# The Dynamic US Fresh Produce Industry

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Agenda
<ul> <li>Some global food demand and retailing trends</li> <li>Location of production and fresh produce basics</li> <li>Fresh produce value chain</li> <li>International trade</li> <li>Select food industry trends</li> <li>Conclusions</li> </ul>

#### **Key Global Demand Trends**

- Important shifts are underway in the share of global population accounted for by key regions with profound implications for food demand in upcoming decades.
- Rising incomes in developing economies should cause fresh produce demand growth to outpace demand in developed economies.
- Since the 80s: Improved market access (reduction in tariff and non-tariff barriers), facilitating international trade, <u>and</u> increasing competition between exporters.
- Since the 80s: FDI was liberalized, privatization, general market liberalization, and emergence of middle classes.
- Result: supermarket "revolution" in the developing world!
- Key role of FDI: Much of the growth was driven by European and Japanese chains facing saturated markets at home.

#### **Key Global Retail Trends**

- Much more rapid emergence of supermarkets in L. America and Asia than occurred in the USA and Europe. (Reardon, Thomas and Timmer, C. Peter, "The Economics of the Food System Revolution," www.annualreviews.org.)
- Supermarkets stimulate produce imports shelf-space must be full yr-round.
- Fragmented supply chains pose big challenges.
- Supermarkets stimulate supply chain modernization, and eventually contribute to the emergence of larger and more professional farmers and intermediaries. Need for scale!
- The drive to reduce transaction costs contributes to a gradual process of streamlining the supply chain, improving quality, safety and reducing food waste and margins.
- Competition means these gains translate into lower prices, benefiting consumers and increasing demand. Virtuous circle! Note: Walmart model, the world's largest retailer.



- In W. Europe and the USA/Canada, smaller store formats are growing at the highest rates, cannibalizing sales of big box stores. These formats are targeting specific convenience and/or value segments.
- This will contribute to changing market shares among leading players and more intense competition for all.
- The proliferation of store formats and e-commerce means that consumers have more choice in where they purchase produce.
- Greater competition at the buying end of the supply chain pressures upstream margins (back to growers).
- International trade gives consumers more fresh produce options every month of the year.
- Understanding consumer preferences is vital to the fight for distribution and share of stomach. Information technology!



REGION	SUB-REGION	Change (Millions)	% Share of the pop gain	
	Western Europe	20	0.9%	
EUROPE	Eastern Europe/Russia	-41	-1.8%	
	N. America (USA/Canada)	96	4.3%	
AMERICAS	Latin America	148	6.6%	
	Northern Africa	61	2.7%	
AFRICA	Sub-Saharan Africa	1,061	47.1%	
	China	-58	-2.6%	
	India	434	19.2%	
ASIA	Japan	-18	-0.8%	
	Other Asian countries	552	24.5%	
	WORLD	2,254	100.0%	



2014			20	019 <sup>f</sup>	
	Sales	Outlets		Sales	Outlets
Walmart	531	11,574	Walmart	648	14,885
Carrefour	138	10,965	Amazon*	239	ī
Tesco	119	8,022	Carrefour	172	14,176
Costco	118	663	Costco	164	794
Schwarz Group	118	11,264	Schwarz Group	154	12,886
Seven & I	117	36,290	Seven & I	144	44,830
Kroger	112	3,747	Tesco	139	10,842
AEON	103	18,347	Kroger	135	3,754
Metro Group	100	2,310	AEON	123	21,815
Amazon	98		Metro group	120	2,623

# Supermarket Emergence in Developing Economies

- European food retailer investment in developing country markets has slowed as increasing competition and slower growth in home markets has caused firms like Tesco to retrench.
- Growth in local & regional chains throughout the developing world will likely reduce the *share (not total sales)* of the top European/US retailers there (homegrown chains will grow more rapidly). Locals benefit from infrastructure improvements introduced via FDIs.
- This trend is already underway. Between 2004 and 2014 the global combined share of the modern food retail market held by the top 30 grocery retailers declined from 28-23%, according to Planet Retail.

#### Leading Players Are Losing Share Globally

- The big gainers will be strong local and regional players positioned in fast-growing markets in Asia, Latin America, Eastern Europe, the Middle East and Africa.
- Players such as Saigon Co-op, A101, Dairy Farm and Lotte Shopping in Asia are ones to watch, A-101 in Turkey as is Magnit in Eastern Europe.
- A series of acquisitions and market entries has enabled the likes of Cencosud in L. America to transform themselves into strong regional players. Cencosud is now the largest local player in L. America.

