



Freshway
FOODS

Your fresh produce solution.
Our passion.

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TO OUR VALUED CUSTOMERS

At Freshway Foods, the safety of the products we produce is one of our top priorities. This statement is to inform around our wash water systems.

It is important to note that if the packaging of fresh-cut or other value-added produce says “washed”, “triple washed” or “ready-to-eat” then they have been washed in product-specific, wash systems and re-washing is not required. In some cases, the packaging may be specified by a private brand or a particular customer requirement and may not have the wording as to its wash status. For fresh-cut and value-added products produced by Freshway Foods, these products are washed and ready to eat.

Our value-added products are handled and processed under FDA Title 21 of the Code of Federal Regulations (21 CFR part 110) which establishes regulations for current good manufacturing practice (CGMP) in preparing, packing or holding food. As such, our value-added products are subjected to a multi-stage chlorinated wash system. Our facilities operate under rigorous Quality Systems and FSMA-based process controls. Temperature, free-chlorine, oxidation reduction potential, pH, turbidity, and foreign object control points are monitored according to an established program with real-time control and data-logging. This monitoring is set on a scheduled frequency and verified by QA management to assure requirements are followed and align within expected parameters.

Our processing plants are under the jurisdiction of the FDA and as such are inspected on a regular, unannounced basis. Furthermore, our facilities have been HACCP certified under the Global Food Safety Standard (GFSI) and they are audited by a number of 3rd party agencies.

We are also asked about the need for re-washing of our processed items. Freshway Foods does not recommend re-washing our product prior to use. Re-washing ready-to-eat produce isn't necessary and does not provide additional benefit, according to a scientific panel that studied the issue in 2007. (Source: Palumbo et al, 2007. “Recommendations for Handling Fresh-Cut Leafy Green Salads by Consumers and Retail Foodservice Operators”, Food Protection Trends, vol. 27, no. 11, pp 892-898.)

Lastly, we are often asked about the use of preservatives. The key to maintaining good shelf-life of our products includes the raw materials condition, cleaning of the product, temperature control, and packaging methods. No preservatives, such as sulfites, are used on our fresh cut vegetable products.

If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact us or your sales representative directly.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Carnes
Food Safety and Quality Assurance Manager

