

December 2020, Issue 68



### SafeSourcing e-Newsletter

Have comments, questions, or suggestions about the SafeSourcing e-Newsletter? Let us know what you think by emailing us at the following address. We look forward to hearing from you!

[events@safesourcing.com](mailto:events@safesourcing.com)

#### Trivia!

What does SCEM mean?

[www.safesourcing.com](http://www.safesourcing.com)

## Industry News

### Shortages for the Holiday Season

#### Small Turkey Shortage

Hunting for smaller turkeys during the 2020 holiday season is a challenge. The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) reports that national demand for smaller frozen hens, which weigh 8 lbs. to 16 lbs., is higher than male turkeys, which weigh 16 lbs. to 24 lbs. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends small gatherings rather than attending multi-household gatherings.

The demand for smaller turkeys is up, however, turkey farmers have been raising larger than average turkeys all year. The average weight of turkeys prior to slaughter this year has been higher than the multi-year average. A 16-pound store-bought turkey weighs about 20 lbs. at slaughter. The average weights of slaughtered turkeys typically falls from October to November as producers shift from raising large birds for deli meat and parts to the smaller birds to be cooked whole. Whole birds are frozen and put into storage to build up the holiday supply. This helps ensure there's enough in stock for peak holiday demand, but also means the industry is less able to adapt to the changes in consumer demand brought on by pandemic restrictions. Turkeys designated for the holiday season this year were raised and slaughtered starting in June, well before warnings from health officials. ■

*Karen Ho, Quartz, 11/23/2020*

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<b>Jan.</b>	Answer to our Trivia!
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#### Recent Savings

##### Cleaning Supplies

Savings were over 65% of total spend. ■

##### Cups, Lids, and Straws

Savings were over 46% of total spend. ■

\*Please [contact SafeSourcing](#) to schedule your RISK FREE event today.

## Live Christmas Tree Shortage

One day after Thanksgiving, some Christmas tree lot operators are already expecting to run out of trees or sell out of reservations to get one. Some Christmas tree farms in Illinois are requiring reservations, due to the pandemic. Ivy's Christmas Trees in Lake View doesn't require customers to make a reservation, owner Ivy Speck says, but they could run out of trees this weekend. Reservations have almost doubled from last year and the year before. The early and high demand for trees comes during an ongoing Christmas tree shortage across the country. According to experts, this shortage has its roots in the 2008 global recession, which led to a slowdown in planting seedlings. It can take a tree 7 to 20 years to reach the desired height, so business owners can't flood the market overnight, no matter how high the demand. Farmers are raising their prices on Christmas trees, which could be passed down to the consumer. Some shoppers have noticed a \$20 to \$35 jump from last year.

"For 11 years, City Tree Delivery has been delivering trees from Michigan and Wisconsin to Chicagoland residents, and this could be one of the better years for Hohenstein's business as

customers choose contact-free options during the pandemic." Some Christmas tree farms and lots are offering online ordering and contact-free curbside pickup. ■ [Chris Hush, NBC 5, 11/27/2020](#)

## Grocery Stores Limit Purchases

"As COVID-19 infections increase in the U.S., experts predict that shoppers will start to stock up on a variety of products that could prompt another round of product limits to avoid mass shortages in stores in the coming months." The main culprits are still popping out, the disinfecting wipes, the paper towels, the toilet paper. Kroger, Publix, and Target have limited consumers to two packages of these items. Another grocery store chain, H-E-B, announced purchasing limits in some stores on similar items, as well as rubbing alcohol, hydrogen peroxide, first aid and cleaning gloves. During the pandemic many people began cooking and baking more. Experts have also seen a surge in holiday mainstays and nonperishable items like boxed stuffing, canned goods, and spices. ■

[Kelly McCarthy and Sarah Messer, GMA, 11/18/2020](#)

### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q: How can I subscribe or unsubscribe to these newsletters?

A: You can subscribe or unsubscribe to these free newsletters by simply going to our [website](#), and clicking the option "e-Newsletter" or by contacting us directly at [events@safesourcing.com](mailto:events@safesourcing.com).

Q: I have run events in the past, is there any chance I could be saving more?

A: Yes. No matter when your past event ran, the team at SafeSourcing can find ways for your company to save.

Q: I want to know more about what SafeSourcing does. Who can I talk to about this?

A: You can contact a customer services representative by calling us at 1-888-261-9070 or by going to our [website](#) and trying our "Risk Free Trial" offer.

## Trivia! From November 2020 Issue

What does Reverse Logistics mean?

Reverse logistics is a specialized segment of logistics. The focus is on the way the supply chain flows. The supply chain will flow opposite to the traditional process of order acceptance and fulfillment. For example, reverse logistics includes the handling of customer returns, the disposal of excess inventory, and the return journey of empty trucks.

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