



EUROPEAN  
— IMPORTS —  
a Sysco company

# Epicurean

Exploring the Art of Fine  
Foods and Culinary  
Craftsmanship.

## Sip into Summer!

This summer, flavor is on the move. Bright citrus, herbal infusions, and mocktails are taking center stage. Explore our curated beverage selections that meet the moment—perfect for patios, poolside menus, and beyond.





THE JULY ISSUE

## Summertime Sipping

As we enter the dog days of summer, there's nothing quite like a refreshing beverage to cool off and quench your thirst. From effervescent sparkling waters and sodas to smooth coffees or even smoothies, European Imports offers an abundance of options to choose from. With so many options, let's take a look at some of the newest offerings.

Let's start with the *anything-but-basic* water category.

**Gerolsteiner** Sparkling is Germany's most-consumed mineral water. The secret to its identity and success is its volcanic origin – it results in a naturally carbonated water that has high mineralization but a neutral, well-balanced taste. While European Imports has proudly offered Gerolsteiner Sparkling for years, we now carry a **16.9 oz PET Bottle**, perfect for on-the-go this summer.

Another brand new, natural mineral water with volcanic origins is **Sant Aniol**. The water comes from a natural spring in the Collsacabra mountain range, in the heart of Catalonia, Spain. The source is known for its purity and high quality, which contributes to the water's unique taste. The small 8.4 oz bottle makes this easy to take with you anywhere.

And finally, we introduce another naturally sparkling mineral water: **Vilajuïga**. The water comes from a natural spring located in the protected area of the Vilajuïga mountains, near the Costa Brava. The spring is known for its purity and balanced mineral composition. The natural carbonated bubbles in Vilajuïga are finer and more numerous than those of water with added carbon dioxide, making it delicate in the mouth and giving it a unique flavor.



Next up: soda, reimagined.

**GuS** – which stands for “Grown Up Soda®” – was founded in hopes of offering a less sweet – and less dull – option in the flavored seltzer segment. The distinctive sodas are made with real juice and flavor extracts, lightly sweetened with cane sugar, and are available in refreshing flavors, including their newest: **Mango Peach Soda**.

Another soda born from the founder's desire to enjoy soda without having to choose between sugar and flavor is **Poppi**. By mixing fruit juices with apple cider vinegar, prebiotics, and sparkling water, Allison Ellsworth created what we now know and love as Poppi. Try all five flavors of prebiotic soda: **Orange**, **Strawberry Lemon**, **Raspberry Rose**, **Grape**, and **Lemon Lime**.

**Sanpellegrino** CIAO! is a flavored sparkling water with real fruit juices, balanced by a pinch of Sicilian salt. Available in four different flavors – **Peach**, **Lime**, **Cherry**, and **Blood Orange** – it offers a refreshing taste of the Italian zest for life, with zero grams of added sugar and just 10 calories or less per can.

See **Page 12** for additional beverages, including the newest flavors from **Something & Nothing**.

# Spotlight

Jeff Babcock

*Cheese*



7237256 Blue Cheese Olives 12/5oz

## A Bold Beginning, Aged to Perfection

It all started in 1999, when Shaft's Cheese founder John “Jack” Gibson Sr. was offered a batch of “past date” blue cheese. One bite was all it took—Jack recognized its potential and set out to create something truly exceptional. His search led him to the finest cheese from Wisconsin, and eventually, to a forgotten gold mine shaft tucked away in the Northern California foothills. It was there, in this uniquely cool and humid environment, that Shaft’s Cheese began aging its blue cheese, where a new legacy was born. Today, Shaft’s Cheese is proud to produce a line of artisan cheeses crafted using traditional techniques, premium ingredients, and an uncompromising dedication to flavor. While the original mine shaft may be behind us, we still replicate those ideal aging conditions, blending the quality of Wisconsin dairy with the rustic charm of California craftsmanship. It’s not just blue cheese, it’s Shaft’s Blue, and it’s unlike anything else.

