

EUROPEAN — IMPORTS — a Sysco company

FEBRUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER

THIS MONTH'S INDUSTRY EVENTS

FEBRUARY 26 –28

NAT'L GROCERS ASSOCIATION
SHOW
LAS VEGAS, NV, USA















NEXT MONTH'S HOLIDAYS & EVENTS *Time to start planning!*

MARCH 8 INT'L WOMEN'S DAY
MARCH 17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY
MARCH 31 EASTER

all month long...
NATIONAL CELERY, NOODLE,
PEANUT MONTH

ICON KEY:

Look for these icons throughout the newsletter for easy identification of attributes that may be important to you.

-  **ALL-NATURAL**
-  **DAIRY FREE**
-  **EGG-FREE**
-  **GLUTEN FREE**
-  **GRASS FED**
-  **KOSHER**
-  **LACTOSE FREE**
-  **LOCAL**
-  **NON-GMO / NON-GMO VER.**
-  **NUTS FREE**
-  **SOY FREE**
-  **SUGAR FREE**
-  **TRANS FAT FREE**
-  **VEGAN**
-  **ORGANIC / USDA ORGANIC**



WANT THE MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER SENT STRAIGHT
TO YOUR INBOX?
CLICK [HERE](#) TO SIGN-UP



Instagram



While we're in the thick of the winter, it's hard to believe spring is just around the corner. In anticipation of cherished spring holidays like Easter and Mother's Day, the time to plan is now. Below is a list of the top brunch menu offerings and suggested products that can set them apart.

Eggs Benedict—a classic featuring poached eggs, Canadian bacon, and hollandaise sauce on an English muffin. Make it smokey with Nueske's Applewood Smoked Canadian Bacon, available by the **loin** or **sliced** for easy portioning. If you want to offer a plant-based alternative, try substituting traditional poached eggs with **Yo Egg's plant-based version** and replacing Canadian bacon with **Mia's plant-based prosciutto**.



Avocado Toast—sliced avocado on toasted bread, often topped with poached eggs, tomatoes, or feta cheese. Let's start with the base. **Tribeca Oven** offers two exceptional sliced options that are perfect for Avocado Toast: **Sourdough** and **9 Grain**. While it's vital the fundamentals are great, make your Avocado Toast stand out by adding the unique texture and flavor of **CHINGONAS Salsa Macha** or **Salsa Macha Verde**, available in a retail jar and a foodservice jug. What makes this better than other chili crisp products is the flavor and crunch from the finely chopped nuts and seeds throughout.

Pancakes, Waffles and French Toast—fluffy pancakes, crispy waffles, or pan-fried French toast served with syrup, fruits, whipped cream, or chocolate chips. **Le Chic Pâtissier** offers the best in all breakfast breads: **Mini Dutch Pancakes**, No-Syrup-Needed **Liege Waffles** and Filled Waffles, and **Traditional, Superfood** and **Chocolate Chip Brioche**. While most of these can stand on their own, if you're looking for the best in maple syrup, look no further than **Crown Maple**.

Smoked Salmon Bagel—a toasted bagel with cream cheese, smoked salmon, capers, onions, and dill. Top your bagel with **cream cheese** from Sierra Nevada, made the old-fashioned way with just milk, cream and sea salt. The star of this breakfast offering is the salmon, and you won't find better than **Fjord Dawn**—produced



from only the finest, hand-selected Atlantic Salmon, fully-trimmed by hand, vacuum packed and available in foodservice and retail packs. Last but not least, top your bagel with **Sysco Imperial Capers** and **Divina Pickled Purple Onions** for a burst of flavor and color!

Remember, offering a variety of options, both sweet and savory, can make your brunch menu appealing to a wider range of customers. See Page 8 for Brunch Beverage suggestions.

Sysco | Shop

Sysco Employees and Customers:

To shop all items in this month's newsletter, click on the Sysco Shop icon.

UNDER THE DOME

Jeff Babcock, Cheese Specialist

CHEESE IS THE SPICE OF LIFE!

