

Ipsos Forward Research



George Morris Centre
2009 Vineland New Canadian Quantitative Segmentation Study **Final Report**



September 2009

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Table of Contents

-Background	3
-Research Purpose & Objectives	4
-Methodology	5
-Executive Summary	9
-Conclusions and Recommendations	18
-Detailed Findings	21
General Shopping Behaviour	26 32
-Segmentation	42
Segmentation Overview	

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Background

The fresh whole-fruit industry in Ontario has a number of opportunities and strengths, but it also faces considerable competition. One way to build a positive "brand" for the industry is to ensure an understanding of consumers' definition of quality, and to ensure the value chain delivers that quality. Tying together an understanding of what consumers regard as quality and the value chains definitions of quality provides the opportunity to assess strategic alignment and identify the changes needed in order to bring value to Ontario's customers, and increase market share.

Ipsos has been commissioned by the George Morris Centre to conduct a multi-phase research study designed to understand consumer behaviour and attitudes as they relate to fruit and provide the industry with strategic insight into opportunities. As part of this research, the following research phases have been conducted:

- I Ethnographic Store Walk-Throughs
- II Quantitative Consumer Segmentation Research
- . III Qualitative Research with New Canadians
- IV Quantitative Consumer Segmentation with New Canadians

This report summarizes phase IV, a quantitative segmentation of Canadians born outside of Canada who have moved to Ontario during the past 10 years.

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Vineland New Canadian Segmentation



Research Purpose & Objectives

Research Purpose:

The primary purpose of this research was to better understand consumers of fresh whole-fruit by identifying distinct opportunities among ethnic grocery shoppers.

Research Objectives:

Objects of this research study include, but are not limited to:

- Understanding consumer involvement with fresh whole-fruit;
- Measuring expenditure on food overall and fresh whole-fruit;
- Determining frequency in purchase of various fruits;
- Measuring purchase volume of fresh whole-fruit during winter and summer months;
- Identifying the primary location where consumers purchase fresh whole-fruit;
- Assessing the importance of specific fruit attributes;
- Identifying the role of fruit in the lives of consumers;
- Exploring consumer shopping habits and attitudes;
- Evaluating the degree to which consumers actively look for origin of fruit;
- Assessing the importance of and reasons for purchasing locally grown products;
- And, uncovering fruit attribute association with Canadian or American produce.

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Methodology

- This study was conducted via an online survey methodology. Sample for this study was derived from lpsos proprietary panel of approximately 3,000 new Canadians.
- The study was fielded between August 20^{th} and 24^{th} , 2009 with 491 total surveys completed. Based on this sample size, n=491, maximum statistical margin of error is +/-2.89% at the 95% confidence interval.

Canadians of South Asian Origin

- New Canadians (1 5 years in Canada) of South Asian origin, n= 73
- Established Canadians (6 10 years in Canada) of South Asian origin, n= 164

Canadians of Chinese Origin

- New Canadians (1 − 5 years in Canada) of Chinese origin, n= 26
- Established Canadians (6 10 years in Canada) of Chinese origin, n= 164
- In order to qualify for this study the respondent needed to be Ontario residents, of South Asian or Chinese origin, having lived in Canada for 10 or fewer years. Respondents must also have sole or joint responsibility for shopping and have purchased apples, pears, grapes, peaches, nectarines or plums during the past 4 weeks.

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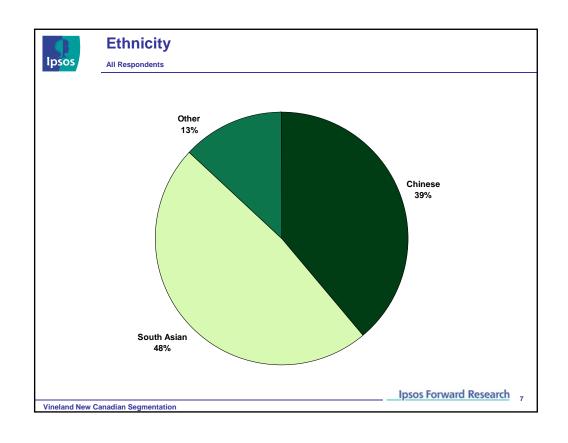
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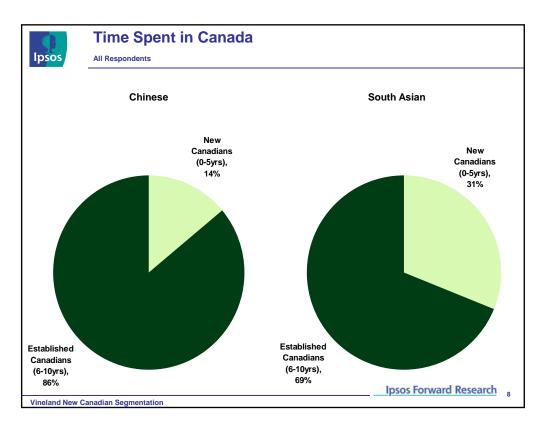


Data Analysis

- A key methodological consideration for this research was to be able to directly compare results from fruit consumer research conducted during Winter 2009 among the general population. Throughout this report comparisons are noted where applicable.
- As the Winter 2009 study also included a Latent Class Segmentation exercise, an algorithm was created to conduct the same segmentation among ethnic grocery shoppers.

