

#### HEALTH & WELLNESS WEBINAR

#### FOR THE COF PRODUCE:

Consumer Shopping Perceptions,
Behaviors & Trends That Impact
Consumption With Albert Sanchez

Tuesday, December 17th at 2:00 PM ET









## WELCOME



#### **Katie Calligaro**

Director, Marketing & Communications

The Foundation for Fresh Produce





Growing a healthier world by changing the trajectory of human health.















#### ABOUT HAVE A PLANT®

The award-winning Have A Plant<sup>®</sup> campaign is committed to helping consumers live happier, healthier lives by boosting appeal for fruits and vegetables.

Have A Plant<sup>®</sup> programs and the website <u>fruitsandveggies.org</u> are a valuable resource for health and wellness professionals.



















#### HOUSEKEEPING

Completion of this webinar awards 1.0 CPEUs in accordance with the Commission on Dietetic Registration's CPEU Prior Approval Program.

You will receive a link to the certificate of attendance, the webinar recording and PDF of the presentation once approval has been granted.

Type your questions and/or comments into the Q&A section located at the bottom of your screen at any time during the webinar.





#### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- 1. Describe the latest consumer shopping behaviors, trends and factors that influence consumer decisions regarding fresh produce.
- 2.Identify and develop strategies to encourage more fresh produce consumption among different consumer groups.
- 3. Tailor marketing and engagement approaches to meet the specific needs and preferences of diverse consumer segments.



### TODAY'S SPEAKER





Albert Sanchez

President, Market Focus Corporation

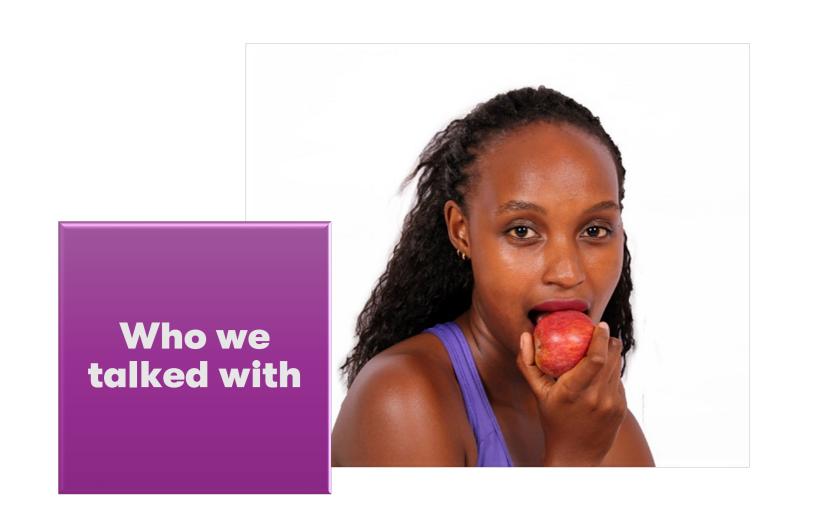
#### Disclosures:

- President of Market Focus Corporation
- Research consultant for the International Fresh Produce Association

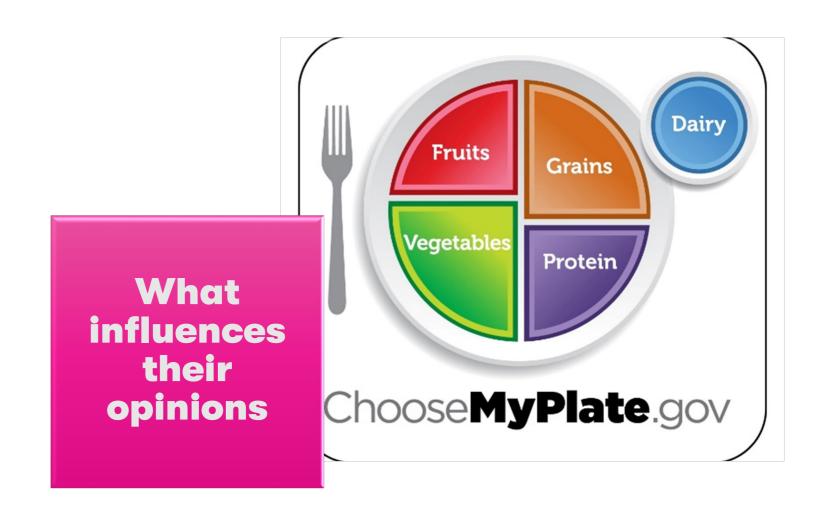
# Consumer Shopping Perceptions, Behaviors & Trends That Impact Produce Consumption