Or rather it could be said, these spicy cheeses will bring you to life. In the cold months we often seek out something warming, and these cheeses offer that and then some. Whether eating from a grazing board or using in your favorite game day recipe, spice things up with these unique cheeses from some of our favorite brands.

CLAWSON
ESTABLISHED 1911

Hailing from England, this is a unique play on spicy cheese. Long Clawson has created this fun and flavorful cheese, a blended cheddar with a distinct Scotch Bonnet relish, dealing both a touch of sweetness and a fiery kick.



7229239

Clawson Caribbean Blaze
2/2.5#

Stocked in IL, and VA Non-stock in TX and CA



DEER CREEK

A Wisconsin original, Rattlesnake has a bite and a shot: a shot of tequila and a bite of habanero! This excellent cheddar from Deer Creek can be a potent cheese if the habanero is a particularly strong batch. Serve alongside a cooling beer or Michelada or grate it and give robust favor to a quesadilla or street corn.



7147981 **Deer Creek Rattlesnake Wheel** 1/12#

Stocked in IL, TX, and VA



7217160

Deer Creek Rattlesnake Square

12/5.3 oz

Stocked in IL



Wisconsin's Own
BRUNKOW CHEESE

There is hot, but then there is hot as heck. I mean hot as Hades.

Hotter than Ghost peppers, the Scorpion Chili really pushes the Scoville range to the top. Be cautious unless you can manage this uber hot creation! Make that ultimate sting to your burger or make a blast off sauce for nachos, it can be a huge surprise.



7258283

Brunkow Scorpion Jack

2/5#

Stocked in IL, TX, VA, and CA



artikaas

A Dutch Gouda with a big kicker! Combining both smokiness and heat, this is a cheese destined for Queso or shredded over chili. Top your sandwiches and burgers with slices for a robust flavor! Convenient in a long round, slice away and let your creativity take control.

7140336 **Jalapeno Smoked Gouda** 1/6#

Stocked in IL, TX, VA, and CA



7182708

Jalapeno Smoked Gouda

12/6 oz

Stocked in IL Non-stock in TX, VA, and CA

WILD AND UNIQUE FOODS

Ryan LaMere, Meat & Game Specialist

PERFECT PICK-ME-UP



Olli is known for authentic fourth-generation Italian recipes crafted from the purest ingredients: 100% vegetarian-fed pork, no antibiotics, and no added nitrates, ever. Plus a patient, slow-cured process that results in mouth-watering meats worth slowing down to appreciate, share, and savor.



This early in the year, everyone is trying to shake off the excess of the holiday season and get back into healthy routines, but we still need to eat quick meals on the go, and fight off that dreaded afternoon crash. Enter protein packed Olli snack packs! These sell so well for us, and for you because:

- **High protein:** 13g per pack to keep you energized and satiated, fueling your next workout or conquering that to-do list.
- **Real, clean ingredients:** Forget artificial flavors and fillers. Olli uses antibiotic-free meat, all-natural cheeses, and artisanal crackers for a guilt-free indulgence.
- **Balanced macros:** Fat, protein, and carbs in perfect harmony, keeping you feeling full and focused, not sluggish or hangry.
- **Portable convenience:** Pre-portioned packs grab-and-go ready for work, gym, or wherever your day takes you.
- **Flavorful variety:** From spicy Calabrese to classic Genoa, find the perfect bite to tantalize your taste buds and nourish your body.

Available in these five flavors:

7253620 **Genoa Fontina Snack Tray** 10/2 oz

Stocked in IL, TX, VA, and CA



7253627 **Pepperoni Mozz Snack Tray** 10/2 oz

Stocked in IL, TX, VA, and CA



7253632 **Prosciutto Mozz Snack Tray** 10/2 oz

Stocked in IL, VA, and CA Non-stock in TX



7253619 **Calabrese Asiago Snack Tray** 10/2 oz

Stocked in IL, TX, VA, and CA



7253624 **Sopressata Chedd. Snack Tray** 10/2 oz

Stocked in IL, TX and VA; Non-stock in CA



Elevate your snacking game with Olli Salumeria. It's the delicious, healthy fuel for your everyday adventures!

Certified



Certified B Corp and 1% for the Planet member, so you can snack good and do good.



