

THE PRODUCE NEWS

Vol. 110, No. 9

COVERING FRESH PRODUCE AROUND THE GLOBE SINCE 1897

Week of February 26, 2007

Redi Bag USA on a roll with innovation

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New Hyde Park, NY-based Redi Bag USA offers a broad line of plastic bag products and is the exclusive licensee and supplier of EPI Environmental Products biodegradable produce bags in North America.

EPI supplies a biodegradable additive that Redi Bag uses during manufacture if its bags.

Redi Bag is supplying the bags for North Carolina-based supermarket chain Harris Teeter, the first supermarket to embrace the biodegradable bags. Harris Teeter has roughly 155 stores, mostly in the southeastern United States.

Jeff Rabiea, president of Redi Bag, said that the company is actively pursuing other customers, as well.

Radu Baci, vice president of manufacturing, research and development for EPI, said that treated bags have a shelf life to cover the life of the product. The plastics maintain the same product performance and characteristics as non-degradable plastics for a controlled period of time. Degradation is triggered by one or all triggers of heat, sunlight or enhanced mechanical stress.

EPI's biodegradable application also has other uses, such as in salad wrapping film, in stretchable cling film and in floral wrappers.

Another new innovation about which Redi Bag is proud is its Cart Cuff, a disposable shopping cart handle that attaches over a shopping cart's permanent handle and allows the user to avoid being directly exposed to germs left behind by others on the handle of shopping carts.

Redi Bag's stock in trade is its easy-to-open produce bag. The company promotes its "Redi Bag" roll produce bag as the first bag that is pre-opened on the roll. By perfecting the patent-pending Redi Bag by means of a manufacturing breakthrough, the company has succeeded in pre-opening the bag while on the roll, reducing static cling and allowing the customer to separate the film and load the

bags without frustration.

Redi Bag also offers "The Better Header" produce bagging system, a header bag that is enclosed within an external sleeve bag, open only in the front. This greatly reduces the likelihood of bags being torn off the back of the header bag package — a common occurrence in standard header bags — and reduces waste and the liability associated with having loose bags end up on the floor. The front of the sleeve also offers point-of-purchase or co-op advertising opportunities. The header bags come in a wide variety of sizes and weights. Flexible styles mean that Redi Bag's header bags can be utilized in multiple locations.

As a sign of its marketing reach, Redi Bag has an account with the U.S. armed forces stateside commissaries.

