

Firm benefits of organic tomatoes make for better paste

NOT ONLY are organic tomatoes more nutrient-dense for final consumers – now, new research has found firm benefits from organic tomatoes on the processing line itself.

Dr. Diane Barrett from the University of California has discovered organic tomatoes need less water removed during processing, and can result in a better tomato paste.

Her report – ‘Qualitative and Nutritional Differences in Processing Tomatoes Grown under Commercial Organic and Conventional Production Systems’ - states organic tomatoes consistently contain more total and soluble solids than conventional tomatoes.

Soluble solids are a key factor in high quality tomatoes grown for processing as the higher the percentage of solids, the less water there is to be removed.

The report - which analysed samples of tomato juice from four different organically produced tomato batches – also found organic tomato juice had high levels of consistency and titratable acidity.

When both these attributes are present in the production of tomato paste, they produce a final product which can require less thermal treatment and is more flavoursome.

“This finding could result in cost savings from less energy required in paste



manufacture and a potentially higher quality product due to less thermal degradation of colour, flavour, and nutrients,” stated the report.

It said greater levels of the precious soluble solids could be a result of the slower growth rate in organic fields, with organic tomatoes more likely to mature slowly.

But it also reported significant differences between tomatoes from specific growers – likely to be attributable to “differences in soil type, soil nutrients, and environmental conditions in production”.



After the Oscars...

THE AUSTRALIAN Certified Organic (ACO) Bud logo has strutted its stuff at the Health Smart Awards 2009, when Health Smart magazine presented its prizes for standout health and wellbeing products. Of the five nominations in the organic cereals section, three went to ACO certified products - Sanitarium Organic Weetbix, You'll Love Coles Organic Wholegrain Wheat Biscuits and Abundant Earth Organic Bircher Muesli – with Sanitarium, proudly boasting the Bud on the front of its packaging, taking out the honours.



A true...

FULLY COMPOSTED organic pelletized fertiliser rich in organic carbon compounds



- the major energy source for soil microbes -

At Katek we understand the importance of composting and providing products that enhance beneficial microbes. Including Major and Trace Elements our products improve soil organic matter and as a result will improve water holding capacity and nutrient retention.



Whatever you're growing ... we'll get it going!

For more information on Katek products and how they can work for you, email us on admin@katekfertilizers.com.au visit us at www.katekfertilizers.com.au or call us on 0411 444 409.



Each week more growers are making the switch to our products for real results.