What sets them apart? Time. Their blues are aged longer than any other in the U.S.—the crumbles rest in the wheel for six full months before being broken down, all wheels are aged for a minimum of 12 months, and Ellie’s Vintage 2-Year is so creamy, it’s nearly butter. They also offer naturally cured Blue Cheese Olives (a Shaftini essential!) and bold flavor pairings perfect for beer, wine, and charcuterie boards.

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Need serving ideas? Crumble their blue into a tangy apple slaw for a refreshing twist on a classic side, mix it with panko to crust a steak, or stir it into lobster mac for a decadent comfort dish. Whether you're dressing up a Bloody Mary or crafting the ultimate cheese board, Shaft's delivers bold, balanced flavor with every bite.



- A. 7237278 Blue Cheese Stuffed Olives Shaftini 2/30ct
- B. 7268244 Ellie's Vintage Reserve 2 Year Blue 1/3lbs
- C. 1690892 Aged Bleu Cheese 1/5-6lbs
- D. 7387118 Serendipity Wheel Aged Blue & Sharp Cheddar 1/6lbs
- E. 7387083 Serendipity Wedge Aged Blue & Sharp Cheddar 12/6oz
- F. 7268327 Crumbled Blue Cheese 1/5lbs

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# Spotlight

Ryan LaMere

*Seafood*



## Taste of the Cantabrian Sea

7375530 Anchovies in  
Olive Oil Serie ORO 1/18.7oz

Since 1981, Conservas Ortiz has been a proud guardian of artisanal fishing and preservation traditions in Ondarrao, a coastal town in Spain's Basque region. Founded by Bernardo Ortiz de Zárate, the company has been shaped by five generations of family dedication, producing a gourmet range of Pescado del Mar Cantábrico—seafood from the Cantabrian Sea—while preserving the environment that sustains it.

Conservas Ortiz works hand-in-hand with local fishermen who use time-honored, sustainable methods to harvest fish with care. Using live bait to catch Bonito del Norte (Atlantic White Tuna) and nets for anchovies, these traditional techniques prevent bruising and stress to the fish while protecting the rich marine biodiversity of the Cantabrian Sea.

Two standout species define the Ortiz offering:

- Bonito del Norte – A medium-sized tuna prized for its exquisite flavor and delicate, silky texture.
- Cantabrian Anchovy (*Engraulis encrasicolus*) – Globally celebrated for its firm texture and intense umami-rich taste.

The superior quality of these species is deeply rooted in the unique conditions of the Cantabrian Sea—its cool temperatures, ideal salinity, and plankton-rich waters. Ortiz ensures peak freshness by harvesting each species at the optimal time: anchovies in April, and Bonito del Norte during the summer months.

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What sets Conservas Ortiz apart is its unwavering commitment to traditional processing. Anchovies are cleaned upon arrival to port, matured in barrels for a minimum of six months, and then meticulously filleted by hand through a six-step process. Similarly, the Bonito del Norte loins are hand-packed and aged for at least two months to develop their signature flavor and texture.

The result? A line of premium, sustainably harvested seafood products known worldwide for their quality, flavor, and authenticity. With every tin, Conservas Ortiz brings the soul of the Cantabrian coast to the table—one hand-filleted anchovy or tender tuna loin at a time.



**A. 7375517 Anchovies in Olive Oil**  
10/1.68oz *— coming soon —*

**B. 7375528 Sardines in Olive Oil 12/6.7oz**  
*— coming soon —*

**C. 7375557 Sardines in Olive Oil 20/4.94oz**  
*— coming soon —*

**D. 7375560 White Tuna in Olive Oil 12/3.95oz**  
*— coming soon —*



**E. 7375533 Anchovies in Olive Oil**  
15/3.35oz  
*— coming soon —*



**F. 7375545 Boquerones White Anchovies Marinated 12/3.88oz**  
*— coming soon —*



**G. 7375523 Anchovies Salted 12/3.53oz**  
*— coming soon —*



**H. 7375529 White Tuna in Olive Oil 12/7.76oz**  
*— coming soon —*





# Spotlight

Tessa Brueckner



## Crafted with Centuries of Expertise

More than a century ago, in 1898, Abel Paillard—a skilled weaver by trade—took an unexpected turn that would shape the future of French culinary craftsmanship. Purchasing an oil mill in Paris, Paillard immersed himself in the art of oil making, quickly becoming a master known for his expertise in nut and blended oils. His dedication laid the foundation for what would become Huilerie De Lapalisse, a family-run company that continues to honor its roots with the Abel 1898 brand.