SPECIALTY GROCERY

Ryan LaMere, Grocery Specialist

TASTES OF ITALY



San Carlo, Italy's #1 potato chip. Founded in Milan in 1936, representing more than 80 years of family business. It started with a small Rotisserie near the San Carlo Church in Milan, from where the name came. In 2020 San Carlo created the 'la Vita e Buona' line, meaning "life is good." This line was created to promote its iconic chips.



Before we know it, Spring will be here. Close your eyes and imagine: sun-drenched hills, the heady buzz of conversation, the clink of glasses heavy with wine, and a plate piled high with crispy, golden San Carlo potato chips. Each bite transports you to the coast of Italy, where La Dolce Vita reigns supreme. Made with the finest Italian potatoes, San Carlo chips are crafted with passion and tradition, resulting in an irresistible symphony of flavor and texture.



Classic: A timeless taste of lightly salted perfection, perfect for purists and aperitivo enthusiasts alike.

7259931 Classic Potato Chips 20/1.76 oz
Stocked in IL, TX, VA, and CA



7259926 Classic Potato Chips 16/6.35 oz
Stocked in IL, TX, VA, and CA



Pesto: A vibrant swirl of basil, garlic, and parmesan cheese transforms your snack into a mini Italian feast.

7259934 Pesto Potato Chips 20/1.76 oz
Stocked in IL, TX, VA, and CA



7259933 Pesto Potato Chips 16/5.29 oz
Stocked in IL, TX, VA, and CA



Tomato: A burst of fresh, sun-ripened tomato awakens your taste buds, leaving you wanting more.

7259940 Tomato Potato Chips 20/1.76 oz
Stocked in IL, TX, VA, and CA



7259937 Tomato Potato Chips 16/5.29 oz
Stocked in IL, TX, VA, and CA



Perfectly fried, and the ideal partner for caviar, tinned mussels, dips bursting with caramelized onions, crème fresh and herbs. We love the gorgeous branding and classic Italian style these crispy potatoes bring to your table and home. San Carlo is the perfect companion for any occasion, from solo snacking to lively gatherings. So tear open a bag, and create memories that taste like Italy.



SPECIALTY GROCERY

Grocery Specialist

SAVOR THE LEGACY, TASTE THE TRADITION



Superior Craftsmanship, Superior Taste. Urbani's selection of truffle products is a testament to their 170-year legacy of culinary excellence, ensuring a sensory experience that transcends the ordinary. Elevate your dishes with the one-of-a-kind richness that only Urbani Truffle Oil can provide.

Urbani Truffle products are the result of a centuries-old alchemy, blending tradition with innovation. Proprietary manufacturing methods guarantee a product that is not just truffle-infused, but a manifestation of culinary artistry.

Urbani's commitment to superior materials and ingredients ensures that every jar is packed with the richness and depth that defines their legacy.

TRUFFLE OIL

Using Urbani Truffle Oil is easy – just sprinkle a bit over your favorite foods before serving. It works wonders on pasta, veggies, omelets, and more, turning ordinary meals into extraordinary ones. Try adding a dash to salads, dressings, or sauces for an instant gourmet twist.

2208033 Black Truffle Oil 6/8 oz

Stocked in IL, TX, and VA non-stock in CA



4171755 White Truffle Oil 1/8 oz

Stocked in IL, TX, VA and CA



TRUFFLE PEELING

The preservation process ensures that you get to experience the wonderful notes of Summer Truffles even when the truffle season bids farewell. Urbani Truffle Peelings stand as the perfect alternative to fresh truffles – because indulging in the taste of truffles should know no season.

1922592 Summer Peelings

1/4.94 oz

Stocked in IL, TX, VA and CA



TRUFFLE SAUCE

Crafted for convenience without compromising on flavor, Urbani Truffle & Porcini sauce is a flavorful fusion of truffle richness and the earthy essence of porcini mushrooms. Simply open the jar, and you're ready to add a gourmet touch to your favorite dishes. Whether it's spreading it on crostini, tossing it with pasta, or stirring it into risotto, this sauce transforms ordinary meals into extraordinary sensation.

