to accessories for single serve beverage brewers.

In particular, it relates to an adaptor assembly configured so the brewer and pods work together.

USDA PROVIDES $328 MILLION TO CONSERVE FARMLAND, WETLANDS

USDA will provide $328 million in conservation funding to help landowners protect and restore key farmlands, grasslands and wetlands across the nation, including the California Bay Delta Region, and Mississippi River and Red River Basins. The initiative will benefit wildlife and promote outdoor recreation and related sectors of the economy.

Funding is provided through the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP), created in the 2014 Farm Bill to protect critical wetlands and encourage producers to keep lands in farming and ranching. Approximately 380 projects nationwide were selected to protect and restore 32,000 acres of prime farmland, 45,000 acres of grasslands and 52,000 acres of wetlands.

Through ACEP, private or tribal landowners and eligible conservation partners working with landowners can request assistance from USDA to protect and enhance agricultural land through an agricultural or wetland easement.

NOTED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER

EXPORTS TO CUBA: The **BUREAU OF INDUSTRY AND SECURITY** seeks comments on the effectiveness of its licensing procedures for exporting agricultural commodities to Cuba. By law, the bureau must submit a biennial report to Congress every two years. The public comment period ends Oct. 6. The report is for the two-year period from Oct. 1, 2012 through Sept. 30. (Sept. 4)

RAW FRUIT FROM HAWAII: **USDA**'s **ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE** is amending the rules for the import and interstate transportation of new fruits and from Hawaii and the U.S. territories including Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, as well as the removal of commodity-specific phytosanitary requirements from those regulations. The amendments will better expedite getting produce to market and rule out pests in a timelier manner. The 60-day comment period ends Nov. 10. (Sept. 9)

CFTC RE-ESTABLISHING COMMITTEE: The **COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION** (CFTC) is re-establishing the **AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE.** The commission will sit for two years. Commission responsibilities include activities to aid CFTC in assessing issues impacting agricultural producers, lenders, and others impacted by the agricultural commodity, futures and swaps markets. The **GLOBAL MARKETS ADVISORY COMMITTEE** is also being re-established for two years. (Sept. 9)

EGG PRODUCTS MOVE TO AMS: Starting Nov. 10, USDA's **FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE** (FSIS) will no longer issue export certificates for FDA-regulated prepared or manufactured food products that contain egg products as an ingredient. Instead, certification will be provided by the **AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE** (AMS). The 60-day public comment period ends Nov. 10. (Sept. 10)

GRADING AG COMMODITIES: AMS seeks to standardize the formulas used to calculate fees charged for providing voluntary grading, inspection, certification, auditing and laboratory services for a variety of agricultural commodities including meat and poultry, fruits and vegetables, eggs, dairy products, and cotton and tobacco. The purpose is to provide greater transparency on how fees are derived. The fees would also apply to those persons requesting such services including producers, handlers, processors, importers and exporters. Fees charged for inspection of fruits, vegetables, and specialty crops subject to the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937 also would be affected by this rule. The fees will be announced annually by June 1 and take effect at the start of the fiscal year, crop year, or as required by specific laws. The public comment period ends Oct. 10. (Sept. 10)

MACADAMIA INSURANCE: The **FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION** (FCIC) proposes to amend the Common Crop insurance regulations, macadamia tree crop insurance and the macadamia nut crop insurance provisions to remove the provision requiring an optional unit to contain at least 80 acres to better meet producers' needs and provide policy changes. The amended regulations would go into effect for macadamia trees in 2016, and 2017 for macadamia nuts. The comment period ends on Sept. 30. (Aug. 1).

FOOD PRODUCT RECALLS REPORTED

TULLIA'S voluntarily recalled its Italian Meatless Pasta Sauce packaged in 16-oz. and 32-oz. clear glass bottles with white caps sold in the Spokane, WA area. The recall began Sept. 3 and is ongoing. ***Reason for Recall***: "A pH level high enough to allow the growth of Clostridium botulinum. If present, this organism can cause botulism."

CUSTOM INGREDIENTS LLC, New Braunfels, TX, is recalling various cheese pre-mixes used in manufacturing cheese dip. The recall began Feb. 25 and is ongoing. ***Reason for Recall***: "Undeclared wheat."

CONSOLIDATED MILLS, Houston, TX, voluntarily recalled its *Dos Padres* brand Southwest Queso and Chipotle Queso, and its *Truly Texas* Chipotle Con Queso. The recall began Feb. 25 and is ongoing. ***Reason for Recall***: "Undeclared wheat due to a supplier's inadvertent use of a wheat product instead of whey in preparing the cheese pre-mix for the recalling firm."

CREATIVE FOODWORKS INC., San Antonio, TX, voluntarily recalled its *Silver Star* brand of Tex-Mex Queso and Chipotle Queio, Native Texan Queso, Central Market Hatch Green Chile Queso Salsa, and Crazy Jerry's Da Big Cheese. The recall began on Feb. 25 and is ongoing. ***Reason for Recall***: "Undeclared wheat due to a supplier's inadvertent use of a wheat product instead of whey in preparing the cheese pre-mix for the recalling firm."

MARS CHOCOLATE NORTH AMERICA, Mount Olive, NJ, on Sept. 6 voluntarily recalled its *TWIX* Unwrapped Bites 7 oz. Stand Up Pouch shipped to warehouses in Indiana, Texas, Oregon, Tennessee and Connecticut and were then re-distributed for retail sale nationwide. The firm-initiated recall is ongoing ***Reason for Recall***: "May contain product containing peanuts and eggs without listing them on the ingredient label."

PLUM ORGANICS, Emeryville, CA, on Sept. 5 voluntarily recalled all of its *Little Cremes* rice milk snacks, including Super Purples, Super Reds and Super Greens. The firm-initiated recall is ongoing. ***Reason for Recall***: "The product has the potential to cause choking."

$518M IN RUS LOANS WILL HELP UPGRADE RURAL GRIDS

Farmers, fruit and vegetable growers and others will benefit when **USDA** through its **RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE** (RUS) invests more than $518 million in rural electric cooperatives to upgrade electric service throughout 15 states. Funding is part of nearly $50 billion that USDA has invested in infrastructure improvements since 2009.

More than $23 million is targeted for smart grid improvements that provide for smart grid technologies including automated meter ready and load management automation.

The money will be used for building or improving more than 5,600 miles of lines throughout rural areas in Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, New Mexico, Nebraska, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota and Texas.

U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE REJECTS PETITION TO KEEP OYSTER COMPANY OPEN

U.S. District Judge Yvonne Gonzalez Rogers on Sept. 9 rejected a petition to keep open a Marin County, CA oyster farm. The **U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR** (DOI) failed to renew **DRAKES BAY OYSTYER COMPANY**'s 40-year offshore lease. The license was not renewed because the lease expired in December 2012, and the company was was operating off Point Reyes National Seashore, in waters that were, in 1976, designated as a future marine wilderness area.

YOU SHOULD KNOW...

...The **U.S. INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION** (USITC) is expediting a 5-year review concerning the antidumping duty order on certain frozen fish fillets from Vietnam. The Uruguay Round Agreements Act requires the Department of Commerce to revoke an antidumping or countervailing duty order, or terminate a suspension agreement, after five years unless the department and USITC determine that revoking the order or terminating the suspension agreement would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of dumping or subsidies and of material injury within a reasonably foreseeable time.

....Organic farming is becoming more affordable thanks to **USDA** cost share programs. Funds available through participating states will total nearly $13 million this year, according to USDA. Under the program small farms and fruit and vegetable operations are reimbursed 75% of certification costs to a maximum $750 a year per certification. According to USDA, farmers who spent $500 for certification would save $375 thanks to reimbursements.

...The **U.S. TRADE COMMISSION** is seeking applicants for membership on The President's Advisory Council on Doing Business in Africa. Applications are due to the **OFFICE OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES AND INDUSTRY OUTREACH** by Tuesday, Sept. 30. The committee's purpose is to identify and invest in trade opportunities, including growing and improving Africa's agricultural sector through partnerships with U.S. businesses.

TOMALES BAY OYSTER COMPANY and four seafood restaurants argued they would lose customers and seafood supplies should the company be closed. In addition, the government's decision violated environmental laws and ignored the public's interest.

In rejecting the petition, Gonzalez said its arguments were those she rejected when Drakes Bay owners filed suit in March 2013.

The injunction would have allowed Drakes Bay to continue operating while state and federal officials considered the environmental effects of oyster harvesting, reported the *San Francisco Chronicle* (Sept. 9).

TRADE COMMISSION ISSUES PRELIMINARY FINDINGS ON SHRIMP DUTY REVIEW

The **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE** (DOC) determined 58 of 60 companies from the People's Republic of China are not eligible for a separate rate following an administrative review of the antidumping duty order on certain frozen warm water shrimp from the People's Republic of China between Feb. 1 2013, through Jan. 31 2014.