#### Talking About...













# We conducted three, 90-minute focus groups in Suburban Chicago on August 27<sup>th</sup> and spoke to...

Gen Z, Age 19 - 27

Parents, Age 28 - 49 with at least one child over 2

Baby Boomers, Age 60 - 69

#### All Respondents

Grocery shop at least once a week

Purchase fruits andvegetables at least onceper week



Are the primary shopper or share responsibility equally

# Why is fresh produce always on your grocery list?

#### There's a LOT to LOVE!

- Nutrition density
  - Vitamins
  - Antioxidants
  - Fiber
- Documented contributor to heart, eye, brain, and digestive health
- Can eat MORE with LESS calories
- A source of energy (functional and emotional "a runner's high").
- Mental health "doing something good for myself"

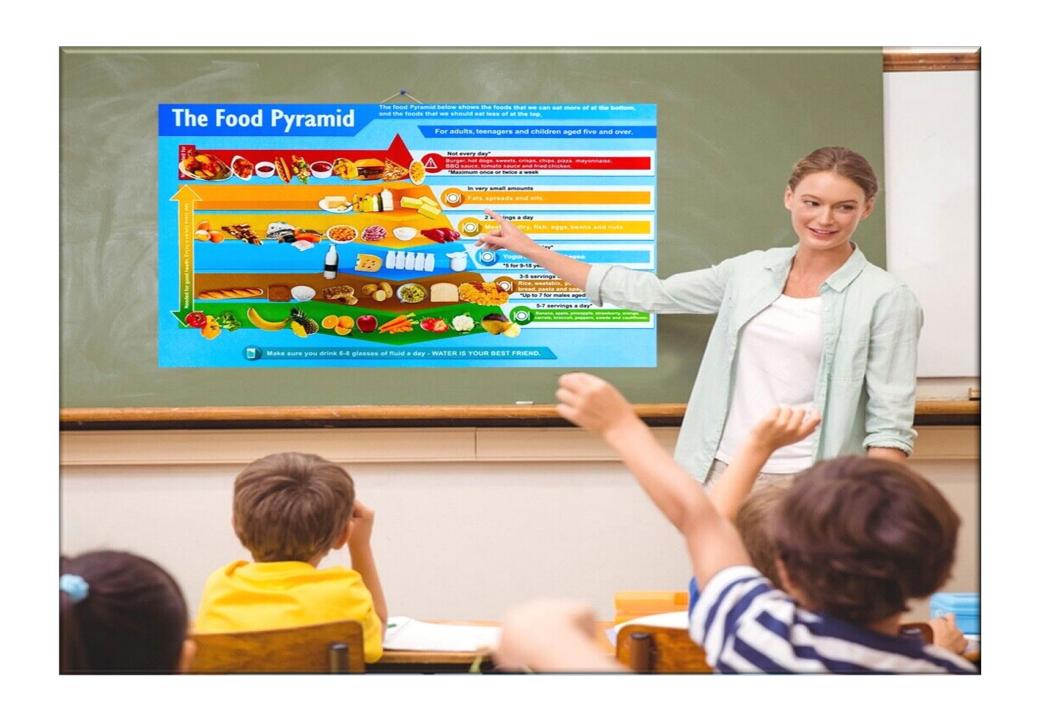


## Sources of Education & Inspiration

#### In the beginning....



"What kid didn't grow up with their parents constantly saying eat your vegetables if you want to be strong?!"

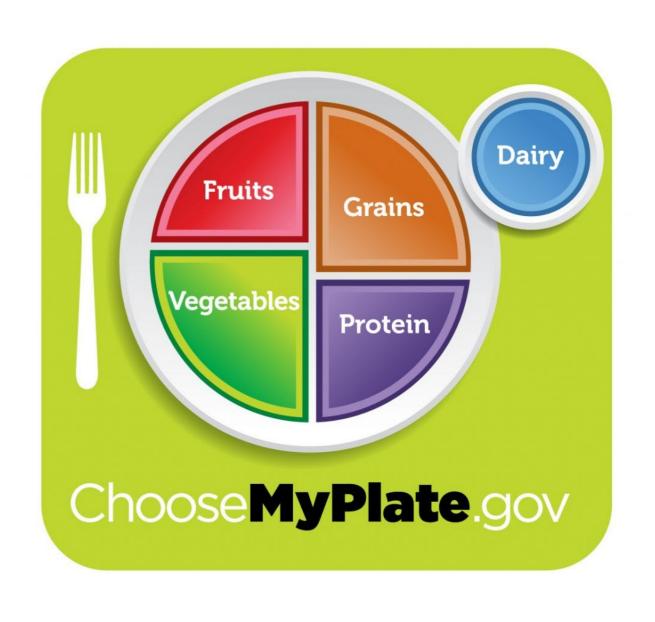


"You get the food pyramid all through school, and in high school you get the science and biology of nutrition."

#### Respected Professionals



"Our pediatrician was advising us as soon as the kids started on solids."





"My personal trainer cleaned up my diet."

"The CDC or the FDA tells you stuff like which pesticides are bad or which foods to avoid."