Today, Abel 1898 stands for refined, versatile oils made with care and tradition. These oils are more than just ingredients—they're finishing touches that bring depth and elegance to every dish. Whether used in marinades, vinaigrettes, desserts, or simply drizzled over seasonal vegetables, Abel 1898 oils deliver exceptional flavor and functionality. Their line includes rich nut oils perfect for pairing with cheeses or delicate pastries, as well as high-heat avocado oil with a clean, neutral taste that makes it ideal for grilling, sautéing, or finishing seafood.

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Abel's avocado oil is naturally high-heat resistant—ideal for grilling and searing seafood.



**A. 7358721 Pistachio Oil Tin 6/8.45oz**

**B. 7358720 Virgin Macadamia Oil Tin 6/8.45oz**

**C. 7358711 Almond Oil Tin 6/8.45oz**

**D. 7358712 Avocado Oil Tin 6/16.9oz**

The oils are cold-pressed or lightly toasted to preserve the natural aroma and depth of flavor, making them ideal for both professional and home kitchens. Beyond flavor, Abel 1898 oils offer natural wellness benefits. Rich in unsaturated fats, omega-3, vitamin E, and antioxidants, they support a balanced approach to indulgence. Packaged in recyclable metal cans that protect against light, these oils are as thoughtful in presentation as they are in production. Elegant, healthy, and deeply rooted in French tradition—Abel 1898 is more than oil; it's a legacy bottled for today's kitchen.



# Spotlight

## Purées

Andrea Coté



## Clean & Versatile Purées

Les vergers Boiron, a family-run company based in France's Rhône Valley, has been dedicated to fruit excellence for over 80 years. Originally fruit traders, the Boiron family pioneered the first frozen fruit purees for foodservice in 1970, using advancements in frozen technology to bring consistent, high-quality fruit solutions to chefs and beverage professionals around the world. Today, they work closely with trusted producers in over 30 countries to source more than 50 different fruits, selecting only the best varieties and growing conditions to ensure peak flavor and the perfect Brix. Their long-standing commitment to sustainability is reflected in their Care for the Future program, and now proudly backed by their B Corp Certification—ensuring that their mission continues with care, quality, and responsibility at every step.

Les vergers Boiron now offers food and beverage professionals two distinct ranges of fruit solutions. The Frozen Range: beloved by pastry chefs and beverage professionals as 'the reference' for premium quality, and the recently launched Ambient Range: offering the same premium quality Boiron is known for, with the added convenience and versatility of a shelf stable -no prep, just pour!

**A. 7364628 Strawberry Puree Ambient 1/1L**

**B. 7364625 Raspberry Puree Ambient 1/1L**

**C. 7364626 Mango Puree Ambient 1/1L**

**D. 7364624 Passion Fruit Puree Ambient 1/1L**

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- A. 7283661 Pineapple Fruit Puree 6/1kg  
 B. 7267765 Passion Fruit Frozen Fruit Puree 6/1kg  
 C. 7283669 Blueberry Fruit Puree 6/1kg  
 D. 7283668 White Peach Fruit Puree 6/1kg  
 E. 7283677 Raspberry Fruit Puree 6/1kg  
 F. 7283680 Guava Fruit Puree 6/1kg

- G. 7283687 Coconut Cream Puree 6/1kg  
 H. 7283681 Blackberry Fruit Puree 6/1kg  
 I. 7283705 Black Cherry Fruit Puree 6/1kg  
 J. 7297109 Strawberry Fruit Puree 6/1kg  
 K. 8616671 Frozen Cherry Puree 6/1kg  
 L. 7891799 Frozen Mango Puree 6/1kg





# Retail & Foodservice Industry Trends

## *The Latest in Snacking Trends: Permissible Indulgence, New Occasions, Fancy Food Show Preview*

In "Indulgent Snacks," the Specialty Food Association's latest Trend Report, created with The Food Institute and MenuData, data reveals how seasonal spikes and global consumption patterns are driving consumer demand in a red-hot category.