Source: Global Trend and Forecast 2015: Getting Closer to the Customer

# Location of production and fresh produce basics



## Location of production matters!

- CA has Mediterranean climate, long shipping seasons, no rainfall during harvest seasons, helps quality. Depend on winter snowpack for irrigation water.
- Locations within CA vary by crop and season, desert vs coastal vs central valley. Generally production starts in south in winter/spring and moves northward.
- Each commodity has its own story to tell!

#### Fresh Produce Marketing Basics

- Most growers do not market their own production, they have agreements with shippers or distributors to be their marketers. (price depends on the market)
- Most shippers are family-owned forward-integrated grower-shippers, supplementing their own production with that of other growers.
- Generally harvested and shipped daily; weather affects both supply and demand. Markets are risky and volatile!
- Shipping patterns are well established based on ideal growing locations in each season.



Area Ha	rvested	Produ	Production		Value	
State	% of Total	State	% of Total	State	% of Total	
CA	47	CA	52	CA	60	
FL	10	AZ	8	FL	10	
AZ	7	FL	7	AZ	6	
GA	6	WA	4	GA	4	
NУ	4	GA	4	NY	3	
Other	28	Other	25	Other	18	

#### USA Vegetable/Melon Farm Structure, 2012

- 72,267 total vegetable, potato and melon farms, including 65,814 harvesting for fresh market and 13,072 for processing (so some harvest for both markets).
- \$16.8B total farmgate sales, including \$6.3B in California.
- 5,768 farms selling >\$1M account for 8% of farms and 87% of total value, including 1,086 farms selling >\$1M (2%) in CA, contributing 36% of total value.

Sources: 2012 Census of Ag, USDA, Tables 65, p. 92 and 29 p 464.

Market Shares of Top 5 USA Fresh Fruit Producing States,* 2009			
	Percent		
State	U.S. Total		
California	53%		
Washington – leads in apples, pears,	cherries 21%		
Florida	8%		
Oregon	2%		
Michigan	2%		
Other	10%		
All U.S. fresh fruit	100%		
*Excludes tree nuts. Source: USDA/ERS, Gary Lucier.			



#### Fresh Produce Marketing Basics

•Growers and shippers are price takers.

•Growers receive the residual of the market price received by the shipper for their produce, less marketing charges, pick, pack and harvest, palletization, in some cases cooling, and other handling charges and mandated-marketing or other institutional fees.

•Shipping point prices may not always cover total costs; when they don't even cover variable costs (e.g. harvest/packing) product is left in field.

•The shipper has incentives to continue shipping if at least covering variable costs in order to meet commitments with buyers, to maintain labor and potentially earn profit margins on cooling, harvesting and marketing; sometimes there is no return to the grower (production costs are not recouped).

#### Fresh Produce Marketing Basics

- •Shippers have big investments in facilities, technology, seed trials, research to improve efficiency, sustainability, precision farming.
- •Growers/shippers require substantial capitalization to withstand low markets.
- •About 20 retailers estimated to account for over 70% of US total retail food sales.
- •Buyer consolidation has led to shipper consolidation fewer, bigger firms.

#### Fresh Produce Marketing Basics

- Retail and foodservice buyers demand yr-round supply.
- Imports increasingly handled by U.S. growershippers that import during the off-season.
- Same requirements for foreign and domestic growers.
- Role of forward contracts is growing but challenging to manage across growers in different locations and seasons.

#### Fresh Produce Marketing Basics

- Foodservice leads in forward contracting.
- As forward contracting grows for retailers as well, the marketing system becomes less focused on transactions (daily spot market) and more on building marketing "programs," Costco and Walmart stand out.
- Firms attempting to differentiate their products to get out of the "commodity trap," but perishability will always make that challenging.

#### Fresh Produce Marketing Basics

- Quality, color, shape, flavor, as differentiators, growing role of proprietary seeds.
- Seed varieties more important in meeting buyer needs.
- Branding and private label are growing simultaneously.
- Sustainability goals are increasingly a factor in buyer-seller negotiations.
- Social responsibility practices becoming more important.

#### Fresh Produce Marketing Trends

- Major food safety requirements, higher cost structure. Large growers have big investments.
- Fewer, larger buyers have enabled shippers to reduce their customer lists and to focus more on understanding the needs of key accounts - becoming account-driven.
- Buyers expect suppliers to be much more data-driven in their selling/marketing approaches, requires IT investments.
- Shippers focuses more on understanding and communicating with consumers, attempting to stimulate consumer demand; social media facilitates.