#### Cooking Shows / Videos



"It's a great way to learn new and clever ways to use common ingredients."



"Sometimes they use vegetables I've never used before, and it makes me want to try them."

"Everything always looks so fresh and colorful – and l think, 'I want that!'"







#### Online & Social Media Searches



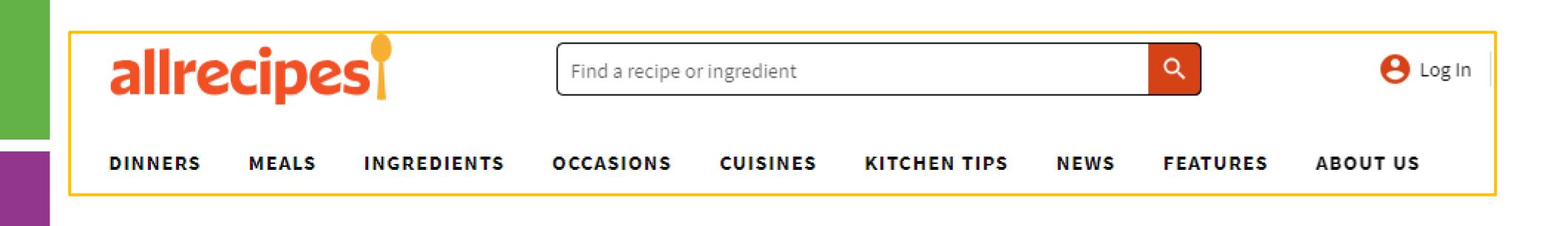
#### **Searches Mentioned**

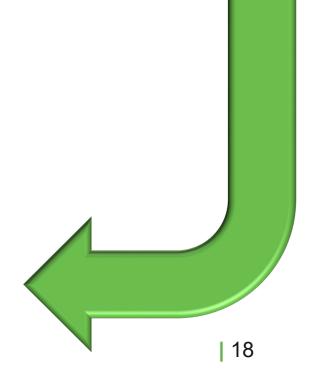
How to eat star fruit

Cooking beets

Best way to store tomatoes

Nutritional value of pomegranate

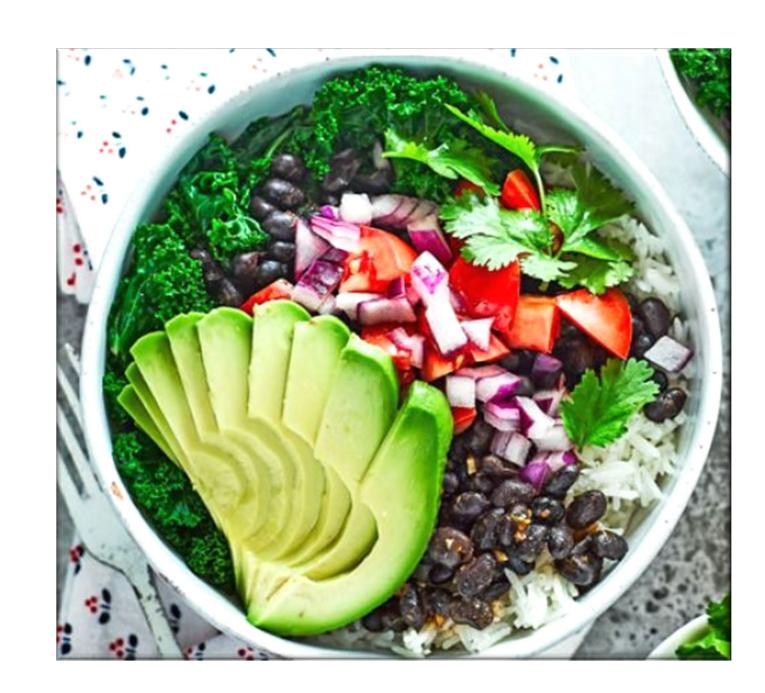




#### The Grocery Store



#### What's Trending



**Bowl Foods** 

"There's always a new trendy food or a special diet."



Diet du Jour



**Overnight Oats** 

#### Social Media

Social media is a great ambassador (and influencer) for produce!











## Social Media Influencing Kids Influencing Parents

"My son saw Dragon Fruit online and kept asking for it.

I had no idea what to do with it. How do you peel it?

How do you eat it? All I know is that I ended up buying

Dragon Fruit!"





## Let's Go Shopping!

#### **Grocery Store Navigation**

Consumers admit to a largely habitual path through the store, but excited eyes are drawn to attractive displays, colorful/fresh-looking products, and SALES!





"I'm drawn to a great display ... everything just looks so colorful and fresh ... it's so enticing."

"I'm like a magnet for the sales! And it's always up front – you can't miss it."

"When I see something new that I haven't seen before, I have to check it out."

#### Planned vs. Spontaneous

> Those with a strict budget or a menu plan are less spontaneous.

