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UK: Destroying fruit does not add up

While produce category managers, packers and re-packers develop new processes to increase quality and consistency to retailer customers - avocado, mango and kiwifruit packing centres are making increasing use of Sinclair's portable iQ Benchtop system. As well as the ease and speed of use of the Sinclair unit, customers find that the loss of large volumes of product through destructive sampling simply no longer adds up.



The Sinclair iQ Benchtop is increasingly being used as a direct replacement for traditional destructive tests such as the penetrometer. It is also used to segregate fruit into firmness bands for value-added 'ripe and ready' product lines, and to extract over-soft fruit altogether.



Close-to-market, a typical avocado packer or re-packer strives to maintain stringent quality specifications. To achieve this fruit is tested for firmness on intake, during ripening and during packing. By the time the pallet is despatched up to 5% of the fruit could be destroyed by QC checks. Figures provided by one Sinclair customer highlight the volume and value of this fruit - the operation packs five tonnes per day throughout the year - worth approximately \$3,000,000 per year. The 5% QC volume destroyed equates to approximately \$150,000 per year. A Sinclair iQ Benchtop costs around \$7,500. While fruit is also tested for other parameters such as oil or sugar content, firmness remains a key variable and non-destructive sampling can greatly assist in cost reduction.

The fully portable Sinclair unit also offers significant time savings and much improved data capture and storage. With an automated rotating tray included in the design, the unit measures fruit firmness 4 times faster than the penetrometer. In addition, the Benchtop offers the facility of easy data capture using a PC or PDA for monitoring and traceability through the supply chain.

The Sinclair iQ Benchtop is proving an effective tool in helping category managers, packers and re-packers to deliver high quality and consistent product to retailers - and at a price that represents excellent value. The same iQ technology is also available from Sinclair in an on-line format, mounted over a moving conveyor - for automated and high speed firmness product sorting.

Contact:
Mark Blake
Tel: +44 1603 726400
markb@sinclair-intl.com
www.sinclair-intl.com

Publication date: 7/29/2009



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Malawi: Sweet potatoes demand high (1)
Harvest of new apple variety Kanzi started (1)
Zhangzhou Zhuangyi Company, one of the biggest pomelo suppliers in China (1)
Chinese garlic harvest down around 20% (1)
Massive international interest in the London fruit and vegetable exhibition (1)
India: Strawberry crop in Maharashtra freezes; ripening delayed (1)
India: Steps to promote organic farming (1)
Ecuadorian melon and watermelon growers reactivate exports to the US market (1)
Macey's market in Providence, Utah is top banana (1)
Philippines: GenSan hosting 7th National Vegetable Congress (1)

Top 5 - yesterday

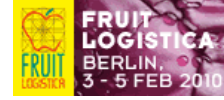
Photo report Asia Fruit Logistica 2009
NZ's most expensive supermarket is...
Mexico: Hurst offers the widest selection of berries year round
Euro rises a 2nd day versus dollar on optimism recession easing
The Globalization of agribusiness and developing World Food Systems

Top 5 - last week

Opening Reception of Asia Fruit Congress
Photo report Asia Fruit Logistica 2009
Tornado Potato takes the Dutch snack market by storm
China: Farmer grows baby-shaped pears
Holland: "Early pomelos with a too high



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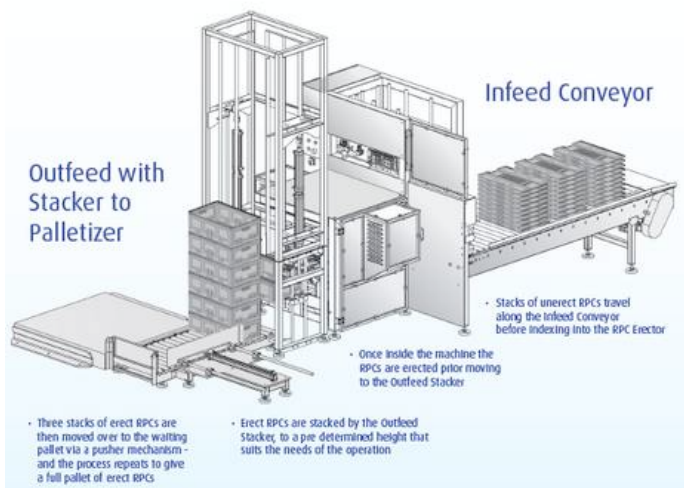
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Other news in this sector:



Europe Retail Packing and Produce Packaging join forces

On Monday 13 July Europe Retail Packing (ERP) and Produce Packaging (P&P) joined forces. ERP and P&P have signed an agreement to combine sales of herbs and babyleaf. The Dutch ERP import a full range of herbs all year round, which for the last few months have also been available small packs for..... [1 comments](#)



Lean machine – Supply chain transformation key to ‘fresh’ sector growth says Trans.L Systems

Understanding the supply chain - and how automation equipment can help create an edge - is the key to achieving growth in the ‘fresh’ food sector says leading supply chain logistics company, Trans.L Systems. On the back of recent successes in supply chain analysis and automation sales, Trans.L Systems is..... [0 comments](#)

Signed agreement with Rigesa of Brazil concerning production of corrugated boxes

Billerud enters two of the world’s largest fruit and vegetable markets

Billerud has signed a partnership agreement with Rigesa, a leading producer of corrugated boxes for fruit and vegetables in Brazil and India and part of global packaging solutions company MeadWestvaco Corporation. The agreement gives Billerud access to both the Brazilian and Indian fruit and vegetable..... [0 comments](#)



MRL could harm the whole market"

Top 5 - last month

New product that controls against Black Sigatoka in banana plants
 UK: Asco Supermarket chain to challenge Tesco and Asda
 Zhangzhou Zhuangyi Company, one of the biggest pomelo suppliers in China
 US: SunOpta announces second quarter 2009 results
 Developing market in China offers new chances for modern retail

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 Apology sought for North's dam release - United Press International
 Merger to Create UK Mobile Giant - New York Times
 China to Sell 6 Billion Yuan of Bonds in Hong Kong - Bloomberg

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- USD: 1.4330
- JPY: 133.33
- GBP: 0.87350
- AUD: 1.6748
- BRL: 2.6419
- CAD: 1.5429
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- NZD: 2.0696
- ZAR: 10.8700

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Johan van Namen en Methore develop futuristic vision

On the way to an unmanned mushroom nursery

Johan van Namen mushroom nursery began 25 years ago with 12 cells. Together with Mari van Namen the nursery has grown to 7 locations which can produce 100 tons of mushrooms per week. The wholesale has all varieties of mushrooms. The company is growing with the newest technology or is participating in the..... *0 comments*



New package is engineered to protect each product as well as the environment

US: Artfully 'green' package for artisan lettuce

Engineered to protect each product as well as the environment, new packaging adopted by Tanimura & Antle Fresh Foods Inc. is almost as "green" as the company's products themselves. Deep in the lush Salinas Valley of Salinas, CA, the produce giant maintains that its living lettuce is "so beautiful, that..... *0 comments*



Effective waste and stock management boosts profits for soft fruit packer

Profitability experts Marco are making it easier for soft fruit pack-houses to protect their profits through the introduction of the company's waste and stock management system. With 25 years' experience in helping companies improve yield, productivity and profits, Marco understand the demands placed on..... *0 comments*



Food processing and packing machinery and equipment industry in Turkey

Turkey is the largest producer and exporter of agricultural products in the Near East and North Africa. Exports of agricultural commodities and food products were valued at US\$ 10,8 billion in 2008 and accounted about 8 % of Turkey's total export earnings.Strong Agricultural Potential of TurkeyBread being..... 0 comments



For the filling of liquids such as soup and sauces

Holland: Prins Verpakkingstechniek develops twin-tube vertical packing machine

Prins Verpakkingstechniek has developed a twin-tube vertical packing machine for filling liquids such as soups or sauces. The machine is fitted with a product label card machine which by means of ultra-sonar technology is attached. This is a technique which uses high frequency sound for sealing. It is..... 1 comments