### **Defining Indulgent Snacking**

The rise of "decadent" delights—foods and beverages that emphasize indulgent sensory experiences over health or functional benefits—spans multiple specialty food categories.

Permissible indulgence is on the rise in snacks and sweets categories, blending bold flavors with added benefits like protein, fiber, or fewer calories.

For brands, there's a clear takeaway: innovate to meet consumer cravings for flavor-packed treats with a functional twist.

### **Key Insights from SFA and Others:**

**Indulgence Drives Demand:** With 46% of Americans snacking three or more times daily and 83% unwilling to sacrifice flavor, indulgent snacks are a growth opportunity across many specialty food categories.

**Seasonality and Premiumization:** Holidays cause spikes in chocolate and other "treat" sales, creating opportunities for strategic promotions and upscale packaging to meet demand and boost revenue. Off-season, focus on value packs and impulse buys.

**Market Trends and Consumer Behavior:** Dollar gains reflect price hikes over volume growth, emphasizing the importance of aligning promos, pack sizes, and private labels with evolving consumer needs.

**The "Girl Dinner" trend is still going strong,** with new and flavor-forward indulgent snacks taking center stage. People are craving smaller, flavorful bites that satisfy as both snacks and light meals—a prime opportunity for B2B brands to innovate and deliver. (Cozymeal)

Source: **Specialty Food Association**



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## A Look at More Refreshing Summer Beverage Options

**Something & Nothing** consistently delivers light, effervescent, and uniquely flavored premium sodas made with high-quality natural juices, extracts, and botanicals. On the heels of launching their **Ginger & Key Lime** variety, they continue to quench our thirst with new flavors, like their newest **Mango & Thai Basil** and **Orange & Mandarin**.

Now that we've seen what's new in sparkling water and soda, let's add a little jolt by looking at the ready-to-drink coffee creating a buzz since its arrival: **SANG**.

SANG – meaning 'bright' in Vietnamese – is the pride & joy of first-generation Vietnamese-American, Lan Pham, whose mission is to share her favorite flavors of Vietnam in modern and convenient ways. The first product she developed and launched is a ready-to-drink Vietnamese Coffee, including four varieties: **Vanilla Black**, **Saigon Cinnamon Latte**, **Traditional Oatmilk**, and **Saigon Cinnamon Oatmilk Latte**.

Finally, it feels wrong to talk summer beverages without talking smoothies. We have several options for crafting the best fruit smoothies year-round.

You know and love **1883** for their extensive line of syrups; but did you know they offer a line of smoothies? The 1883 Smoothie Collection is made from 100% fruit with no sugar added and offers generous and authentic notes of the fruits you know and love. The 1883 Smoothies Collection was created not only for smoothies, but also as an option to craft flavored iced teas!

Newest to the **Boiron** offerings is their line of Ambient Fruit Purees – a game-changer for any operator that lacks cooler or freezer space! The shelf-stable purees offer year-round consistency with vibrant colors and fluid textures and do not include added sugar or artificial flavors. They're ready-to-use in smoothies, but also cocktails, mocktails, frappes, lemonade, ice teas, granitas, and so much more.

And finally, the refrigerated puree line from **Ponthier** has a few new varieties to share this summer: **Lemon**, **Calamansi**, and **Red Rhubarb**. Read more about the highly sustainable company in the **April Newsletter**.





# The Flavor Forecast

Hungry for something new? Check out the most recent products we've proudly added to our specialty food offerings.