9910813 White Truffle & Porcini Sauce 1/4.94 oz

Stocked in IL, TX, VA and CA



TRUFFLE CHIPS

Urbani Truffle Potato Chips are a crisp indulgence that takes snacking to a whole new level. Immerse yourself in the tantalizing fusion of the classic crunch of potato chips with the luxurious essence of truffles. Let a simple crunch be extraordinary.



7212659

White Truffle Potato Chips

12/12 oz

Stocked in IL, VA and CA



7219098

White Truffle Potato Chips

24/1.58 oz

Stocked in IL, VA and CA



FOR THE PASTRY CHEF

Pastry Specialist

SPOONFULS OF SWEET DELIGHT



Embraced by chefs globally for their high quality, consistency, and superior taste, Nielsen-Massey continues to set the gold standard for premium vanilla. Their careful bean selection process and small batch, cold extraction preserves hundreds of natural vanilla bean flavors, for a celebration of complexity and authenticity in every bottle.

Nielsen-Massey's popular single origin **Madagascar Bourbon Pure Vanilla Extract and Paste** begin with beans sourced from small farms in the Bourbon Islands of Madagascar – the world's leading vanilla growing region. Where other brands use heat and pressure for extraction, Nielsen-Massey carefully draws out vanilla's delicate flavors using a cold process, to gently retain as many naturally occurring flavor compounds as possible. The end result is a rich, full-bodied, slightly sweet flavor and aroma profile unique to its country of origin that complements a wide variety of sweet and savory dishes.

9199712 **Madagascar Vanilla Extract** 1/32 oz

Stocked in IL, TX, VA and CA



5478946 **Madagascar Vanilla Paste** 1/32 oz

Stocked in IL, TX, VA and CA



In addition to their single origin offerings, Nielsen-Massey is proud to offer a new line of vanilla products for culinary creators looking for cost-effective and uncompromising flavor. Crafted with the same high-quality standards their products are known for, **Chefs' Select by Nielsen-Massey** is created with a new, proprietary blend of vanilla beans, offering true-to-bean taste at a price any culinary professional can afford. The Chefs' Select line includes both vanilla extract and paste to fit a wide variety of applications and needs.

Since their start over a century ago, Nielsen-Massey has been committed to excellence. From bean to bottle, each step of their meticulous process is designed to provide the best in flavor and innovation to culinary creators. Rediscover the romance of vanilla and elevate your artistry with Nielsen-Massey.

7225876 **Chefs' Select Vanilla Extract** 1/32 oz

Stocked in IL, TX, VA and CA



INDUSTRY TRENDS

Retail & Foodservice

DATASSENTIAL 2024 FOOD TRENDS

Datassential's hotly-anticipated 2024 Annual Trends Report is here with a deep dive into everything that should be on your radar for the year ahead and beyond. While there is no way we can cram 300+ pages of knowledge onto this page, we'll share some Key Consumer Statistics and Food/Flavor Trends to keep in mind as you plan for success in 2024.

KEY CONSUMER STATISTICS

COVID-19 isn't top-of-mind anymore for most consumers, especially as nearly half (49%) believe they've had the Coronavirus at this point. Nearly 60% of consumers also think COVID will be an annual occurrence like the flu, and about a third of consumers are still cautious about large crowds and support safety precautions at foodservice operations. While most consumers agree we're "post"-pandemic rather than in a pandemic, it's clear COVID isn't completely in our rearview mirror.

The U.S. never technically entered a recession in 2023, and inflation is easing, but value is still top-of-mind with consumers and operators. **Nearly all consumers say food prices have been too high for too long**, so offering consumers what they see as a deal will continue to be key in the year ahead.

The motto "treat yourself" isn't going anywhere. Consumers may be budget-conscious, but they're still up for indulging in premium foods, beverages, and experiences. Some generations seek out premium experiences more regularly than others, and a majority of consumers say they indulge in a food-related treat at least weekly.

Health is all about the H's: holistic and hydration. Carb counting and weight loss haven't been central to the definition of healthy eating for years, but it's clearer than ever that consumers are now prioritizing other health aspects such as brain health, getting more sleep, and stressing less. We'll also see how water bottle culture has hit a peak as consumers live out their hydration era.

