

Fruit Ingredient Supplier and Processor

FruitSmart® Newsletter | September 2019

New, Expanded Dry Operations

FruitSmart announces the opening of its state-of-the-art 41,000 sq. ft Dry Ingredients Manufacturing located at its Prosser, Washington facility. With construction being completed this Spring, it represents a \$2.3 million investment that not only increases production capacity but expands the company's drying, milling and packaging capabilities to meet market demands for specialty dry ingredients. Designed to meet today's growing regulatory and food safety requirements, the Prosser operations augments the capabilities of FruitSmart's Grandview, Washington facility by producing greater capacity and high efficiency drying. The new drying system provides optimal drying conditions for a wide variety of specialty ingredients along with new milling capabilities that expands FruitSmart's product line offering up to 100 mesh particle sizes. This capability produces ingredients that are very well suited for baked goods, functional beverages and nutraceutical applications. This investment brought with it new automated packaging capabilities, integrated case erecting and improved post pack metal detection.

FruitSmart's Dry Ingredients operations at both Prosser and Grandview are certified USDA Organic and OU Kosher. Both facilities also have BRC's highest rating, "AA", for GFSI certification.

FruitSmart President Terry Chambers states, "This investment is part of FruitSmart's ongoing growth strategy to provide natural and nutritious dried fruit ingredients to meet growing market trends in our industry. Further expanding our portfolio of specialty ingredients, the Prosser operations will increase our ability to meet our existing customers' needs as well as bring new opportunities."



Fruit Market Update

Overall the 2019 harvest is shaping up to be a good year for quality but a mixed bag for quantity. The weather has been favorable for most fruits but we will need that to continue for the remainder of the harvest season. A few quick fruit updates:

Apple: USDA forecasts the total USA 2019 apple crop to be 4% larger than 2018, whereas the US Apple Association recently targets the overall increase at only 1%. For the East crop, primarily New York, the USDA estimates a 7% decrease but US Apple predicts a 4% decrease. For the Midwest, primarily Michigan, the USDA projects no change with US Apple determining a 1% increase. The West, primarily Washington, is projected by USDA to be 72% of the total USA 2019 apple crop with a 7% increase from 2018 harvest. US Apple estimates the West apple crop to be 3% more than 2018 harvest. For Washington state (67% of USA total per USDA), the top five varieties are now Gala, Red Delicious, Fuji, Granny Smith and Honeycrisp, in that order. Per USDA, 11.9% of total 2018 harvest USA apple crop was utilized for juice.

Organic apples will be more plentiful again this harvest with estimated pricing better than 2018 harvest so keep us in mind especially for organic, cold pressed NFC apple juice. Washington state produces 85% of the organic apples grown in the USA.

Apricot: Supply of fruit was normal so apricot concentrate availability and pricing are 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 slightly less volume than 2018. Concentrate will be similar pricing to last year.

Blueberry: Washington state continues to be a leader in blueberry production with Oregon slightly surpassing them in 2018 harvest. In 2006, Washington only produced 18 million pounds and now is producing over 130 million pounds. The West Coast now produces 70% of all USA blueberry production. 2019 harvest produced good quality and quantity. Concentrate pricing will be slightly better pricing than last year. Organic product also available this year.

Cherry, Dark Sweet: The Pacific Northwest USA packed similar volume to 2018. The quality was excellent and the supply of processing cherries was favorable. 80% of the sweet cherries are grown in the Northwest. The supply of dark sweet cherry concentrate will be good and with pricing similar to last year.

Cranberry: The USA cranberry crop is expected to be similar in size to 2018 and the concentrate market continues to be soft.

Grape, Concord: The 2019 USA Concord grape crop is expected to be "normal" to above average in size. Washington state remains the majority of the crop with the balance grown in Michigan and New York. Because of low pricing pressure over the last few years, some Washington growers are replacing their Concord grape acreage with wine grapes, hops or tree fruit. In 2005, Washington had 26,000 acres of ConCORDs but today it is closer to 19,000. Harvest will begin mid/late September.

Raspberry, Red: Pacific Northwest red raspberry crop for 2019 was definitely down in overall volume but rains during harvest produced more juice stock than desired. For this reason, concentrate pricing will be better than last year.

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



HACCP



Featured Inventory

Organic NFC Apple Juice
Red Raspberry Puree
NFC Blueberry Juice
Organic Peach Juice Conc
Red Raspberry Juice Conc
Clarified Guava Juice Conc
Organic Apple Fiber
Date Powder
Cranberry Seeds
Sweet Cherry Essence
Black Raspberry Seed Oil

Please call for a quote.

Events Calendar

Supply Side West
October 15-19, 2019
Las Vegas NV
www.supplysideshow.com

Juice Products Assoc. Fall Business Mtg
November 4-5, 2019
New Orleans LA
www.juiceproducts.org

Chicago IFT Supplier Night
November 6, 2019
Rosemont IL
www.chicagoift.org

Longhorn (Texas) IFT Supplier Night
November 21, 2019
Frisco TX
www.longhorn-ift.org

CiderCon
January 29-31, 2020
Oakland CA
www.ciderassociation.org

Please contact us for a meeting.

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