"I'm a college kid on a budget. If it's not on the list, it doesn't go in the cart."



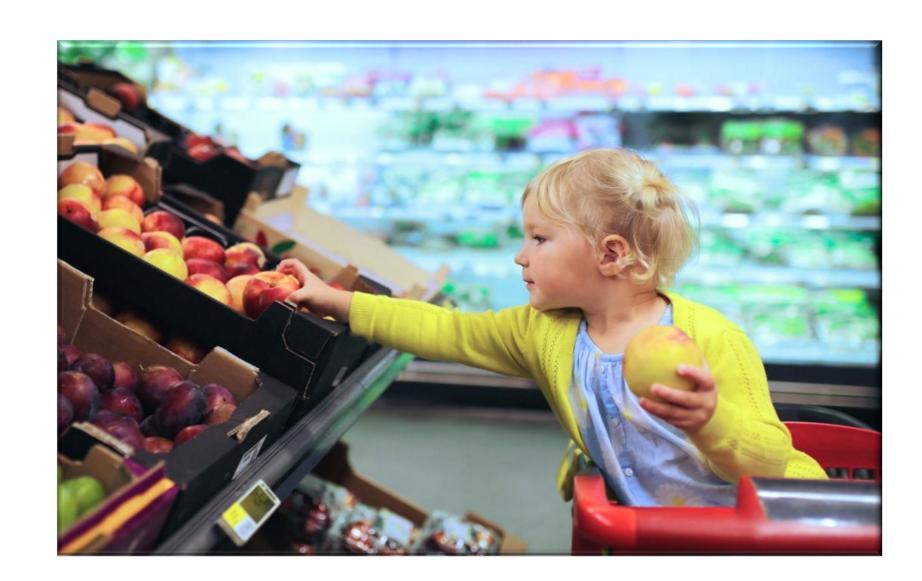
Consumers often buy their 'staple' produce but are open to new and exciting options.

"My shopping list literally says, 'fruits and veggies'."

"I always check out what's new or on sale!"

"Sometimes I just have a craving for something I haven't had in a while."

"I find it impossible to walk past samples."



## Influence of Brand, Organic, Domestic vs. Imported



#### Brand is not often a primary driver.

"I'll be honest, I couldn't tell you the brand of any of the produce I buy."

"It depends on what looks best."

### Consumers appreciate the organic promise but remain skeptical.

"Without the pesticides, I feel like things taste better."

"I'm not sure I believe the labels – they can slap a label on anything these days."





#### Hyper-local is a plus.

"I like to support local growers if I can."

"Domestic doesn't have to travel as far, but some things might only be grown outside of the US."