There's room for both new, unique foods and familiar comforts. Though it varies slightly by foodservice venue, consumers are mostly split between wanting a mix of both trend-forward, eye-opening items and approachable favorites.

Innovation remains key. Despite budget woes and nostalgia-influenced wants for familiar foods, consumers are looking for operators and manufacturers who will take foods and beverages to the next level in 2024. Nearly 80% of consumers are looking forward to food and beverage trends in the new year.

NEW CLASSIC FLAVORS TO LEVERAGE

The following foods and flavors are some of the recent MVPs on menus and are go-to's for many in-the-know chefs. While they're likely familiar to you, they can still be new for many consumers. Leverage these new classic flavors to add interest to major chain menus, as they're safer bets that have already seen considerable menu growth. These are the foods and flavors that have transitioned from far-out trends into new classics that you'll see on chain menus everywhere in 2024. *The number listed next to each flavor shows the percentage of consumers interested in trying it.*

- Tahini (38%): this sauce or paste made from sesame seeds isn't just the star of hummus, it's also being used in next-level applications like protein bars, drizzled on savory bowls/salads, and in plant-based ice cream.



- Yuzu (42%): the bright Japanese citrus fruit is now a common flavor at fast casual and casual dining chains, showing just how quickly trends can move. Use yuzu in beverages, salad dressings, desserts, baked goods, and more.
- Black Garlic (50%): fermented (but only slightly funky and mostly sweet), stark-colored garlic product has big potential in the coming year as consumers seek out unique, rich flavors. Black garlic can be found serving as flavor inspiration not just for menu items but also retail products.



- Harissa (26%): This spicy North African condiment that many have called "the next sriracha" can be swirled into everything from soups and stews to dips to meat and veggie marinades to whipped feta.



- Focaccia (59%): From Instagram sensation to menu mainstay, focaccia is having a moment and can be easily leveraged as a sandwich carrier or dressed up with edible flowers to take social media by storm.

QUINTESSENTIAL BRUNCH BEVERAGE

Spring brings us celebrations and gatherings often over brunch, starting with Easter, followed by Mother's Day, and making its way into summer with graduations or just gathering with friends and family. While brunch is a meal that has something for everyone for food, this is also a meal that quietly celebrates beverages as well.



A common brunch cocktail is the Bloody Mary. The days of the Bloody Mary with just celery in the glass are over. These days, anything (everything!) goes.

Start with the base. Even this is not as straight forward as it was. Some customers

like it spicy, some mild, others like something a bit smoother and sweeter. We have it all available to offer.

McClure's gives us a bold, tangy, robust mix using their pickle brine, dill and garlic. A meaty mix like no other.



McClure's original Bloody Mary mix, featuring an extra kick for those who like it spicy.

9901427 McClure's Spicy Bloody Mary Mix 6/32 oz
Stocked IL, TX, and VA



Milder Bloody Mary mix for those who like to savor the flavors, but may not prefer the heat of the original spicy.

7008640 McClure's Bloody Mary Mix 4/1 gal
Stocked IL and VA; Non-stock TX and CA



Valencia Gold and Carolina Gold Tomatoes make this Bloody Mary mix different than any other you have tried. They do not use any canned tomatoes or tomato paste in their mix, just fresh tomatoes. These golden tomatoes have a slightly sweeter, and less acidic taste than the typical red, making this more approachable for some. This, combined with a proprietary blend of green hot sauce, sweet-hot pickle jusice and secret spices create the award winning mix that is taking the country by storm.



7260069 Natural Blonde Bloody Mary Mix 2/1 gal
Stocked IL, TX, VA, and CA



7219935 Natural Blonde Bloody Mary Mix 12/32 oz
Stocked IL, TX, VA, and CA



7219907 Natural Blonde Bloody Mary Mix 12/16 oz
Stocked IL, VA, and CA; Non-stock TX



Once the base is set then the garnish can be anything from a simple garnish to a meal of its own in a glass.