> •Wholesalers, brokers and other intermediaries are especially pressed to add value to remain relevant; traditionally focused on independent retailers, foodservice operators & fill-in orders for large chains. •Foodservice industry is no longer expanding as it was for decades.

> •Seed companies are striving to develop more outputspecific consumer traits, in some cases in conjunction with growers and shippers in order to capture more of the value chain.

Estimated Ranges of Losses in the U.S. Fresh Produce Distribution System					
<ul> <li>Distribution Activity</li> </ul>	Percent Losses	Update: 2010 <u>Guestimate</u> by Roberta Cook, Preliminary:			
• Transportation	2.80 - 5.00	9-12% or \$11-15 billion.			
<ul> <li>Wholesaling</li> </ul>	2.50 - 5.03				
• Retailing	2.74 - 6.58				
$\cdot$ System losses	7.04 - 16.61				
		Percentage losses are based on dollar values of losses in each phase of distribution as a % of the wholesale value of products entering the distribution system.			

#### Supply Chain Imperatives

- Streamlining the supply chain involves identifying which activities add more value than cost.
- Eliminating non-value-adding activities.
- Decreasing internal operational inefficiencies.
- Mutually beneficial tactics promotions, packaging, logistics.

## Fresh Produce Realities

- Most fresh produce items are sold without UPC bar codes which has contributed to less-intensive use of data. Growth in packaging and scannable bar codes (even on bulk items) is changing this.
- With PLU codes there is no identification of the individual supplier.
- Most retailers not yet comparing the shelf-life and quality of suppliers' products to measure performance (sales and shrink). Without this it is harder to convince retailers to pay more for investments in quality. Incentives not aligned!

# Fresh Produce Realities

- The global industry needs PTI not just for potential food safety incidents but for product identification and metrics.
- Slow implementation of PTI. Walmart announcement may be a balance tipper.
- Retailer focus on gross vs net profit is a problem as it doesn't take into account shrink.

"Big Data"			
<ul> <li>Datasets whose size is beyond the ability of typical</li> </ul>			
database software programs to analyze, store, and			
manage			
<ul> <li>Volume, variety and velocity</li> </ul>			
<ul> <li>Making sense of the information inherent in these</li> </ul>			
massive amounts of diverse data to make better			
decisions, analytics			











<u>Fresh</u> fruit and vegetable imports as a share of US fresh utilization/consumption, 2013/14\* (despite rising imports most of US consumption is still produced here)

Item	%
Vegetables, excl. melons and potatoes	28
Melons	33
Potatoes	9
Fruit, all	52
Excluding Bananas	35

\*2014 for vegetables and potatoes; 2013 for melons and fruit. Source: Economic Research Service, USDA.

#### Relative Competitiveness of US Fresh Produce Industry

•The relatively strong competitiveness of the US industry is because more than being labor-intensive, fruit/veg are knowledge, technology, capital, and marketing-intensive. LOCATION!

•However, protected culture, which is technology and capital-intensive is emerging elsewhere.

•US growers face an ever more complex regulatory environment.

•Labor availability is increasingly problematic, everywhere.

#### NAFTA Fresh Produce Trade

- N. American fresh <u>veg</u> trade mainly intra-NAFTA!
- 77% of US fresh vegetable exports go to Canada, then 8% to Mexico.
- 2/3's of US fresh veg imports come from Mexico; most of the remainder from Canada.
- Fresh fruit trade is diverse beyond NAFTA.
- Typically Mexico was much more of a veg than a fruit exporter. This is changing.











- More than originating new trends, it intensified pre-existing forces, such as channel blurring.
- Margin pressure at all levels of the food system!
- Many produce suppliers facing lower profits.
- Growing food safety, traceability and sustainability expectations all increase costs.
- Need for major investments in info tech systems.
- Foodservice took a huge hit.
- Mergers are up (retailers, foodservice, shippers).









#### Conclusions: Becoming Marketing-Driven

·Becoming customer-centric.

•Next level is to become consumer-centric.

•Consumer-centrism will increasingly be achieved via supplier-customer partnerships.