The DOC-initiated the review on Apr. 1. Only **SHANTOU YUEXING ENTERPRISE COMPANY**, **RIZHAO SMART FOODS CO. LTD.**, and **ZHANJIAN REGAL INTEGRATED MARINE RESOURCES CO. LTD** submitted "no shipment certifications." No companies under review filed separate rate certifications of applications, the DOC noted in its preliminary results. Preliminary findings find that SYEC and Regal had no shipments during the review period, so the companies retain their separate rate status.

Because Smart Foods was previously found to be part of the entity in review, no determination was made and the company will be considered with the remaining 57 companies as part of the PRC-wide entity, according to DOC. Since no request was made to review the companies under that collective umbrella, however, no rate changes were made.

Antidumping duties will be determined after final results are issued in January.

USTR SETS FY 2015 SUGAR QUOTAS

The **OFFICE OF THE U.S. TRADE REPRESENTATIVE** has set tariff-rate quota allocations for raw cane, refined and specialty sugar, and sugar-containing products for fiscal year 2015.

More than 1.1 million metric tons raw value will be allocated, with the highest allocations going to the Dominican Republic (185,335), Brazil (153,691) and the Philippines (142,160). Allocations are based on the countries' historical shipments to the U.S.

MARKETS

PRODUCE

Analyst: Chris Valentine 201-791-5570 ext. 225 chris.valentine@foodinstitute.com

CALIFORNIA CROP UPDATE – Pineapple quince and Asian pears were harvested. Stone fruit continued to be exported. Valencia orange harvest continued. Pomegranates were harvested, while persimmons were nearing harvest. Late variety nectarines, peaches and plums were harvested. County lemons were harvested. Tomato harvest continued across the state with treatment for powdery mildew and tomato fruit worm reported. The melon harvest neared completion in Merced and Fresno counties. Honeydew melon harvest continued in Tulare County, with good quality reported. In Tulare County, summer vegetables were harvested including tomatoes, green beans, squash, eggplant and sweet corn. In Imperial County, broccoli and cauliflower were planted. Sweet corn planting finished with projected harvest to start the first week of November.

FRESH FRUIT IMPORTS – Total U.S. import volume of pineapples reached 1.4 billion-lbs., a 13% increase from its 2013 total of 1.3 billion-lbs. Pineapples had the highest import total compared to all other fruits during the five-month period. Meanwhile, Hass avocados continued to increase imports with 875.5 million-lbs. in the first seven months of 2014, a 22% spike compared to 2013.

SELECTED U.S. IMPORTS OF FRESH FRUITS, JAN. 1-JULY 31, 2014

(Source: Bureau of Census)

Commodity	Pounds (1,000)	% Chg. Last Yr.
Apples	306,057	-1%
Avocados, Hass	875,476	22%
Cantaloupes	721,957	-3%
Cultivated Blueberries	119,288	-15%
Grapefruit	18,675	184%
Kiwi Fruit	84,959	-12%
Lemons	22,146	69%
Limes	44,014	-2%
Mand., Sats., Clem., Wilk.	37,576	71%
Melons, NESOI	287,603	6%
Nectarines	21,383	-50%
Oranges, NESOI	161,336	41%
Papayas	212,453	-3%
Peaches	22,377	-35%
Pineapples	1,429,183	13%
Plantains	405,548	4%
Raspberries	55,795	39%
Seedless Watermelons	249,897	48%
Strawberries	289,644	9%
Tangerines	2,523	-19%
Watermelons	70,992	-6%

Commodity	Source	Movement	Trading	Prices	Details
Asparagus	Peru	Same	Moderate	Unchanged	Eleven pound cartons bunched green jumbo mostly $23.50-$24.50, extra large mostly $22.00-$23.00, large mostly $23.00-$24.00, standard mostly $22.50-$23.50, small mostly $13.00-$14.00. Quality generally good.
Avocado	Mexico crossing through Texas	↑	Fairly active	Prices 32s and 36s generally unchanged, others higher	Cartons 2 layer Hass 32s mostly $37.25-$38.25, 36s mostly $37.25-$38.25, 40s $36.25-$38.25, 48s $37.25-$38.25, 60s mostly $37.25-$38.25, 70s $34.25-$36.25, 84s mostly $27.25-$28.25. Extra services included.
Bell Peppers	San Joaquin Valley, CA	Same	Green active, others very slow	Green higher, others lower	One 1/9 bushel cartons green extra large $7.95-$8.95, large mostly $6.95-$7.95, medium mostly $6.45-$7.50; irregular size fair quality green mostly $5.95-$6.45, red and yellow $10.95-$12.95. Fifteen pound cartons extra large and large Red mostly $8.95. Quality generally good.
Cucumbers	Michigan	Same	Moderate	Medium unchanged, others slightly higher	One 1/9 bushel cartons medium mostly $13.85-$14.95, fair quality $5.00-$6.00, cartons 24s mostly $5.00. Quality variable.
Lettuce, Iceberg	Salinas-Watsonville, Ca	Same	24s active at lower prices, 30s active at lower prices	24s lower, 30s lower	Cartons 24s film lined mostly $17.05-$18.56, film wrapped mostly $18.05-$19.56; 30s film wrapped mostly $13.35-$14.65. Quality variable.
Pears	Yakima Valley and Wenatchee District, WA	↑	Active	Unchanged	One Bartlett 70-90s mostly $26.00-$28.00; 100s mostly $24.00 $26.00; 110s $22.00-$24.00; 120-135s mostly $22.00. Quality generally good.
Tomatoes	Central California	Same	Early slow, late moderate	↑	Twenty-five pound cartons loose mature green extra large, large and medium mostly $5.95. Quality variable.

FRESH PRODUCE TRACKING – The **UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA** developed a tracking system to inform shippers which fresh produce is closest to expiration. Researchers placed two radio frequency identification devices into pallets of strawberries, allowing them to track the fruit's temperature throughout the shipping process from the field to retail, reported *Southeast Farm Press* (Sept. 8).

APPLE PRODUCTION – The 2014 U.S. apple crop is estimated at 263.8 million bushels, according to the **U.S. APPLE ASSOCIATION**. The estimate is slightly higher than **USDA**'s estimate of 259.2 million bushels, a 10% increase compared to 2013. The 2014 crop will be the third-largest in U.S. history if the prediction holds, reported *Fruit Growers News* (Sept. 9).

WASHINGTON APPLES – Washington apple producers expect to market 140.2 million 40-lbs. boxes this season despite recent hot days in Washington. Overall temperatures had a positive effect on the apple crop, with increased high-density plantings contributing to the apple volume, reported *The Produce News* (Sept. 3).

TEXAS ORANGES – The Port of Houston will receive shipments of oranges from South Africa, for sale throughout the Midwest. **CAPESPAN NORTH AMERICA** and **SEALD SWEET INTERNATIONAL** received seven containers of navel oranges as part of a pilot program. Four more containers were expected in a second shipment around Sept. 9. South Africa exports about 42,000 tons annually to the U.S. and is available June through October, reported *The Packer* (Sept. 3).

BLUEBERRY PRICES – Blueberry prices could increase in September, depending on how quick Northwest volumes decline and how quickly Argentinean volumes ramp up, according to Mario Flores, director of blueberry product management for **NATURIPE FARMS**. USDA reported blueberry prices of $22.00-$26.00 for flats of 12 6-oz. cups mediums and larges from Michigan, up from $18.50-$22.50 during the same period last year, reported *The Packer* (Sept. 4).

CANNED VEGETABLES

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IMPORTS – Imports decreased 3% in volume but increased 1% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 326.8 million-lbs. were imported compared with 337.3 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $307.6 million, up from $305.7 million in 2013.

ARTICHOKES – Imports rose 41% in volume and 35% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 47.7 million-lbs. imported compared with 33.7 million-lbs. in 2013 with the total cost about $54.0 million, up from $40.0 million in 2013.

ASPARAGUS – Imports dropped 35% in volume and 42% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. The decrease was driven by Peru as its exports were 10.2 million-lbs. compared with 16.0 million-lbs. in 2013 with the total cost about $13.3 million, down from $23.5 million in 2013.

CARROTS – Imports decreased 22% in volume and 25% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 4.5 million-lbs. were delivered compared with 5.8 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $1.5 million, down from $2.0 million in 2013.