## Influence of Packaging, Sustainability, and Fair Trade



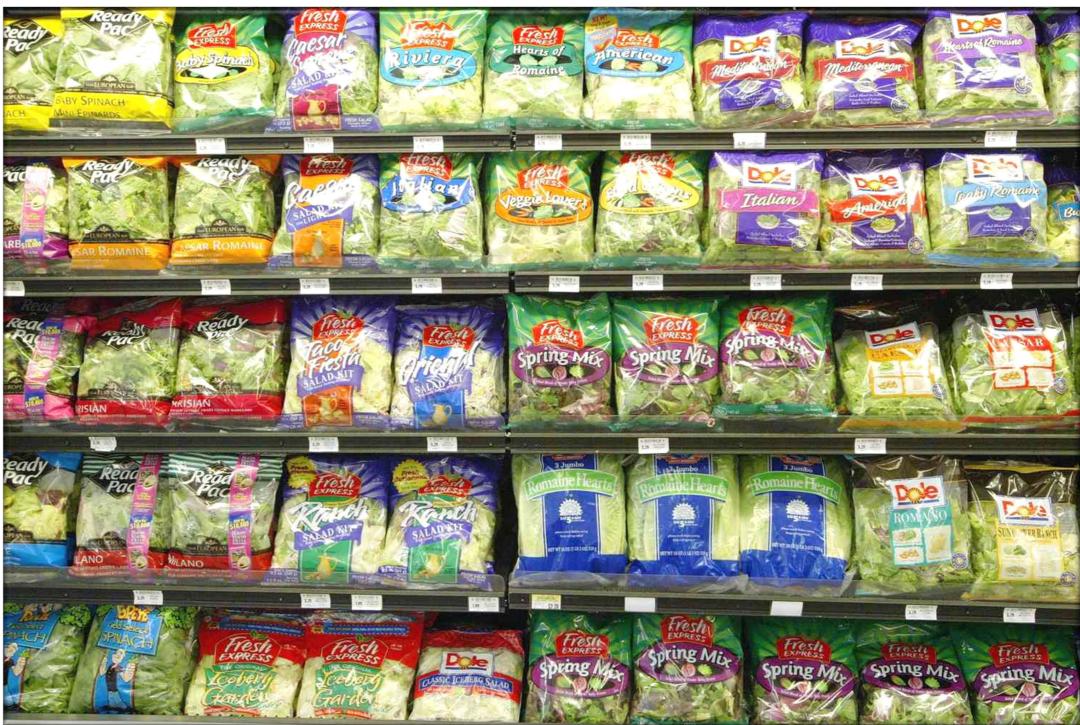


- Consumers are paying greater attention to packaging. They are drawn to 'less' and 'simpler' packaging and express a preference for materials that are recyclable or compostable.
  - Some also bring their own reusable totes so they don't use any packaging.
- Though sustainability and fair trade are viewed as 'correct' options, consumers have limited knowledge of ways to discern produce options that adhere to such practices.
- Consumers desire to be responsible, but the lack of options and/or educated awareness prevent that from being a bona fide factor in the purchase decision.

#### Convenience Packaging

- Many time-constrained Gen Z greatly appreciate the time saved by using prewashed and chopped produce and are willing to pay a bit more to save time.
- On the other hand, many Boomers and Parents enjoy 'the hunt' for the ideal produce items .... except for salads!





#### Controlled Environment Agriculture

#### CEA:

"Indoor/Greenhouse growing that maintains optimal growing conditions throughout the development of the crop."



Very limited awareness; some associations with Hydroponics.

#### **Likely Benefits**

- Environmentally-friendly / greater sustainability
- + Grow more with less space
- + Greater product consistency

#### **Concerns/Questions:**

- ? GMO or bioengineering? "Frankenstein seeds?"
- ? Impact on nutritional value?
- ? Premium priced?
- ? Energy usage?

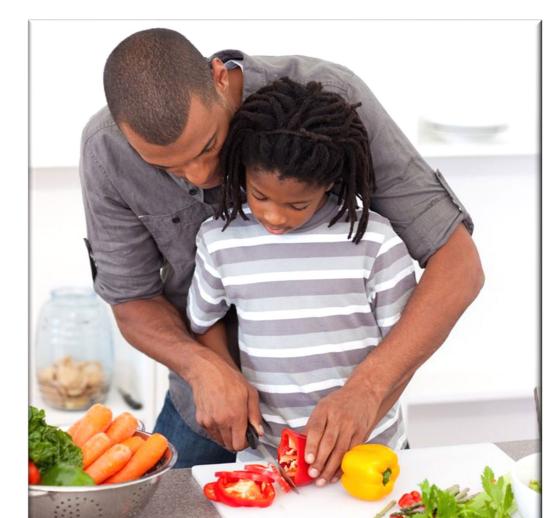
## Motivating Kids/Grandkids to Consume Fresh Produce

- Make food interesting for them.
  - Produce Skewers
  - Pizza Set-ups
- Involve them
  - Shopping
  - Cooking
- Participate in Social Media trends





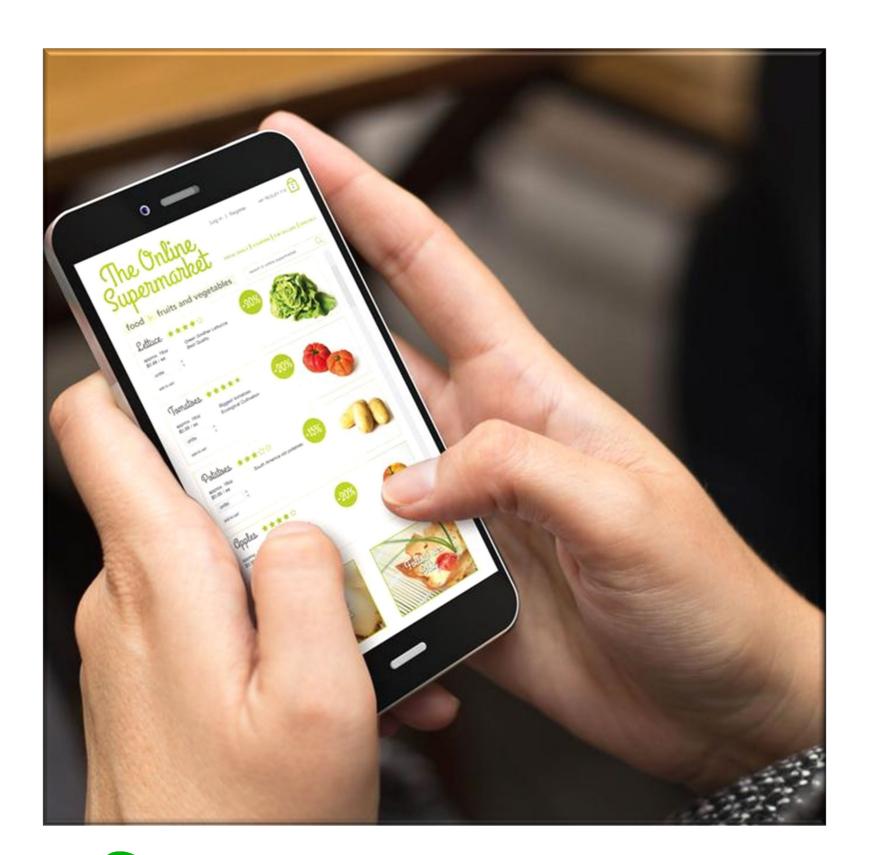






#### Online Ordering

- + A time-saver
- + No impulse purchases
- + Incentives / savings
- + Less hassle



