

# Fruit Ingredient Supplier and Processor

FruitSmart<sup>®</sup> Newsletter | September 2018



## FruitSmart Seeds on Parade

Although most of our customers purchase our products for food related items, Fiesta Parade Floats (FPF) has a more “flowery” application. FPF, based in Pasadena, California, is celebrating 30 years as the most awarded float builder in Rose Parade history. Rose Parade rules require “each inch of float surface must be covered with flowers or other natural materials, such as leaves, seeds or bark.” Due to the perishable nature of the materials, the final stages of decorating do not occur until the days following Christmas. This year FPF built thirteen floats and won nine awards for the 2019 Rose Parade sponsored by Wells Fargo Bank. As the photo reflects for this float for Chinese American Heritage Foundation, our cranberry seeds are the red material all over the train, most notably on the wheels.

## Fruit Market Update

Washington state is starting the new year with decent snowpack. At the January 1 reading, Washington state’s overall snowpack is 89% of normal with the Yakima Basin reservoir storage at 91% of average. The Natural Resources Conservation Service water supply specialist for Washington, Scott Pattee, says he is not worried. Major snows typically hit the Washington Cascade Mountains in February and March. Winter mountain snowpack is critical for Washington agriculture as melting snow provides water for irrigation throughout the summer months. Although we have a long way until 2019 harvest, conditions are promising for a healthy and bountiful year. A few quick fruit updates:

**Apple:** The 2018 harvest Washington apple crop was originally estimated by US Apple to be 12% smaller than 2017. After all harvest data is in, the 2018 Washington crop looks to be about 15% smaller than 2017 and with very good quality (less cull fruit). Although challenging, the supply of fruit should be stable for balance of season.

**Apricot:** Supply of fruit was normal so apricot concentrate availability and pricing is similar to last year. Organic apricot concentrate is also available.

**Blackberry:** Oregon is the overwhelming dominant USA state for blackberries. The harvest ended with good quality berries and similar volume to 2017. Concentrate pricing will be similar to last year.

**Blueberry:** Blueberries experienced some difficulties during the growing season in Washington state so crop size was not as large as initially projected. With limited carryover inventory, concentrate pricing will be slightly higher than last year pricing. Washington was beat out by Oregon’s volume this year for the #1 spot. Oregon production hit 131 million pounds in 2018, whereas Washington’s production came in at 127 million.

**Cherry, Dark Sweet:** The Pacific Northwest USA packed somewhat less than the 27 million box record of 2017. The quality was excellent and the supply of processing cherries was favorable. 80% of the sweet cherries are grown in the Northwest with Washington as #1 state. The supply of dark sweet cherry concentrate is good and with pricing similar to last year.

**Cranberry:** The restrictions approved by the USDA have reduced the supply of concentrate somewhat but the pricing still continues to be soft.

**Grape, Concord:** Washington state remains the majority of the USA crop with the balance grown in Michigan and New York. For 2018 harvest compared to 2017, Washington had a larger crop, Michigan was normal but New York experienced weather issues reducing their crop volume. With no carry over inventory and significantly higher grower raw fruit pricing for 2018 crop, concentrate supply will be effected and pricing is higher this year.

**Raspberry, Red:** Pacific Northwest red raspberries saw a good crop in both quality and quantity this year but intense pressure from imported product significantly reduced raw fruit pricing for 2018 harvest. Supply of concentrate is good and at lower pricing than last year.

Please let us know how we can assist with your ingredients requirements.



**HACCP**



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## Featured Inventory

NFC Cold Pressed Apple Juice  
Organic Peach Conc.  
Dark Sweet Cherry Juice Conc.  
Clarified Guava Juice Conc.  
Red Raspberry Puree  
Organic Apple Fiber  
Date Powder  
Cranberry Seeds  
Sweet Cherry Essence

Please call for a quote.

## Events Calendar

CiderCon  
February 7-8, 2019, Chicago IL  
[www.ciderassociation.org](http://www.ciderassociation.org)

AFFI-Con  
February 23 - 26  
San Diego, CA  
[www.affi.org](http://www.affi.org)

Southern California IFT Supplier Night  
March 6  
Anaheim CA  
[www.scifts.net](http://www.scifts.net)

Natural Products Expo  
March 6-9  
Anaheim CA  
[www.expowest.com](http://www.expowest.com)

SnaxPo  
March 31 - April 2  
Orlando, FL  
<http://snaxpo.com>

Cider Rite of Spring  
April 6  
Portland OR  
[www.nwcider.com](http://www.nwcider.com)

Juice Products Associates, Annual Meeting  
April 7-9  
Las Vegas, NV  
[www.juiceproducts.org](http://www.juiceproducts.org)

Please contact us for a meeting.

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