France: MAF Roda Agrobotic CHERRYWAY II sizer proves its success and reliability

This year (2009), CEDISMAF (MAF Roda Agrobotic Group), has installed a line for grading and packing cherries at PRODUCTOS SILVESTRES HAS. BOLUDA E HIJOS, S.L., a family company, of Xeraco, Valencia.They market and package mushrooms and cherries, and have strategically based their packing house in Ricla,..... 0 comments

AGROLAC M & S INDUSTRIES:

Peru: Agro-industrial machinery made according to the local needs of our customers

Given the fact that Peru is a supplier of various agricultural products and being that the northern zone is the area with the most exporters of mango and lemon, AGROLAC M & S INDUSTRIES is assuming the commercial challenges of developing domestic technology that meets the requirements and needs of our..... *0 comments*



Business Manager Dirk Verammen from Euro Pool System:

"Expanded to a logistical service provider thanks to the EPS crate"

Euro Pool System is Europe's biggest logistical provider of returnable packaging. "Last year our blue and green crates circulated more than 560 million times. This year we will be over the 600 million", Dirk Verammen expects, he has operational responsibility for Western Europe and works out of the..... *0 comments*

US: Garlic supplier gets fresh with flex-pack

Garlic supplier Christopher Ranch is rolling out a new 6-oz, resealable, standup pouch for its peeled, California-grown garlic cloves. The new packaging is 100-per cent-recyclable and uses 80 per cent less material than the company's 6-oz jars. Christopher Ranch currently offers both options to consumers, it..... *0 comments*



Belgium: Cherryfarm introduces new cherry sorting machine

Cherryfarm is a cheerful farmstead which is part of an active cherry business in Bristum, close to Sint-Truiden in Limburg (Belgium). It is an active cherry farm in the Haspengouwse fruit region. The family Vanweddingen was one of the first in the region to start long stem planting of sweet cherries. On an..... *0 comments*

Reliable business partner

Holland: Polymer Logistics gets highest D&B Rating

Every business looks for 'trade', no matter which sector you are in. It's also sometimes difficult to balance commercial interests with financial interests. The indicators sometimes point in different directions. How do you know if you have a reliable business partner? Dun and Bradstreet give all..... *0 comments*





Italy: Unical_200 Cherry: small fruits, great technology

Small fruits require a delicate handling. Careful Human instinct has been now implemented in a highly sophisticated technology, in order to achieve the best and most non-invasive processing system for cherries, cherry tomatoes, olives, etc. Unical_200 Cherry is the Italian electronic sorter designed for..... 0 comments



Sormac delivers processing lines to Sunfresh Farms in Canada

Edmonton, the capital of the Canadian energy province Alberta, has through the oil production from oil sand in the surrounding area, in the past decades has seen advantages and disadvantages. But since the end of the nineties the town and surrounding area have been 'booming'. This success also lifts the..... 0 comments



Denmark: Unique thermal solutions for transporting fresh produce

Keeping fruit or vegetables at acceptable temperatures over long or short haul journeys has always been and continues to be a problem for many growers and distributors. Improvements in packaging have helped but the problem persists. Combi-Therm A/S of Therm, Denmark is having considerable success with a..... 1 comments



US: Modifications to the Caterpillar 939C for agricultural applications
 John Berry & Mike Pres. Wiggins Lift Co. Inc. have joined together to start building the Caterpillar 939C high rise loader with modifications for high flotation loader for the agricultural applications. It will carry 8,000 lbs. of product out of the fields. With most fresh vegetables wet ground will stop..... *0 comments*

Isap Packaging (Italy) launches two new punnets: ideal for small fruits

Italian company Isap Packaging SpA has produced plastic packagings for the food industry since the Sixties. Aware of the latest evolutions in the packaging sector, Isap has developed new solutions which are designed to enhance the quality of the agricultural products, as requested by the modern..... *0 comments*



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We are an SME (small and medium enterprise) dedicated in the representation of foreign entities, manufacturers of equipment, as well as systems and equipment oriented at industrial packing. In the agricultural industrial sector we do business with exporters/producers of Banana, Pineapple, Melon, in the..... *0 comments*

<u>1 Tip of a flat belly :</u>	<u>Bar coding fresh produce?</u>
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