Cases of private label sliced carrots 24/300 are around $12.00, f.o.b. Midwest. Foodservice 6/10 cases are priced at $17.50, f.o.b. Midwest

SELECTED CANNED/GLASS VEGETABLE IMPORTS
JAN. 1 - JULY 31, 2014
(Source: Bureau of Census)

	Pounds (1,000)	% Chg. Last Yr.	Dollars ($1,000)	% Chg. Last Yr.
Mush., NESOI, Under 225g	**14,587**	**-25%**	**$20,613**	**-18%**
Netherlands	5,539	-34%	$7,976	-21%
Mush., NESOI, Over 225g	**18,974**	**-1%**	**$22,749**	**21%**
Netherlands	12,240	68%	$15,033	96%
Potatoes	**35,210**	**-11%**	**$50,847**	**0%**
Mexico	22,031	-2%	$41,506	4%
Peas	**10,780**	**-25%**	**$10,428**	**-10%**
China	2,382	-20%	$2,247	-13%
Beans, Shelled	**47,746**	**6%**	**$27,538**	**4%**
Canada	12,047	1%	$5,965	-14%
Beans, Not Shelled	**15,262**	**-7%**	**$8,634**	**-5%**
Canada	5,785	-6%	$2,092	-3%
Asparagus	**10,606**	**-35%**	**$13,689**	**-42%**
Peru	10,210	-36%	$13,258	-43%
Sweet Corn	**10,491**	**4%**	**$4,303**	**-7%**
Thailand	6,934	10%	$2,758	-4%
Bamboo Shoots	**24,136**	**-29%**	**$11,868**	**-16%**
China	19,172	-36%	$7,796	-30%
Artichokes	**47,739**	**41%**	**$54,019**	**35%**
Peru	28,688	71%	$33,206	61%
Mixed Vegetables	**12,561**	**1%**	**$22,778**	**6%**
Greece	8,497	-10%	$16,052	-1%
Onions	**11,060**	**12%**	**$12,975**	**-2%**
Mexico	2,690	-15%	$4,770	-22%
Chickpeas (Garbanzos)	**17,033**	**-1%**	**$16,269**	**3%**
Canada	6,293	12%	$8,673	24%
TOTAL	**326,808**	**-3%**	**$ 307,639**	**1%**

BEANS – Imports for shelled beans increased 6% in volume and 4% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 47.7 million-lbs. were imported compared with 44.9 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $27.5 million, rising from $26.4 million in 2013.

Imports for non-shelled beans decreased 7% in volume and 5% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 15.3 million-lbs. were delivered compared with 16.3 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $8.6 million, down from $9.1 million in 2013.

Private label 24/300 cases of cut green beans are at $11.75-$12.00 and wax green beans have been priced around $12.25, f.o.b. Midwest. For 6/10 wax beans, prices are around $21.00, f.o.b. Midwest. Foodservice prices for 6/10 canned cut green beans are around $18.00, f.o.b. Midwest.

Private label 12/28 cases of fancy cut green beans are at $17.00, f.o.b. Mid-Atlantic. Foodservice 6/10 cases of red beans are priced at $19.00, f.o.b. Mid-Atlantic. Food service 6/10 cases of pinto beans are around $18.00, f.o.b. Mid-Atlantic. Private label 12/28 cases of dried beans are at $16.50, f.o.b. Mid-Atlantic.

USDA OFFERS TO BUY CANNED BEANS – On Sept. 9, **USDA** offered to purchase seven different types of canned dried beans for a total of 101,952 cases for federal food nutrition assistance programs. Bids are due Sept. 16 and acceptances will be announced on Sept. 23. Deliveries are to be made between Jan. 1 and Dec. 31, 2015. For more information, contact USDA at (202)720-4517.

CORN – Imports for sweet corn decreased 4% in volume but declined 7% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 10.5 million-lbs. were imported compared with 10.1 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $4.3 million, dropping from $4.6 million in 2013.

Food service 6/10 cases of whole kernel golden corn are priced around $24.50, f.o.b. Mid-Atlantic. Private cases 12/28 of whole kernel golden corn are priced around $16.50, f.o.b. Mid-Atlantic.

Canned 24/300 cases of private label whole kernel corn are priced $12.00, f.o.b. Midwest. Cases of 6/10 sizes foodservice are selling at $20.00, f.o.b. Midwest.

MUSHROOMS – Imports for mushrooms under 225g decreased 25% in volume and 18% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 14.6 million-lbs. were imported compared with 19.6 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $20.6 million, dropping from $25.1 million in 2013.

Imports for mushrooms over 225g rose 21% in dollar value but decreased 1% in volume in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. The total cost was about $22.7 million, increasing from $18.9 million in 2013. About 19.0 million-lbs. were imported compared with 19.2 million-lbs. in 2013.

MIXED VEGETABLES – Imports increased 1% in volume and 6% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 12.6 million-lbs. were delivered compared with 12.5 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $22.8 million, up from $21.4 million in 2013.

Prices for foodservice 6/10 cases of mixed vegetables are $23.00, f.o.b. Midwest. Private label prices for canned 24/300 mixed vegetables are around $12.25, f.o.b. Midwest.

PEAS – Imports dropped 25% in volume and 10% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 10.8 million-lbs. were imported compared with 14.4 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $10.4 million, down from $11.5 million in 2013.

Imports of garbanzos decreased 1% in volume but rose 3% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 17.1 million-lbs. were delivered compared with 17.2 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $16.3 million, rising from $15.9 million in 2013.

Canned 24/300 cases of private label blended sweet peas are priced around $13.50, f.o.b. Midwest with inventory fair at best. Cases of foodservice 6/10 blended sweet peas are at $24.00, f.o.b. Midwest.

POTATOES – Imports decreased 11% in volume while dollar value was flat in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 35.2 million-lbs. were delivered, compared with 39.4 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $50.8 million for both years.

Cases of foodservice 6/10 blended sweet peas are priced at $24.00, f.o.b. Midwest. Canned 24/300 cases of private label blended are priced around $12.00, f.o.b. Midwest, with inventory fair at best.

USDA OFFERS TO BUY CANNED POTATOES – On Sept. 5, USDA offered to purchase 44,688 cases of 6/10 cans of sweet potatoes with syrup for federal food nutrition assistance programs. Bids are due Sept. 16 and acceptances will be announced on Sept. 26. Deliveries are to be made between Jan. 1 and Dec. 31, 2015.

SAUERKRAUT – Imports increased 4% in volume and 5% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 5.8 million-lbs. were imported compared with 5.6 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $2.3 million, up from $2.1 million in 2013.

TOMATO PRODUCTS

Analyst: James P. Hickey 201.791.5570 ext. 227 james.hickey@foodinstitute.com

OVERVIEW – The **CALIFORNIA PROCESSING TOMATO ADVISORY BOARD** reported processing tomato deliveries of 1.1 million tons, bringing the season-to-date total to about 9.0 million tons. This is the second highest total this year processed. Northern crops are ripening faster than planned, moving harvests one to two weeks sooner than anticipated while field yields are slipping slightly below forecast in south and central growing areas.

CANNED – Imports decreased 31% in volume but increased 19% in dollar value in a marketing year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 5.2 million-lbs. were imported compared with 7.2 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $3.1 million, rising from $2.6 million in 2013.

CANNED TOMATO IMPORTS
MARKETING YEAR 2014/15
JUNE 1 - JULY 31
(Source: Bureau of Census)

	Pounds (1,000)	% Chg. Last Yr.	Dollars ($1,000)	% Chg. Last Yr.
Containers 1.4 kg or more				
Italy	1,204	-20%	$821	20%
Turkey	268	-87%	$486	-7%
TOTAL	**2,507**	**-41%**	**$1,862**	**25%**
Containers less than 1.4 kg				
Canada	743	-18%	$238	12%
Mexico	426	-30%	$199	-31%
Italy	948	149%	$426	213%
TOTAL	**2,436**	**10%**	**$1,055**	**44%**
Other Canned Tomatoes				
Canada	101	-33%	$61	-57%
TOTAL	**248**	**-75%**	**$211**	**-49%**
GRAND TOTAL	**5,191**	**-31%**	**$3,128**	**19%**

DICED TOMATOES – Foodservice sizes of diced tomatoes are $15.50-$16.50, f.o.b. West Coast and around $16.25, f.o.b. Mid-Atlantic.

Private label 12/28 cases are priced between $9.00-$15.30, f.o.b. Mid-Atlantic.

KETCHUP – Imports decreased 80% in volume and 78% in dollar value in a marketing year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 2.0 million-lbs. were delivered compared with 9.7 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $1.5 million, dropping from $6.6 million in 2013.

Foodservice 6/10 cases of fancy ketchup are priced around $19.00, f.o.b. Mid-Atlantic and f.o.b. West Coast. Private label cases 12/28 are between $9.00-$15.30, f.o.b. Mid-Atlantic.

PASTE – Imports for paste in containers 1.4 kg or more decreased 57% in volume and 63% in dollar value in a marketing year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 270,000-lbs. were imported compared with 626,000-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $199,000, dropping from $542,000 in 2013.

Imports for paste in containers 1.4 kg or less increased 82% in volume and 69% in dollar value in a marketing year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 11.3 million-lbs. were delivered compared with 717,000-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $843,000, dropping from $498,000 in 2013.

Foodservice-sized cans of tomato paste, 6/10, are selling at $25.00-$26.00, f.o.b. West Coast. Foodservice 6/10 cases are priced around $30.75, f.o.b. Mid-Atlantic.