- Loss of control; "can't pick it out myself."
- Some confusion about quantities being ordered





# Task Force to Increase Fresh Produce Consumption

#### Task Force Recommendations

- Show me how
- Make it easy
- Make it last
- Promote on social media

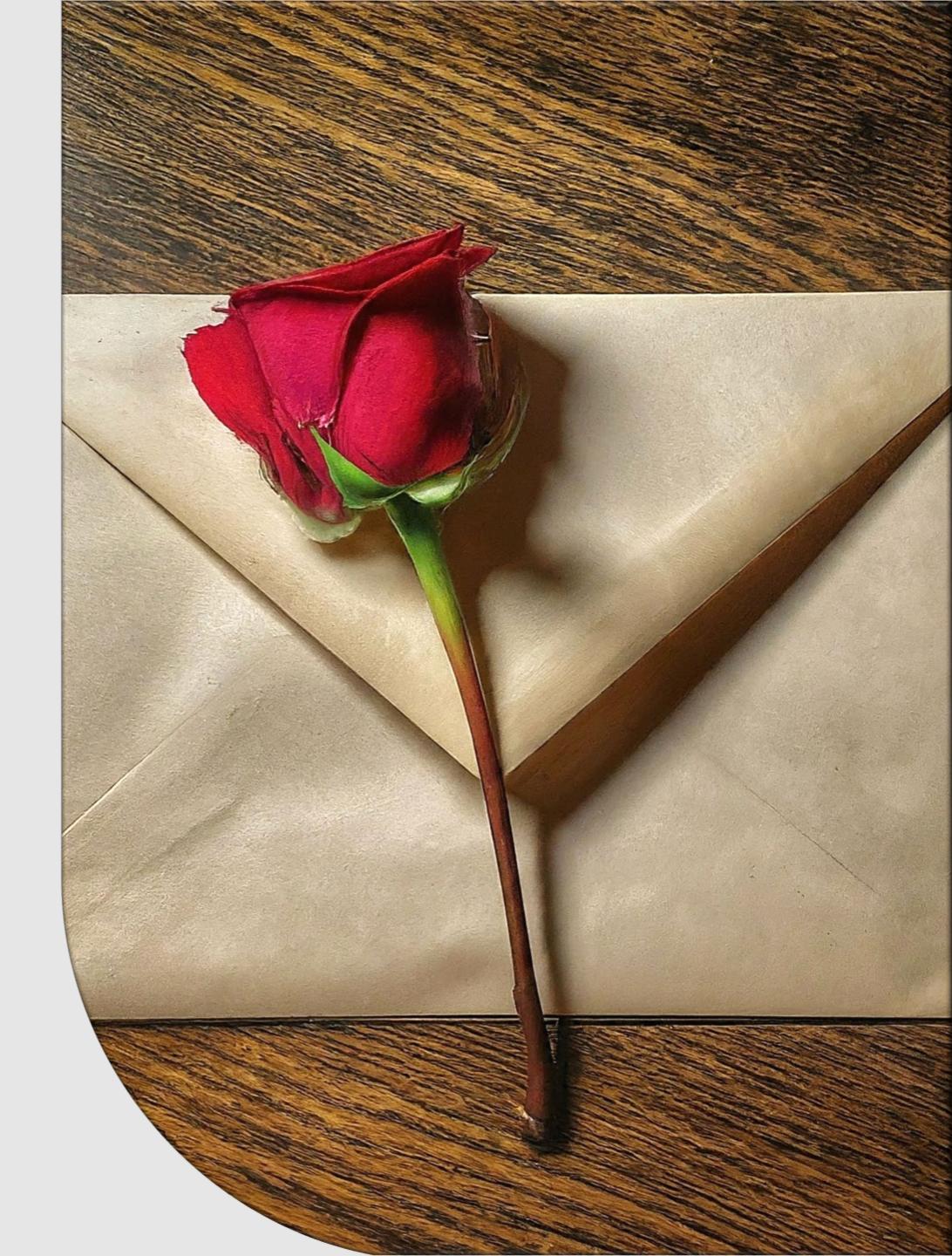












#### Love Letter Instructions



Please write a Love Letter to one of your favorite fruits or vegetables. The letter should be 5-10 sentences long. Feel free to be creative and even humorous. In other words, have fun with it!