**7389696**  
Farmer Direct Foods  
Prairie Select Enriched All-Purpose Flour  
1/50lbs



**7387809**  
Sabatino  
Black Truffle Sauce  
2/14oz



**7387083**  
Shaft's  
Serendipity Aged Blue And Sharp Cheddar Wedges  
12/6oz



**7387118**  
Shaft's  
Serendipity Aged Blue And Sharp Cheddar Wheel  
1/6lbs



**7383191**  
LacLare Creamery  
Lemon Bar Goat Cheese  
12/4oz



**7383196**  
Olli  
Chipotle Salami Monterey Jack Cracker Snack  
10/2oz



**7383135**  
Olli  
Habanero Salami Pepper Jack Cracker Snack  
10/2oz



**4626919**  
Alessi  
Balsamic Reduction  
6/8.5oz



**7383132**  
Alessi  
Calabrian Chili Crisp In Oil  
12/6/3.5oz



**7381024**  
La Lola  
Stuffed Squids In American Sauce  
12/4oz



**7380945**  
La Lola  
Squid Pieces In Ink Sauce  
12/4oz



**7381574**  
Behr  
100% Iberico Salchichón  
5/1lb

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**7380963**  
**Beher**  
**100% Iberico Chorizo**  
**5/1lb**



**7381088**  
**Char Crust**  
**Countertop Display Of**  
**Dry-Rub Seasonings**  
**12/4oz**



**7380184**  
**Barber's Farmhouse**  
**Truffler Cheddar**  
**12/5.3oz**



**7380147**  
**Sorrento Saponi E Tradizioni S.R.L.**  
**Pre-Sliced Cannoli Ricotta**  
**Chocolate Chip Cake**  
**1/2.9lbs**



**7380185**  
**Sorrento Saponi E**  
**Tradizioni S.R.L.**  
**Delizia Pistachio**  
**6/3.53oz**



**7380194**  
**Sorrento Saponi E**  
**Tradizioni S.R.L.**  
**Delizia Tiramisù**  
**6/3.53oz**



**7380238**  
**Effie'S Homemade**  
**Ginger Biscuits**  
**12/7.2oz**



**7380240**  
**Effie'S Homemade**  
**Gruyere Biscuits**  
**12/7.2oz**



**7375989**  
**Quicke's**  
**Mature Clothbound**  
**Cheddar**  
**10/5.3oz**



**7375992**  
**Quicke's**  
**Oak Smoked**  
**Clothbound Cheddar**  
**10/5.3oz**



**7375984**  
**Bonne Maman**  
**Mini Guava Preserves**  
**60/1oz**



**7375957**  
**Top Seedz**  
**6-Seed Snack Pack**  
**Crackers**  
**30/0.75oz**

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**7375963**  
**Top Seedz**  
**Rosemary Snack Pack**  
**Crackers**  
**30/0.75oz**



**7375965**  
**Top Seedz**  
**Rosemary Grab & Go**  
**Crackers**  
**20/1.5oz**



**7375970**  
**Top Seedz**  
**Sea Salt Snack Pack**  
**Crackers**  
**30/0.75oz**



**7375972**  
**Top Seedz**  
**Sea Salt Grab & Go Crackers**  
**20/1.5oz**



**7375447**  
**Andros Professional**  
**Apple Cinnamon**  
**Filling/Baking Jam**  
**1/22lbs**



**7375449**  
**Andros Professional**  
**Apricot Filling/Baking**  
**Jam**  
**1/22lbs**



**7375485**  
**Andros Professional**  
**Blueberry Filling/Baking**  
**Jam**  
**1/22lbs**



**7375481**  
**Andros Professional**  
**Cherry Filling/Baking Jam**  
**1/22lbs**



**7375492**  
**Andros Professional**  
**Raspberry**  
**Filling/Baking Jam**  
**1/22lbs**



**7375193**  
**Andros Professional**  
**Strawberry**  
**Filling/Baking Jam**  
**1/22lbs**



**7359429**  
**Fratelli Pinna**  
**Capra Sarda**  
**2/7lbs**



**7321765**  
**Les Comtes de Provence**  
**Peach Nectarine Fruit**  
**Spread**  
**6/12oz**

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**7321760**  
**Les Comtes de Provence**  
**Clementine Fruit Spread**  
**6/12oz**



**7321759**  
**Les Comtes de Provence**  
**Blackcurrant Fruit Spread**  
**6/12oz**



**7321749**  
**Les Comtes de Provence**  
**Black Cherry Fruit Spread**  
**6/12oz**

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