TOMATO PRODUCT IMPORTS MARKETING YEAR 2014/15 JUNE 1 - JULY 31

(Source: Bureau of Census)

	Pounds (1,000)	% Chg. Last Yr.	Dollars ($1,000)	% Chg. Last Yr.
Sauce, Containers less than 1.4 kg				
Mexico	5,935	22%	$3,334	32%
Dom. Rep.	1,265	42%	$510	66%
TOTAL	**7,978**	**22%**	**$4,608**	**26%**
Tomato-Based Prep. For Sauce less than 1.4 kg				
Italy	8,753	-32%	$2,159	-42%
Canada	54	-59%	$63	-54%
TOTAL	**9,145**	**-33%**	**$2,530**	**-41%**
Tomato-Based Prep. For Sauce, NESOI				
Italy	29,175	15%	$11,665	32%
Canada	562	11%	$647	18%
TOTAL	**30,988**	**13%**	**$12,830**	**29%**
Ketchup				
Canada	1,766	-81%	$1,267	-80%
TOTAL	**1,958**	**-80%**	**$1,450**	**-78%**
Paste, Containers less than 1.4 kg				
Italy	745	165%	$502	121%
TOTAL	**1,302**	**82%**	**$843**	**69%**

PIZZA SAUCE – Foodservice 6/10 cases are priced at about $16.75-$21.50, f.o.b. Mid-Atlantic. Foodservice 6/10 are selling at $19.00-$23.00, f.o.b. West Coast.

PUREE – Imports for puree in containers 1.4 kg or more decreased 57% in volume and 63% in dollar value in a marketing year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 270,000-lbs. were imported compared with 626,000-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $199,000, dropping from $542,000 in 2013.

Imports for puree in containers 1.4 kg or less increased 82% in volume and 69% in dollar value in a marketing year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 104,000-lbs. were delivered compared with 208,000-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $109,000, increasing from $108,000 in 2013.

Canned tomato puree in foodservice 6/10 is selling at $16.00-$16.50, f.o.b. West Coast. Foodservice 6/10 cases are priced around $17.50-$19.50, f.o.b. Mid-Atlantic. Private label 12/28 cases are priced between $9.00-$15.30, f.o.b. Mid-Atlantic.

SAUCE – Imports for sauce in containers 1.4 kg or more decreased 29% in volume and 19% in dollar value in a marketing year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 770,000-lbs. were imported compared with 1.1 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $844,000, down from $1.0 million in 2013.

Sauce imports in containers 1.4 kg or less increased 22% in volume and 26% in dollar value in a marketing year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 8.0 million-lbs. were imported compared with 6.6 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $4.6 million, rising from $3.7 million in 2013.

Foodservice 6/10 cases priced around $15.50 while private label 12/28 cases are priced between $9.00-$15.30, f.o.b. Mid-Atlantic. Tomato sauce in foodservice 6/10 cans are selling at $13.50-$14.00, f.o.b. West Coast.

USDA OFFERS TO BUY MEATLESS SAUCE – On Sept. 3, **USDA** offered to purchase 4,860 cases of 24/300 meatless spaghetti sauce for federal food nutrition assistance programs. Bid acceptances will be announced on Sept. 19. Deliveries are to be made between Oct. 1 and Dec. 15. For more information, contact USDA at (202)720-4517.

STEWED – Foodservice 6/10 cases are selling around $18.75, f.o.b. Mid-Atlantic. Private label 12/28 cases are priced between $9.00-$15.30, f.o.b. Mid-Atlantic.

Stewed tomatoes in foodservice 6/10 cans are selling at $20.50, f.o.b. West Coast.

TOMATO JUICE – Foodservice 12/46 cases are priced around $16.15, f.o.b. Mid-Atlantic.

FROZEN VEGETABLES

Analyst: James P. Hickey 201.791.5570 ext. 227 james.hickey@foodinstitute.com

IMPORTS – Shipments increased 2% in volume but remain flat in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 1.4 billion-lbs. were imported compared with 1.3 billion-lbs. in 2013. The total cost for both years was about $662.8 million.

ASPARAGUS – Imports increased 31% in volume but declined 1% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 9.8 million-lbs. were imported compared with 7.5 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $8.4 million, down from $8.5 million in 2013.

BRUSSELS SPROUTS – Imports rose 40% in volume and 46% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 29.1 million-lbs. were delivered compared with 20.7 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $13.3 million, rising from $9.1 million in 2013.

BROCCOLI – Imports for spears increased 46% in volume and 39% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 21.5 million-lbs. were imported compared with 14.8 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $11.6 million, up from $8.3 million in 2013.

CAULIFLOWER – Imports increased 5% in volume and 10% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 40.6 million-lbs. were delivered compared with 38.5 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $19.6 million, up from $17.8 million in 2013.

CARROTS – Foodservice 20-lb. diced are selling at 48-52 cents and sliced selling around 70 cents per pound, f.o.b. Midwest.

CORN – Imports for sweet corn increased 3% in volume but dropped 2% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 26.7 million-lbs. were delivered compared with 25.8 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $14.9 million, down from $15.1 million in 2013.

Twenty pound cartons of cut corn are in the mid-$0.60s, f.o.b. Midwest. Foodservice 96-ear grade A cob corn is selling around $11.00, f.o.b. Northwest.

GREEN BEANS – Imports for whole beans increased 1% in volume but decrease 1% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 25.3 million-lbs. were import compared with 25.1 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $18.8 million, down from $10.1 million in 2013.

Imports for cut beans decreased 1% in volume and 7% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 18.7 million-lbs. were imported delivered with 18.9 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $10.2 million, dropping from $11.9 million in 2013.

Foodservice 20-lb. cartons are being seen between low-to-mid-50 cents, f.o.b. Midwest.

SELECTED FROZEN VEGETABLE IMPORTS JAN. 1 - JULY 31, 2014

(Source: Bureau of Census)

Item	Pounds (1,000)	% Chg. Last Yr.	Dollars ($1,000)	% Chg. Last Yr.
Peas	**39,070**	**13%**	**$22,388**	**12%**
Guatemala	11,204	-3%	$6,698	1%
Whole Green Beans	**25,287**	**1%**	**$18,848**	**-1%**
Guatemala	8,313	-12%	$7,446	-18%
Cut Green Beans	**18,652**	**-1%**	**$10,231**	**-7%**
Canada	17,041	4%	$9,454	-4%
Spinach	**53,157**	**16%**	**$20,407**	**20%**
Mexico	22,371	17%	$10,615	19%
Sweet Corn	**26,682**	**3%**	**$14,894**	**-2%**
Canada	20,245	10%	$10,299	4%
Brussels Sprouts	**29,065**	**40%**	**$13,298**	**46%**
Belgium	16,751	18%	$7,338	24%
Broccoli Spears	**21,541**	**46%**	**$11,588**	**39%**
Mexico	9,070	14%	$6,138	20%
Cauliflower	**40,597**	**5%**	**$19,600**	**10%**
Mexico	34,461	8%	$17,198	13%
Mixed Vegetables	**97,012**	**-1%**	**$58,108**	**1%**
Mexico	50,954	-2%	$32,511	1%
French Fries	**868,524**	**-2%**	**$374,367**	**-6%**
Canada	863,829	0%	$372,354	-4%
Potatoes	**151,092**	**5%**	**$69,606**	**6%**
Canada	147,854	7%	$67,280	6%
TOTAL	**1,421,342**	**2%**	**$662,860**	**0%**

MIXED VEGETABLES – Imports declined 1% in volume while rising 1% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 97.0 million-lbs. were delivered compared with 97.8 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $58.1 million, rising from $57.5 million in 2013.

MUSHROOMS – Imports increased 28% in volume and 21% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 21.1 million-lbs. were imported compared with 16.5 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $11.6 million, rising from $9.6 million in 2013.

PEAS – Imports increased 13% in volume and 12% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 39.1 million-lbs. were delivered compared with 34.7 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $22.4 million, rising from $20.0 million in 2013.

Foodservice 20-lb. cases are about 85-90 cents per pound, f.o.b. Midwest.

POTATOES – Imports increased 5% in volume and 6% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. The increase was driven by imports from Canada, where about 147.9 million-lbs. came from compared with 138.4 million-lbs. in 2013 while the total cost was about $67.3 million, rising from $63.3 million in 2013.

Imports of French fries declined 2% in volume and 6% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 868.5 million-lbs. were imported compared with 885.3 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $374.4 million, dropping from $397.0 million in 2013.

SPINACH – Imports increased 16% in volume and 20% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 53.2 million-lbs. were delivered compared with 45.7 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $20.4 million, rising from $17.0 million in 2013.

CANNED FRUIT

Analyst: Chris Valentine 201-791-5570 ext. 225 chris.valentine@foodinstitute.com

IMPORTS – U.S. imports of apricots totaled 1.4 million-lbs. in the first seven months of 2014, decreasing 43% from last year's total. Apricot imports were valued at $970,000 thus far in 2014. Meanwhile, pear imports of 1.4 kg or more, increased 2% to 244.2 million-lbs. compared to 2013.

Pineapple was the fruit most imported in the first seven months, but still declined by 9%. Thailand contributed a third of pineapple imports with 185.7 million-lbs.