7219893 Natural Blonde Salty Rimmer 12/3.5 oz
Stocked IL, TX, VA, and CA



3137605 Raisin River Bacon, Center Cut 2/5 lb
Stocked IL, TX, and VA



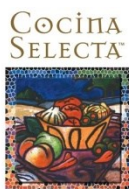
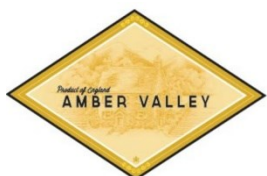
1700176 Cocina Sel Stuffed Queen Olives 4/80 oz
Stocked IL, TX, and VA



1450000 Ellsworth Cheese Curd 2/5 lb
Stocked IL, TX, VA, and CA



1319864 Restaurantware 6" Knot Skewer 1/1000 ct
Stocked IL, TX, VA, and CA



European Imports, Inc.
600 E. Brook Dr.
Arlington Hts., Illinois 60005

Phone: 800.323.3464
Fax: 847-631-6001
Website: www.eiltd.com

WHAT'S NEW?

HUNGRY FOR MORE?

HERE'S WHAT'S NEW AT EUROPEAN IMPORTS THIS MONTH. GET A FIRST LOOK AT OUR EXCITING NEW ITEMS!



7264758
Bellwether Farms
Creme Fraiche
2/32 oz
Stocked IL, TX, VA and CA



7286787
Delizie
Dried Calabrian
Oregano Bunch
12/1.76 oz
Stocked IL and VA



7201246
Big Fork
Gangster Sauce
12/8 oz
Stocked IL



7276136
Ilchester
Chili Fusion Cheddar
2/3.3 lb
Stocked IL, TX, VA and CA



7274252
Traiteur de Paris
Caramel Delight
16/3.17 oz
Stocked IL, TX, VA and CA



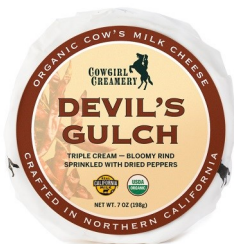
7287843
Quorum
Dueto—Cured Cow &
Sheep's Milk Cheese
2/6.6 lb
Stocked IL, TX, VA and CA



7093460
Cowgirl Creamery
Wagon Wheel
1/15 lb
Stocked IL, TX, VA and CA



7274460
Cowgirl Creamery
Hop Along Wheel
1/5 lb
Stocked IL, TX, VA and CA



7274429
Cowgirl Creamery
Devil's Gulch
6/7 oz
Stocked IL, TX, VA and CA



7274466
Cowgirl Creamery
Mt. Tam
12/7 oz
Stocked IL, TX, VA and CA



7274462
Cowgirl Creamery
Pierce Point
6/7 oz
Stocked IL, TX, VA and CA



7274498
Cowgirl Creamery
Red Hawk
6/7 oz RW
Stocked IL, TX, VA and CA

Contact Us:
Phone: 800.323.3464
Fax: 847-631-6001



Frozen Vegetables, Fresh from the Field

Stocked in All Divisions



7258776
**Crop's
Risotto Base**
4/5.5 lb



7258773
**Crop's
Ratatouille**
4/5.5 lb



7258777
**Crop's
Seasoned Couscous &
Vegetable Blend**
4/5.5 lb



7258778
**Crop's
Seasoned Grain & Garden
Vegetable Blend**
4/5.5 lb



7258768
**Crop's
Grain & Vegetable
Mediterranean Blend**
4/5.5 lb



7258769
**Crop's
Broccoli Gratin**
4/5.5 lb



7258772
**Crop's
Cauliflower Gratin**
4/5.5 lb



7258925
**Crop's
Potato Gratin**
4/5.5 lb

We preserve all that's good

"To preserve the natural goodness of our vegetables to the max, we keep the cycles between harvesting and freezing extremely short. So short, in fact, that their taste, texture, and nutritional value often exceed that of their "fresh" retail counterparts."

Source: <https://www.cropsvegetables.com/article/Field-fresh-frozen-to-preserve-all-thats-good>



STAY ON TREND

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

@EUROPEANIMPORTS



Contact Us:
Phone: 800.323.3464
Fax: 847-631-6001

10
WWW.EILTD.COM

