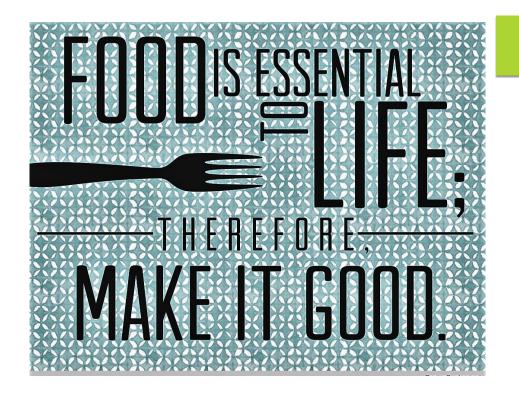






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Encouraging World Prune Consumption

"Encouraging" is an action word. Are WE taking sufficient action to increase demand?



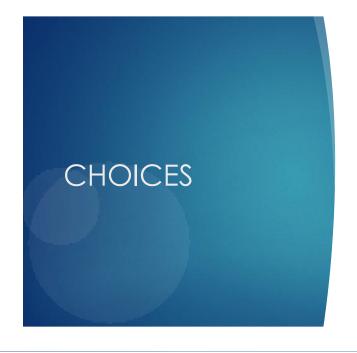
Or...

Are we inclined to leave our fate to the competition, market traders and annual supply?



Biggest Snack Categories Worldwide Retail Annual Dollar Sales ending March, 2014, Nielsen \$374 BILLION





CLEAN LABEL SALTY ORGANIC CONFECTION PROTEIN SUGAR COOKIES & CAKES SAVORY FRUITS & VEGETABLES **VERSATILE HEALTH CLAIM CONVENIENT** ENERGY **AFFORDABLE** REFRIGERATED **FUNCTIONAL PACKAGING NATURAL LOW CALORIE FULFILLING**

Healthy Ingredient Snacks Outpace Overall Food & Beverage Market



INGREDIENTS



INNOVATION



ENCOURAGEMENT

Dried Fruit & Vegetable Snacks

Annual sales growth of 1.7% over past 5 years

\$4 billion in 2015

IBISWorld, 2016



Reasons to be Optimistic

- Shift to healthier foods and ingredients that offer functionality and well being
- ✓ Convenience reigns supreme in busy cultures
- Increasing use of Dried Fruit in culinary, bakery and confectionary sectors
- ✓ Increase in disposable income in markets around the globe

Encouraging and Improving Global Demand for Prunes = Investment

- ▶ In Marketing and Promotion
- ▶ In Nutrition Research
- ▶ In Orchards and Processing
- ▶ In Product Development and Innovation
- ▶ In Partnerships

Strategic Marketing & Promotion Replacing a bulk trade mindset with a commitment to premium positioning

Nutrition Credibility with HCP's and Consumers



Scientific Opinion on the substantiation of health claims related to dried plums of 'prune' cultivars (*Prunus domestica* L.) and maintenance of normal bowel function (ID 1164, further assessment) pursuant to Article 13(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1924/2006



Randomized Control Trial of Dietary
Supplementation with Dried Plums/Prunes
on Bone Density, Geometry & Estimated
Bone Strengthen Postmenopausal Women



- Principal Investigator
 - Mary Jane De Souza PhD, Professor, Kinesiology and Physiology
- Co-Investigators
 - Nancy Williams, ScD, Professor of Kinesiology & Physiology, Head, Department of Kinesiology
 - Connie Weaver PhD, Distinguished Professor & Department Head, Nutrition Science, Purdue University, Indiana
 - Mario Feruzzi PhD, Professor, Translational Nutrition, Department of Food, Bioprocessing & Nutrition Science, North Carolina State University





Aim to Discover

- Compared to control group, prunes'
 - ▶ Effect on bone mineral density (BMD)
 - ► Effect on bone geometry and estimated strength (3-dimensional bone imaging technology)
- Phenolics and metabolites related to bone outcomes (measured in urine)
- Effect on markers of bone resorption and formation (mechanisms analysis)
- ▶ Effects on inflammatory markers and cytokines
- ▶ Effect on gut microbiome related to bone outcomes



Timeline 2016-2019

- ▶ Recruitment began in July
- ▶ 27 participants randomized by mid-October
 - ▶ 9 to each of the three study groups
- ▶ Women are in the study for 1 year
- ▶ First completers anticipated September 2017
- ▶ All participants completed within 30 months
- ► Final report November 2019



Benefits to the Industry

- ► Further regulatory support for benefits to bone health in postmenopausal women with low bone mass – EFSA
- Non-pharmaceutical strategy for women to improve bone health
- Potential to provide information on both research priorities: bone and gut health

Health and Consumer Media



Health Influencer Conferences





Ingredients & Innovation



Making It Easier To Use Prunes

| Usage Status | 2013 | 2015 |
|------------------|------|------|
| Currently using | 23% | 17% |
| Used in the past | 29% | 42% |
| Not used before | 42% | 39% |
| No answer | 6% | 2% |
| TOTAL | 100% | 100% |
| Product From | 2013 | 2015 |
| Whole | 2% | 5% |
| Pitted | 45% | 45% |
| Diced/Bits | 6% | 11% |
| Puree | 1% | 23% |
| DPJC | 1% | 2% |
| No answer | 45% | 14% |
| | 100% | 100% |

Fostering Enthusiasm and New Ideas about Prunes

Japan Bakery Contest Winners



China Pastry Competition



Supporting New Product Offerings

A Commitment to the Trade That Share Our Desire to Grow Prunes' Market Share



Ambassador Partnerships







Pride in Quality & Food Safety





From Our Orchards to Our Customers' Tables: A Sense of Place



Tell your story

"You Can't Sell Anything If You Can't Tell Anything"

-- Beth Comstock