SELECTED CANNED/GLASS FRUIT IMPORTS JAN. 1-JULY 31, 2014

(Source: Bureau of Census)

	Pounds (1,000)	% Chg. Last Yr.	Dollars ($1,000)	% Chg. Last Yr.
Apricots - NESOI				
China	1,137	-41%	$495	-30%
TOTAL	**1,393**	**-43%**	**$970**	**-25%**
Mandarins & Satsumas - NESOI				
China	127,793	-10%	$75,507	-17%
TOTAL	**128,486**	**-10%**	**$75,985**	**-16%**
Mandarins & Tangerines- NESOI				
China	20,618	12%	$8,212	7%
TOTAL	**25,061**	**27%**	**$9,756**	**19%**
Pears - NESOI- Less Than 1.4 Kg				
China	12,630	-35%	$9,065	-28%
TOTAL	**14,002**	**-34%**	**$10,353**	**-27%**
Pears - NESOI - 1.4 Kg Or More				
China	21,573	-4%	$8,192	9%
TOTAL	**24,217**	**2%**	**$9,755**	**18%**
Pineapples - Sugared				
Thailand	22,769	-17%	$12,233	-13%
TOTAL	**50,173**	**-12%**	**$21,866**	**-17%**
Pineapples - NESOI				
Thailand	185,652	-4%	$84,236	1%
TOTAL	**348,355**	**-9%**	**$152,015**	**-5%**

APRICOTS – Total U.S. canned NESOI apricot volume was 1.4 million-lbs., with nearly all imports coming from China. The total volume for the first seven months of 2014 is 43% less than last year.

Unpeeled 6/10 in light syrup are between 35 and 75 cents a pound, f.o.b. California. Foodservice unpeeled apricots in juice are $36.50 in a 6/10 case. Apricot inventories were adequate.

PEACHES – Canned peaches in juice packs are $31.75 a pound in 6/10-lb. cartons, f.o.b. California. Peaches in light syrup are offered around $31.00 per pound.

For the week of Aug. 30, Cling peaches delivered 13,237 tons, contributing to the 312,699 tons produced in 2014. Both weekly and total tonnage dropped in comparison to a year ago. In 2013, weekly tonnage at the same time was 22,744 tons and totaled tonnage reached 345,755 tons.

PEARS – Total U.S. canned NESOI less than 1.4 kg pear volume was 14.0 million-lbs., with over 12.0 million-lbs. imported from China. The total volume was 34% less than 2013's import volume. Meanwhile, pears 1.4 kg or more import volume increased 2% compared to last year's volume.

Pears in light syrup are $31.25 a pound in 6/10-lb. cartons, f.o.b. Washington. Pears in juice are offered at $32.00 per pound. Inventories were moderate.

PROCESSED SEAFOOD

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IMPORTS – Imports for selected fish and shellfish increased 9% in volume and 36% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 1.5 billion-lbs. were delivered compared with 1.3 billion-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $6.4 billion, rising from $4.7 billion in 2013.

SELECTED U.S. IMPORT OF FISH AND SHELLFISH PRODUCTS
JAN. 1-JULY 31, 2014
(Source: Bureau of Census)

	Pounds (1,000)	% Chg. Last Yr.	Dollars ($1,000)	% Chg. Last Yr.
Trout, fresh and frozen	11,368	8%	$57,225	39%
Atlantic salmon, fresh	96,059	-19%	$346,721	-5%
Pacific salmon, fresh 1/	5,045	-5%	$40,272	18%
Atlantic salmon, frozen	4,443	38%	$14,559	82%
Pacific salmon, frozen 1/	40,845	0%	$116,109	9%
Atlantic salmon, fillets	219,190	22%	$1,103,797	41%
Salmon, canned and prepared 2/	19,436	-5%	$93,604	-3%
Tilapia 3/	271,355	5%	$622,203	19%
Shrimp, frozen	512,138	12%	$2,784,881	46%
Shrimp, fresh and prepared 4/	144,879	17%	$791,649	55%
Oysters 5/	12,235	12%	$37,372	6%
Mussels 5/	45,934	6%	$81,328	28%
Clams 5/	29,106	9%	$39,508	2%
Scallops 5/	39,069	24%	$225,912	33%
TOTAL	**1,451,102**	**9%**	**$6,355,140**	**36%**

1/ includes salmon with no specific species noted
2/ includes smoked and cured salmon
3/ frozen whole fish plus fresh and frozen fillets
4/ canned, breaded or otherwise prepared
5/ fresh or prepared

BLOCKS & SLABS – The Haddock market is strong due to very good demand and very light supplies. The price for imported haddock is $3.55-$3.75 per pound. Imported whiting, light with supplies while demand light to moderate, is priced at $1.40 per pound. A steady cod market is a result of moderate supplies and light to moderate demand. Prices on imported about $2.50-$2.55 per pound. Moderate demand and good supply has resulted in a steady market for Alaska Pollock. Pricing for domestic is $1.40-$1.45; imported is $1.27-$1.32; and deep skin at $1.72-$1.78 per pound, f.o.b. New England.

FILLETS – Demand is good and supplies are moderate for Chilean salmon resulting in a firm market. IQF 6-oz. and 8-oz. are both priced at $6.50-$6.75. Flounder market is firm as demand is moderate for light supplies. Prices for Canadian 5-lb. cello packs of flounder are IQF 4-oz. at $4.10; 5-oz. at $4.20; 6-oz. at $4.40; and 7-oz. at $4.55 per pound. The market for cod is firm for domestic skinless/boneless as supply and demand are good. Prices for 4-8-oz. and 8-16-oz. are at $3.20; and 16-32-oz. at $3.30-$3.45 per pound, f.o.b. New England.

LOBSTER TAILS – Brazilian spiny tails prices remained unchanged with 5-oz. at $16.70; 6-oz. at $16.95; 7-oz. at $16.80; 8-oz. at $17.10; 9-oz. at $17.00; 10-12-oz. at $17.10; and 12-14-oz. at $17.00, per pound, ex-warehouse New York.

THE RED SNAPPER COMMERCIAL FISHING SEASON IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC'S exclusive economic zone will close on Sept. 9 because the catch limit will be met, according to the **NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION**.

NOAA WILL CLOSE THE VERMILION SNAPPER FISHING SEASON in the economic zone of the South Atlantic from Sept. 12 until the start of the 2015 fishing season as the annual commercial catch limit will be met. The 2015 season starts Jan. 1 and runs through June 30.

CANNED SALMON – Imports decreased 5% in volume and in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 13.4 million-lbs. were delivered compared with 14.1 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $39.1 million, rising from $41.3 million in 2013.

U.S. IMPORTS OF CANNED SALMON
JAN. 1 - JULY 31, 2014
(Source: Bureau of Census)

	Pounds (1,000)	% Chg.	Dollars ($1,000)	% Chg.
Salmon Nesoi Whole/Pieces In Oil in Airtight Cont.				
Thailand	46	-30%	$269	-25%
Total	**119**	**27%**	**$553**	**23%**
Pink (humpie) Salmon, Not in Oil, Canned				
Thailand	4,939	-4%	$9,861	-21%
Total	**7,403**	**-6%**	**$14,574**	**-18%**
Salmon Sockeye, Not in Oil,Canned				
Canada	83	-74%	$515	-65%
Total	**114**	**-64%**	**$571**	**-62%**
Salmon, Neosi, Not in Oil, Canned				
Chile	1,139	104%	$4,486	147%
Total	**1,488**	**76%**	**$5,867**	**114%**
Salmon, Whole or in Pieces, But not Minced, Nesoi				
Thailand	1,996	-38%	$6,063	-48%
Total	**4,284**	**-13%**	**$17,559**	**-6%**
TOTAL	**13,408**	**-5%**	**$39,124**	**-5%**

WITH THE SALMON HARVEST IN ALASKA WINDING DOWN, only about 2,000 salmon were harvested last week. A total of about 148.4 million salmon have been harvested so far this year surprising estimates of 132.8 million for this year but below the 282.9 million last year.

USDA WILL BUY UP TO $13 MILLION IN CANNED PINK SALMON. The purchase is to ease a glut that has weighed down prices for Alaska fishermen, according to Sen. Lisa Murkowski (Sept. 4).

SALMON – Imports for fresh Atlantic decreased 19% in volume and by 5% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 96.1 million-lbs. were imported compared with 119.0 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $346.7 million, dropping from $365.5 million in 2013.

Imports for fresh Pacific decreased 5% in volume while increasing 18% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 5.0 million-lbs. were delivered compared with 5.3 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $40.3 million, up from $34.1 million in 2013.

Imports for frozen Atlantic rose 38% in volume and 82% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 4.4 million-lbs. were delivered compared with 3.2 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $14.6 million, rising from $8.0 million in 2013.

Deliveries for frozen Pacific were flat in volume while increasing 9% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 40.8 million-lbs. were delivered for both years as total costs were about $116.1 million in 2014, rising from $106.7 million the previous year.