•Suppliers and customers must choose <u>strategic</u> partners – align with those who will succeed in the marketplace

#### Supplemental Handout Material: More on the Food System and the Fresh Produce Value Chain

Total US Grocery Sales,\* Store Numbers, and Market Share by Channel, 2013 2013 2013 2013 No. of Sales % of \$Million Stores Sales \$522,827 40,292 46.0 Traditional \$442,072 59,132 39.0 Nontraditional \$169,905 157,662 15.0 Total C-Stores\*\* \$1,134,804 257,086 GRAND TOTAL 100.0

\*Grocery sales only (food and nonfood); excludes electronics, prescription drugs, toys, jewelry, sporting goods, gas, clothing, footwear, knickknacks, and hardlines. \*\*Sales exclude gas. Source: The Future of Food Retailing, Willard Bishop, June 2014

US Grocery Sales, Store Numbers and Market Share of <u>Total Grocery</u> <u>Sales,</u> by Store Format, 2013, and Projected Share, 2018 <b>Traditional Grocery Channel</b>					
	2013	2013	2013	2018	
	Sales	No. of	% of	% of	
	\$Million	Stores	Sales	Sales	
Total Traditional	\$522,827	40,292	46.0	44.8	
Conven. Supermkt	\$444,211	26,140	39.1	36.2	
Fresh Format	\$14,023	1,063	1.2	2.1	
Ltd Assortment	\$31,069	3,835	2.7	3.4	
Super Warehouse	\$20,806	556	1.8	1.9	
Other (small groc.)	\$12,718	8,698	1.1	1.1	
Source: The Future of Food Retailing, Willard Bishop, June 2014					

US Grocery Sales,* Store Numbers and Market Share of <u>Total Grocery Sales,</u> by Store Format, 2013, and Projected Share, 2018 Nontraditional Grocery Channel					
	2013 Calas	2013	2013	2018	
	Sales \$Million	INO. OT Stores	% of Sales	% of Sales	
	•••••	•••••	•••••		
Total Nontrad'I	\$442,072	59,132	39.0	40.1	
Wholesale Club	\$98,521	1,383	8.7	9.2	
Supercenter	\$200,282	3,829	17.6	19.4	
Dollar Store	\$28,701	27,200	2.5	3.0	
Drug	\$61,295	23,258	5.4	5.3	
Mass	\$48,441	3,281	4.3	2.8	
Military	\$4,832	180	0.4	0.4	

\*Grocery sales only (includes food and non-food); excludes electronics, prescription drugs, toys, jewelry, sporting goods, gas, clothing, footwear, knickknacks, and hardlines. Source: The Future of Food Retailing, Willard Bishop, June 2014

US Grocery Store Format Characteristics, 2013 Traditional Grocery Channel					
	Total Store Area	Average Total SKUs	Average Weekly Sales \$	Groc. & Consum. % Sales	
Total Traditional			\$247,379	)	
Conven. Supermkt	53,500	45,000	\$324,171	100	
Fresh Format	34,000	21,000	\$253,180	0 100	
Ltd Assortment	12,600	2,900	\$152,144	100	
Super Warehouse	45,000	37,000	\$702,950	0 100	
Other (small groc.)	9,000	3,000	\$27,452	2 100	
Source: The Future of Food Retailing, Willard Bishop, June 2014					

US Grocery Store Format Characteristics, 2013 Nontraditional Grocery Channel					
	Total Store Area	Average Total SKUs	Average Weekly Sales \$	Groc. & Consum. % Sales	
Total Nontrad'I			\$143,852		
Wholesale Club	132,400	4,900	\$1,366,874	59	
Supercenter	179,600	100,000	\$998,206	60	
Dollar Store	8,100	9,400	\$19,594	66	
Drug	11,100	19,000	\$50,759	34	
Mass	62,400	95,000	\$275,885	23	
Military	29,400	15,000	\$547,479	100	

\*Grocery sales only (includes food and non-food); excludes electronics, prescription drugs, toys, jewelry, sporting goods, gas, clothing, footwear, knickknacks, and hardlines. Source: The Future of Food Retailing, Willard Bishop, June 2014









as beyond their control.

#### **Retail Produce Department Pricing**

It's takes a 7% change in a retail price for a consumer to "sense" there has been movement.
It takes a 10% change in retail pricing for a consumer to "think" about a behavior change.
It takes a 15% change in retail pricing for a consumer to "act" and change behavior.
So if the f.o.b. price declines buyers will generally take it in margin and it won't negatively impact quantity sold.
Buyers are generally not held accountable for net margins/profit as the expense side is typically viewed

Source: Bruce Peterson