Colleen
Boomer
Cauliflower

Jim
Boomer
Blueberries

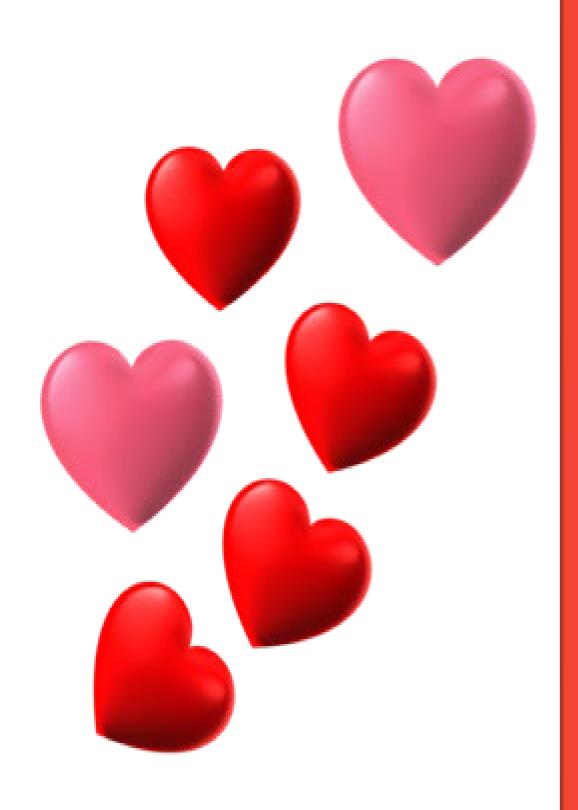
**Edwin**Parent

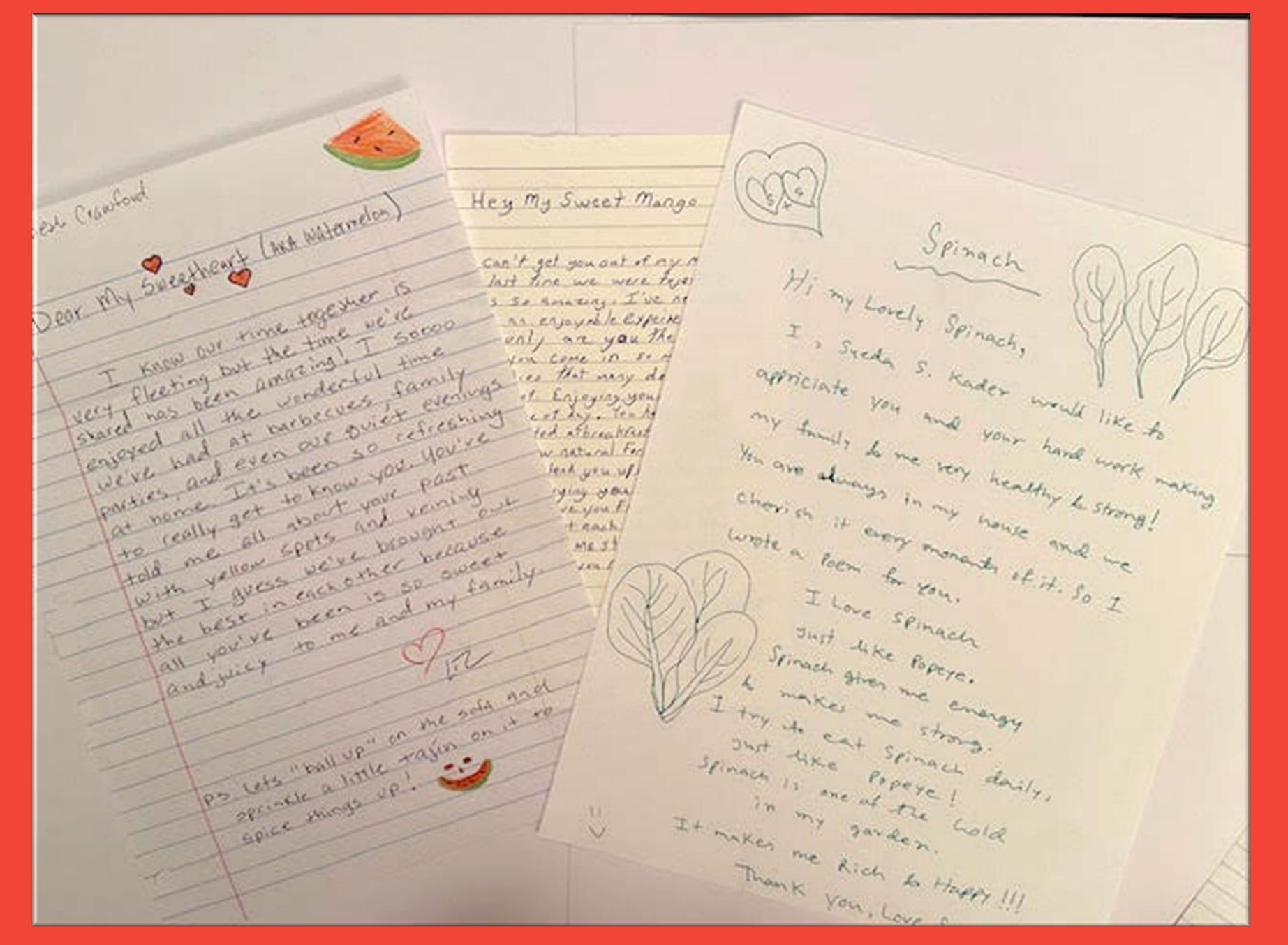
Mango

Elizabeth
Parent
Watermelon

Mike
Gen Z
Strawberry

Susan
Boomer
Avocado







## QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION



#### EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

Have A Plant® programs deliver innovative research as well as unique consumer insights and communication tools. All to help you inspire lasting behavior