Imports for Atlantic filets jumped 22% in volume and 41% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 219.2 million-lbs. were imported compared with 180.1 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $1.1 billion, rising from $784.6 million in 2013.

SHRIMP – Imports for frozen increased 12% in volume and 46% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 512.2 million-lbs. were delivered compared with 457.3 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $2.8 billion, rising from $1.9 billion in 2013.

Fresh and prepared imports increased 17% in volume and 55% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 144.9 million-lbs. were imported compared with 124.1 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $791.6 million, rising from $510.0 million in 2013.

Prices for Central and South America were stable with only 91/110 having movement, down $0.05 to $4.00 per pound. The rest of the prices from the previous week remained unchanged with 16/20 at $8.00; 21/25 at $7.05; 26/30 at $6.10; 31/35 at $5.50; 36/40 at $4.90; 41/50 at $4.50; 51/60 at $4.20; 61/70 at $4.10; and 71/90 at $4.05, per pound ex-warehouse New York.

Domestic brown prices remained unchanged with 16/20 at $9.25 and 31/35 at $7.60 per pound, ex-warehouse New York.

Southeast Asian black tiger market prices were the same for the second consecutive week as 16/20 are priced at $8.65-$8.80; 21/25 at $7.50-$7.75; 26/30 at $6.45-$6.60; and 31/40 at $6.35-$6.50 per pound, ex-warehouse New York.

SCALLOPS – Imports increased 24% in volume and 33% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 39.1 million-lbs. were imported compared with 31.6 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $225.9 million, dropping from $169.9 million in 2013.

A firm market has emerged as demand and supplies are moderate. Domestic 5-lb. blocks of under 10-ct. sea scallops are $15.75-$16.25; U/12 about $14.75-$15.25; 10/20 at $13.25-$13.75; and 20/30 at $13.25-$13.75, per pound, f.o.b. New England.

TUNA – Imports increased 11% in volume while decreasing 18% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 274.9 million-lbs. were imported compared with 247.6 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $548.2 million, dropping from $667.7 million in 2013.

U.S. IMPORTS OF CANNED TUNA
JAN. 1 - JULY 31, 2014
(Source: Bureau of Census)

	Pounds *(1,000)*	% Chg.	Dollars *($1,000)*	% Chg.
Tuna & Skipjack, In Oil, NESOI				
Mexico	3,348	63%	$6,128	41%
Total	**6,624**	**54%**	**$14,102**	**44%**
Tuna, Albacore, Not In Oil, NESOI				
Thailand	7,713	9%	$18,837	5%
Total	**20,153**	**11%**	**$46,842**	**1%**
Tuna, nesoi, not in oil, in foil airtight container, < 6.8-kg.				
Thailand	19,683	-6%	$47,015	-24%
Total	**43,623**	**14%**	**$109,931**	**-1%**
Other Tuna & Skipjack, Not In Oil, In Airtight Containers				
Thailand	61,710	-19%	$96,632	-32%
Total	**100,406**	**-19%**	**$154,373**	**-33%**
Tuna/skipjack No oil, Not Airtight Cont, > 6.8KG				
Thailand	35,778	11%	$72,918	-15%
Total	**96,647**	**7%**	**$202,598**	**-16%**
TOTAL	**274,889**	**11%**	**$548,175**	**-18%**

SNOW CRAB – The crab clusters market has moderate supplies and light demand resulting in steady market. Prices for 3/5-oz. are at $4.70-$4.75; 5/8-oz. priced at $5.35-$5.45; 8-oz. and up priced at $5.60-$5.65; and 10-oz. and up priced at $6.25-$6.35 per pound, f.o.b. New England.

DIVERS AND SCIENTISTS ARE VENTURING INTO WASHINGTON'S PUGET SOUND to learn why crab pots are being lost. Over 12,000 crab pots are lost in Puget Sound every year, costing an estimated $700,000 in lost harvest revenue, reported *Minneapolis Star Tribune* (Sept. 5).

TILAPIA – Imports increased 5% in volume and 19% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 271.4 million-lbs. were imported compared with 258.5 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $622.2 million, up from $523.0 million in 2013.

OYSTERS – Imports increased 12% in volume and 6% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 12.2 million-lbs. were imported compared with 10.9 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $37.4 million, up from $35.3 million in 2013.

MUSSELS – Deliveries increased 6% in volume and 28% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 45.9 million-lbs. were imported compared with 43.4 *million*-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $81.3 million, rising from $63.8 million in 2013.

CLAMS – Imports increased 9% in volume and 2% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 29.1 million-lbs. were imported compared with 26.7 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $39.5 million, dropping from $38.7 million in 2013.

TROUT – Imports for fresh and frozen increased 8% in volume and 39% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 11.3 million-lbs. were imported compared with 10.5 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $57.2 million, rising from $41.1 million in 2013.

DRIED VEGETABLES

Analyst: Chris Valentine 201-791-5570 ext. 225 chris.valentine@foodinstitute.com

PEAS AND LENTILS – IDAHO/WASHINGTON: Trading activity was slow on light buyer demand. Idaho has 96% harvested, according to USDA. Dealer: Whole green peas, yellow peas, Austrian winter peas and lentils were not established. Grower: Whole green peas were 1.00 higher, brewer lentils were 1.00 lower, pardina lentils were steady, Austrian winter peas were steady and whole yellow peas were steady. NORTH DAKOTA/MONTANA: Trading activity was slow on light buyer demand. North Dakota has 84% and Montana has 90% of the crop. Dealer: Whole green peas, yellow peas and richlea prices were not established. Grower: Whole green peas were steady, richlea were steady and whole yellow peas were steady.

DRIED BEANS – Trading activity was slow on very light demand. Cooler temperatures are hindering areas this week. Colorado is at 7%, Nebraska is at 4%, Montana is at 41%, Idaho is at 32%, Washington is at 62% and North Dakota is at 8% harvested, according to USDA. No prices this week, as dealers transition from old crop to new crop pricing. Next week all prices quoted will be new crop prices.

CALIFORNIA BEANS – Trading was inactive. Dealer: Baby limas, large limas, blackeye beans and garbanzo beans were not established. Grower: Blackeyed limas, baby limas, large limas, canning quality large limas and garbanzo beans were not established.

DRIED FRUITS & NUTS

Analyst: James P. Hickey 201.791.5570 ext. 227 james.hickey@foodinstitute.com

NUT IMPORTS – Imports increased 8% in volume in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 289.3 million-lbs. were imported compared with 267.5 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $741.4 million, up from $685.4 million in 2013.

COCONUTS – Desiccated coconuts imports rose 26% in volume and 74% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 62.5 million-lbs. were imported compared with 49.7 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $66.7 million, up from $38.3 million in 2013.

BRAZIL NUTS – Imports for in shell decreased 12% in volume but increased 6% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 1.2 million-lbs. were imported, all from Brazil, compared with 1.4 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $2.4 million, up from $2.3 million in 2013.

Imports for shelled decreased 10% in volume but increased 9% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 5.1 million-lbs. of the 8.6 million-lbs. total was imported from Bolivia. The total cost was about $26.9 million, rising from $24.7 million in 2013.

U.S. IMPORTS OF NUTS AND NUTMEATS, JAN. 1-JULY 31, 2014

(Source: Bureau of Census)

	Pounds (1,000)	% Chg. Last Yr.	Dollars ($1,000)	% Chg. Last Yr.
Coconuts, Desiccated	**62,481**	**26%**	**$66,678**	**74%**
Philippines	50,871	20%	$54,795	66%
Brazil Nuts, In Shell	**1,200**	**-12%**	**$2,415**	**6%**
Brazil	1,200	-12%	$2,415	6%
Brazil Nuts, Shelled	**8,622**	**-10%**	**$26,887**	**9%**
Bolivia	5,138	-10%	$16,052	15%
Hazelnuts, Shelled	**4,937**	**-19%**	**$17,364**	**4%**
Turkey	4,564	-23%	$15,813	-2%
Pecans, Shelled	**15,158**	**2%**	**$24,660**	**12%**
Mexico	15,158	2%	$24,660	12%
Pecans, Inshell	**39,991**	**21%**	**$131,926**	**32%**
Mexico	39,580	20%	$130,100	31%
TOTAL	289,282	8%	$741,348	8%

CASHEWS – Imports for shelled increased 3% in volume but decreased 1% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 154.1 million-lbs. were delivered compared with 150.0 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $465.0 million, down from $471.7 million in 2013.

In shell imports dropped 32% in volume and 30% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 232,000-lbs. were imported compared with 342,000-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $746,000, down from $1.1 million in 2013.

HAZELNUTS – Imports for in shell decreased 4% in volume and 2% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 2.2 million of the 2.3 million-lbs. were delivered from Turkey. The total cost was about $2.8 million, down from $2.9 million in 2013.

Shelled imports decreased 19% in volume but increased 4% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 4.9 million-lbs. were imported compared with 6.1 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $17.4 million, up from $16.7 million in 2013.

PECANS – Imports for shelled increased 2% in volume and 12% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 15.2 million-lbs., all from Mexico, were imported compared with 14.9 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $24.7 million, rising from $22.0 million in 2013.

Imports for in shelled rose 21% in volume and 32% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 40.0 million-lbs. were delivered compared with 33.0 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $131.9 million, up from $100.0 million in 2013.

WALNUTS – The forecast for California walnut production is up 11% from a year ago. The **USDA**'s **NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE** projects a crop of 540,000 tons, up from 2013's 492,000 tons. While drought has gripped the state, walnut growers were able adequately water the crops with crop quality excellent due to low disease and insect pressures. The report states that the 2014 harvest is expected to being earlier then last year.

DRIED FRUITS – Imports decreased 3% in volume but increased 13% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 59.1 million-lbs. were imported compared with 60.8 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $78.9 million, up from $69.7 million in 2013.

APPLES – Imports increased 11% in volume and 6% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 6.9 million-lbs. were imported compared with 6.2 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $19.5 million, down from $18.5 million in 2013.

U.S. IMPORTS OF DRIED FRUITS JAN. 1-JULY 31, 2014

(Source: Bureau of Census)

Item	Pounds (1,000)	% Chg. Last Yr.	Dollars ($1,000)	% Chg. Last Yr.
Apples	6,925	11%	$19,476	6%
Chile	3,407	18%	$10,098	14%
Apricots	23,469	20%	$37,916	51%
Turkey	22,683	19%	$36,570	49%
Cherries	895	83%	$904	16%
Chile	329	786%	$255	133%
Papayas	2,065	34%	$2,421	50%
Thailand	1,996	37%	$2,352	55%
Raisins, Seedless	11,555	-28%	$12,345	-26%
Chile	5,421	-32%	$6,107	-32%
Raisins, Seeded	4,482	198%	$1,254	151%
China	2,879	92%	$679	57%
TOTAL	59,071	-3%	$78,853	13%

APRICOTS – Imports rose 20% in volume and 51% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 22.7 million-lbs. of the 23.5 million-lbs. for this were delivered from Turkey. The total cost was about $37.9 million, up from $25.2 million in 2013.

CHERRIES – Imports increased 83% in volume and 16% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 895,000-lbs. were delivered compared with 490,000-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $904,000, rising from $782,000 in 2013.

CURRANTS – Imports dropped 91% in volume and 90% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 250,000-lbs. were imported compared with 2.8 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $267,000, down from $2.7 million in 2013.

PAPAYAS – Imports increased 34% in volume and 50% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 2.1 million-lbs. were imported compared with 1.5 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $2.4 million, up from $1.6 million in 2013.

PEACHES – Imports decreased 1% in volume and 5% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 4.7 million-lbs. were delivered compared with 4.8 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $1.0 million, down from $1.1 million in 2013.

RAISINS – Seedless imports dropped 28% in volume and 26% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 11.6 million-lbs. were imported compared with 16.0 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $12.3 million, down from $16.7 million in 2013.

Imports for seeded rose 198% in volume and increased 151% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 4.5 million-lbs., 2.9 million-lbs. from China, were imported compared with 1.5 million-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $1.3million, rising from $500,000 in 2013.

CALIFORNIA'S RAISIN ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE reported deliveries of about 2,158 tons for the Aug. 20-24 period, bringing the season-to-date total to about 6,438 tons. This year deliveries are ahead of last year's for the same time period, with about 1,665 tons delivered the same week last year that accounted for a seasonal total of 4,254 tons in 2013.

SULTANS – Imports decreased 36% in volume and 50% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 397,000-lbs. were delivered compared with 623,000-lbs. in 2013. The total cost was about $217,000, dropping from $428,000 in 2013.

FROZEN FRUIT

Analyst: Chris Valentine 201-791-5570 ext. 225 chris.valentine@foodinstitute.com

APPLES – IQF Jonathan apples that are sliced or diced are $0.56 per pound, f.o.b. Northwest. IQF Fuji apples that are sliced or diced and IQF Golden Delicious are 54 cents for the third week. Granny Smith apples are $0.55-$0.65 per pound.

BLUEBERRIES – Total U.S. imports of frozen cultivated blueberries were 44.7 million-lbs. during the first seven months of 2014, 25% lower than last year. Canada contributed 11.3 million-lbs. blueberries to 2014's total import volume.

Cultivated small blueberries are offered around $1.10-$1.20 a pound in 30-lb. cartons, f.o.b. Michigan, while in the Northwest, blueberries are offered around $1.10-$1.20 a pound. Meanwhile, blueberries, f.o.b. Washington are offered between $1.20-$1.30 per pound.

U.S. FROZEN FRUIT IMPORTS JAN. 1-JULY 31, 2014

(Source: Bureau of Census)

	Pounds (1,000)	% Chg. Last Yr.	Dollars ($1,000)	% Chg. Last Yr.
Bananas & Plantains	24,927	25%	$11,288	24%
Blackberries	19,302	65%	$22,513	62%
Cranberries	22,871	-3%	$12,465	-9%
Cult. Blueberries	44,675	-25%	$55,182	-27%
Loganberries*	5,325	-3%	$3,691	5%
Mangoes	88,402	7%	$58,348	16%
Melons	1,358	16%	$806	10%
Mulberries**	1,576	-3%	$1,354	-21%
Papayas	9,914	26%	$2,027	32%
Pineapples	38,797	58%	$29,500	73%
Raspberries	35,475	24%	$63,087	54%
Sweet Cherries	8,439	271%	$11,481	254%
Tart Cherries	5,290	2%	$3,707	-24%
Wild Blueberries	28,156	-5%	$45,900	-10%
TOTAL	332,931	10%	$319,994	12%

*includes black Currants and Gooseberries
**includes White or Red currants

STRAWBERRIES – Sliced 4+1 are offered between 85 cent and 90 cents a pound in 30-lb. cartons, f.o.b. California, while IQF medium whole strawberries are offered around 99 cents a pound. IQF large whole are offered around 97 cents per pound.

BLACKBERRIES – Total U.S. imports of frozen blackberries were 19.3 million-lbs. during the first seven months of 2014. Blackberries imports total volume in 2014 was 65% more than 2013's volume in the same time.

Evergreen are offered at $1.30 a pound, while IQF Whole Marion blackberries are offered at $1.75 a pound in 30-lb. cartons, f.o.b. Northwest.

TART CHERRIES – Super Grade tart cherries are offered around $1.07 a pound, f.o.b. Northwest, with Sugar Pack tart cherries offered around 95 cents a pound.

RASPBERRIES – IQF Grade A raspberries are offered at $2.20 per pound. Frozen sieved red raspberries are offered between $1.60-$1.70 a pound in 28-lb. cartons, f.o.b. Northwest, while red seedless puree are $1.75 a pound in 28-lb. cartons.

JUICES & CONCENTRATES

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APPLE JUICE – Imports for not frozen decreased 17% in volume and 14% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 30.7 million-gal. were imported compared with 37.1 million-gal. in 2013. The total cost was about $312.1 million, down from $363.3 million in 2013.

APPLE CONCENTRATE IMPORTS, UNFERMENTED, NOT FROZEN 70/71 BRIX EQUIVALENT* JAN.1-JULY 31, 2014

(Source: Bureau of Census)

	Gallons (1,000)	% Chg. Last Yr.	Dollars ($1,000)	% Chg. Last Yr.
TOTAL	**30,661**	**-17%**	**$312,106**	**-14%**
China	24,277	-22%	$238,723	-19%
Chile	4,143	119%	$35,952	100%
Argentina	1,271	-60%	$9,892	-66%
Italy	176	119%	$11,724	99%

** Based on the Bureau of Census data for Single Strength Equivalent*

Not-frozen apple imports decreased 8% in volume and 12% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 4.0 million-gals. were imported compared with 4.3 million-gals. in 2013. The total cost was about $34.9 million, down from $39.6 million in 2013.

China's lower acid apple juice is $7.50 per gallon. European medium acidity apple juice is priced below $8.00 per gallon, ex-dock, East Coast port.

GRAPE – Imports decreased 5% in volume and 29% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 6.0 million-gal. were imported compared with 6.3 billion-gals. in 2013. The total cost was about $64.4 million, down from $90.7 million in 2013.

Argentina imported white grape juice concentrate is below $8.00 per gallon, ex-dock, East Coast port. Production of concord 68 brix from both East and West Coast is below $14.00 per gallon with lots of carryover.

LEMON – Imports grew 43% in volume and 79% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 2.7 million-gal. were imported compared with 1.9 billion-gal. in 2013. The total cost was about $32.6 million, rising from $18.2 million in 2013.

Imports of 400 gpl containers from South Africa and South America of lemon juice are priced between $21.00 and $25.00 per gallon.