change by tapping into the emotional connection consumers have with fruits and vegetables.







fruitsandveggies.org/educational-resources



# CONTINUE TO EXPAND YOUR EXPERTISE

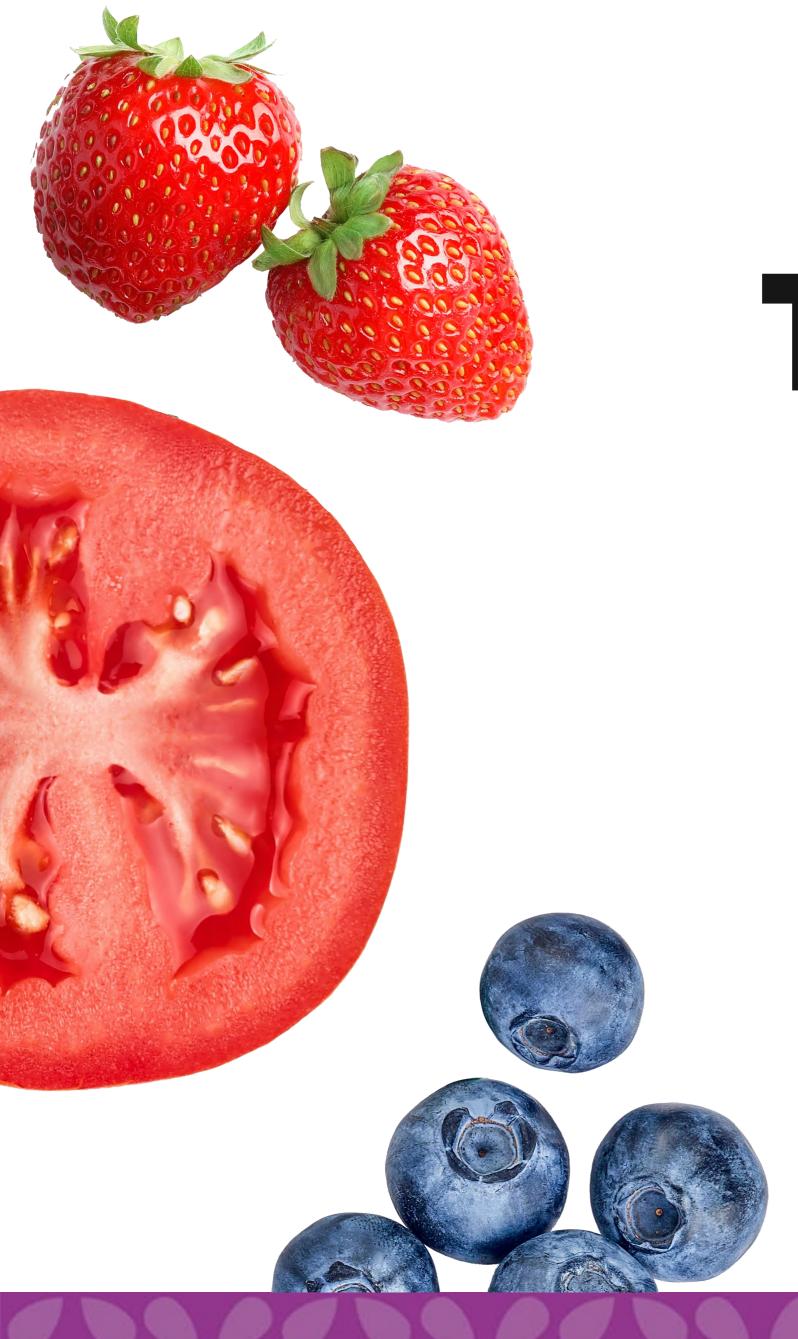
#### fruitsandveggies.org/webinars

Visit our on-demand catalog of webinars on various fruit and vegetable topics including the following and many, many more!









### THANK YOU!

For inspiring people to eat more fruits & veggies.



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