SELECT JUICE CONCENTRATE IMPORTS JAN. 1 - JULY 31, 2014

(Source: Bureau of Census)

	Gallons (1,000)	% Chge.	Dollars (1,000)	% Chge.
Pineapple - 72 Brix	**345**	**58%**	**$2,928**	**50%**
Indonesia	167	135%	$1,278	147%
Thailand	149	34%	$1,259	22%
Costa Rica	13	-40%	$278	106%
Pineapple (Frozen) - 60 Brix	**68**	**-86%**	**$795**	**-89%**
Costa Rica	42	-91%	$373	-94%
Grape - 68 Brix	**6,017**	**-5%**	**$64,447**	**-29%**
Argentina	5,117	-1%	$49,626	-30%
Mexico	85	-32%	$2,285	-10%
Turkey	323	69%	$5,227	80%
Australia	195	30%	$2,491	16%
Pear - 71 Brix	**671**	**2%**	**$4,227**	**-4%**
Argentina	118	208%	$661	103%
China	543	-12%	$3,274	-18%
Lemon (Frozen) - 400 GPL	**2,721**	**43%**	**$32,590**	**79%**
Argentina	1,752	19%	$20,383	49%
Mexico	296	27%	$2,921	7%

PEAR – Imports increased 2% in volume but decreased 4% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 671,000-gal. were imported compared with 660,000-gal. in 2013. The total cost was about $4.2 million, down from $4.4 million in 2013.

PINEAPPLE – Imports increased 58% in volume and 50% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 335,000-gal. were imported compared with 218,000-gal. in 2013. The total cost was about $2.9 million, down from $2.0 million in 2013.

Frozen imports dropped 86% in volume and 89% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 68,000-gal. were imported compared with 503,000-gal. in 2013. The total cost was about $795,000, down from $6.9 million in 2013.

ORANGE – Imports for frozen concentrate 65 brix equivalent in containers over 3.785 liters volume was flat but increased 9% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 23.6 million-gal. were imported the last two years with the total cost about $257.8 million, up from $235.8 million in 2013.

Imports for frozen concentrate 65 brix equivalent in containers under 0.946 liters volume decreased 5% in volume and 11% in dollar value in a year-to-date comparison ending July 31. About 457,000-gal. were imported compared with 483,000-gal. in 2013. The total cost was about $9.2 million, down from $10.3 million in 2013.

BUTTER

BUTTER MARKET, SEPT. 10

Cents Per Pound:	9/10/2014	9/3/2014	Chge.
Grade AA	2.9900	2.8100	0.1800

CHEESE

CHEDDAR CHEESE MARKET SEPT. 10

Cents Per Pound:	9/10/2014	Chge. Fr. Last Wk.
Barrels	2.3300	0.0300
Blocks (40-lbs.)	2.3500	0.0000

EGGS

EGG PRICES TO RETAILERS SEPT. 10

(Source: USDA)

Cents per dozen:	Wk. Ending 10-Sep	Wk. Ending 3-Sep	Chge.
Extra Large-NY	121-125	130-134	4.00
Large-NY	119-123	128-132	4.00
Medium-NY	98-102	99-103	4.00
Extra Large-MW	123-125	123-125	-7.00
Large-MW	121-123	121-123	-7.00
Medium-MW	89-91	89-91	2.00
Extra Large-NC	145.95	150.67	4.72
Large-NC	140.52	145.24	4.72
Medium-NC	106.25	106.86	0.61
Extra Large-CA	172	172	0.00
Large-CA	160	160	0.00
Medium-CA	124	124	0.00
Large-VA	N/A	N/A	N/A
Medium-VA	N/A	N/A	N/A
Small-VA	N/A	N/A	N/A

FROZEN EGG PRICES WEEK ENDING SEPT. 05

(Source: USDA)

Carloads/Cents Per Pound:	This Week	Last Week
Whole, Light-Colored	110-114	110-114
White	144-146	144-148
Sugared	83-86	83-86
Salted Yolks	81-82	80-82

CHICKEN

CHICKEN PART PRICES TO RETAILERS NEW YORK - SEPT. 10

Dollars Per Pound:	This Week	Last Week
Skinned Boneless	$2.05	$2.00-2.05
Ribs On	1.16-1.17	1.16-1.17
Legs	.57-.58	.57-.58
Leg Quarters	.44-.45	.44-.45
Wings	1.54-1.55	1.49-1.50

BROILER CHICKS PLACED LAST WEEK AND SIX WEEKS AGO

(Source: USDA)

Broilers placed six weeks ago come on the market next week

1,000 Chicks:	Week Ended 9/6/2014	% Chge. 2013	Week Ended 7/26/2014	% Chge. 2013
Alabama	21,639	1.0%	21,410	0.5%
Arkansas	19,343	2.5%	19,434	-2.1%
Delaware	5,021	5.4%	4,974	11.3%
Georgia	26,884	-0.7%	25,687	-12.5%
Maryland	6,405	9.5%	6,072	15.2%
Mississippi	15,095	5.0%	14,768	-3.0%
N. Carolina	16,348	5.7%	17,335	8.2%
Texas	12,297	-0.5%	11,926	-6.7%
Virginia	4,883	-4.6%	4,909	-16.1%
Others	39,768	-1.8%	42,253	14.1%
Total 19 States	**167,683**	**1.1%**	**168,768**	**2.0%**

PRELIMINARY BROILER PRICES FOR DELIVERY THE WEEK OF SEPT. 05

Cents Per Pound:	This Week	Last Week
Chicago	93-100	89-99
Cleveland	Too Few	Too Few
Detroit	Too Few	Too Few
Los Angeles	97-104	96-105
New York	103-108	101-106
Philadelphia	Too Few	Too Few
Pittsburgh	Too Few	Too Few
St. Louis	Too Few	Too Few
San Francisco	Too Few	Too Few

Prices are for ready-to-cook, ice Grade A Broilers, (including branded), delivered in truckload quantities

FUTURES PRICES

(Source: *Wall Street Journal)*

As of Sept. 10, 2014	Cash Price	October Futures	November Futures
Corn, bu.	$3.31	3.3875(Sept)	3.4575(Dec)
Soybeans, bu.	$10.88	10.71(Sept)	9.9375
Soybean Meal, ton	$593.50	4.428(Sept)	3.49(Oct)
Soybean Oil, lb.	$0.33	0.3158(Sept)	0.3163(Oct)
Wheat, bu.	$5.10	6.0525(Sept)	6.155(Dec)
Hogs, cwt. (carcass)	$97.03	1.071	0.9865(Dec)
Milk, lb.	$133.00	0.2445(Sept)	0.2282(Oct)
Cattle, cwt.	N/A	1.597	1.621(Dec)
Feeder Cattle, cwt.	$245.25	2.2885(Sept)	2.2713(Oct)
Orange Juice, lb.	N/A	1.489(Sept)	1.490
Coffee, lb.	$1.85	1.77(Sept)	1.8125(Dec)
Cocoa, ton.	$3,452.00	3,058(Sept)	3,063(Dec)

(Source: *Wall Street Journal*)

	Week Ended 10-Sep	Week Ended 3-Sep	% Chge. Last Year
Steers, Tex.-Okl. avg. cwt.	N/A	N/A	N/A
Feeder Steers, Okl. Cty., cwt.	245.25	N/A	N/A
Hogs, Iowa-S. Minn, live avg., cwt.	97.03	92.08	9.17
Hams, 17-20 lbs., Mid-US lb. fob	1.11	1.04	20.65
Milk, Nonfat dry, Chi.	133.00	133.00	-25.28
Butter, Chi., Grade AA, lb.	2.99	2.81	106.21
Eggs, Chi., Large White, doz	1.19	1.19	7.21
Coffee, Brazilian, lb.	1.85	2.03	65.18
Flour, Hard Winter, KC, cwt.	18.45	18.00	0.54
Wheat, KC, Hard, bu	5.10	5.05	-17.34
Corn, No. 2, Cent. IL, bu	3.31	3.50	-34.33
Soybeans, No.1 Yellow,Cent.IL,bu	10.88	11.78	-24.39
Soybean Meal, IL, 48% ton	593.50	601.70	11.94
Soybean Oil, crd. Decatur, IL, lb.	0.33	0.33	-21.43
Corn Oil, wet mill, Chgo. lb.	34.50	38.00	-11.54
Lard, Chi., lb.	N/A	N/A	N/A
Cocoa, Ivory Cst., metric ton.	3452.00	N/A	20.53

The Food Institute Report

A CLOSER LOOK AT SELECTED COMMODITIES THAT MAY AFFECT YOUR BUSINESS

Presented by BMO Financial Group

Feed Corn Futures Through Sept. 10

(Source: BMO Capital Markets)

Wheat Futures Through Sept. 10

(Source: BMO Capital Markets)

Soybean Meal Futures Through Sept. 10

(Source: BMO Capital Markets)

Crude Oil Futures Through Sept. 10

(Source: BMO Capital Markets)

Live Cattle Futures Through Sept. 10

(Source: BMO Capital Markets)

Live Lean Hog Futures Through Sept. 10

(Source: BMO Capital Markets)