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Executive Summary

Overall Grocery Shopping Behaviour

- The average ethnic grocery shopper visits a food retail location between 8 and 9 times per month (not including urgent shopping trips). This is slightly higher than that measured for the general population which visits a food retail location 7 to 8 times per month.
- When asked to identify the food retail location shopped most often, ethnic grocery shoppers were most likely to mention discount chains (58% very/somewhat often) followed by ethnic grocery stores (42%) and large chain grocery stores (37%). This is quite different than among the general population where large grocery chains lead all other store types for share of regular shoppers (53% very/somewhat often) and ethnic grocery stores are a niche market (4% very/somewhat often).
- Ethnic grocery shoppers spend an average of \$407 monthly on food-related groceries, a level approximately 6% lower than that among the general population (\$434). As time spent in Canada increases, so does average grocery spend with "New Canadians" (1-5 years) spending an average of \$371 and "Established Canadians" (6-10 years) spending an average of \$418.

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Fruit Shopping Behaviour

- An analysis of fruit purchase frequency illustrates that ethnic grocery shoppers are routine purchasers of a wide variety of fruit. Apples (95%), Bananas (95%), Grapes (93%) and Citrus (92%) are nearly universally purchased often/sometimes during a typical month. The majority of ethnic grocery shoppers often/sometimes purchase plums (63%), nectarines (67%) and/or peaches (74%).
- Ethnic grocery shoppers tend to purchase their fruit where they do the majority of their shopping with discount grocery stores being the most frequently shopped fruit retail location by a significant margin.
 - Chinese shoppers are far more likely to indicate they routinely purchase fruit at an ethnic grocery store than South Asian Shoppers.
- Total average monthly spend on fruit indicates that ethnic grocery shoppers are a core fruit-consuming segment. On average ethnic grocery shoppers spend \$101.70 on fruit during a given month, a level approximately 40% higher than that among the general population (\$72.60).

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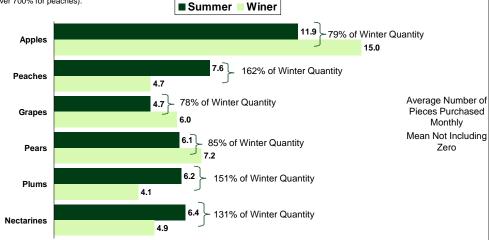
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Executive Summary

Seasonal Purchase Behaviour:

The chart below illustrates the average number of pieces or clusters purchased by consumers in winter and summer months. Although some strong seasonality does exist among ethnic grocery shoppers (peaches, plums, nectarines consumption increases in summer), the season variance is significantly lower than among the general population where seasonal variance exceeded 200% for several fruit (and over 700% for peaches).



Q19. Thinking back over the past 4 weeks (summer months), approx how many of each fruit type have you purchased for your household? Q20. And thinking about a typical Jan/Feb, when ON fruit is typically not in season, approx how many of ach fruit type would you purchase for your household in a typical month. Base: varies by fruit- fruits where respondent aid at least rarely in Q8.

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Attitudes Relating to Ontario-produced Fruit

- Awareness of specific fruit produced on Ontario farms and orchards ranges considerably with nearly universal awareness for apples (90% aware) to less than half for nectarines:
 - 90% of ethnic shoppers are aware apples are produced in Ontario
 - 64% of ethnic shoppers are aware peaches are produced in Ontario
 - 56% of ethnic shoppers are aware grapes are produced in Ontario
 - 52% of ethnic shoppers are aware pears are produced in Ontario
 - 45% of ethnic shoppers are aware plums are produced in Ontario
 - 40% of ethnic shoppers are aware nectarines are produced in Ontario
- Despite, in some cases, relatively low awareness of the availability of Ontario fruit options, the majority (70%) indicate it is easy to identify Ontario fruit while shopping.
- Relative to the general population, however, ethnic grocery shoppers are far less likely to actively look for province/country of origin while shopping:
 - Apples 39% of ethnic grocery shoppers always/often look (64% among general population)
 - Peaches 31% of ethnic grocery shoppers always/often look (57% among general population)
 - Grapes 27% of ethnic grocery shoppers always/often look (52% among general population)
 - Pears 26% of ethnic grocery shoppers always/often look (51% among general population)
 - Nectarines 27% of ethnic grocery shoppers always/often look (47% among general population)
 - Plums 26% of ethnic grocery shoppers always/often look (48% among general population)

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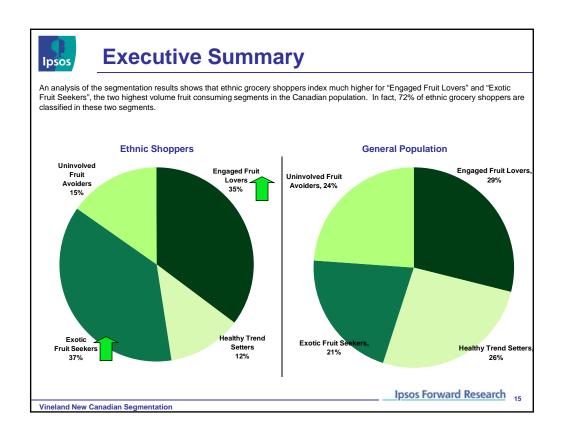


Executive Summary

Attitudes Relating to Ontario-produce Fruit

- Ethnic grocery shoppers are also significantly less likely to identify Ontario/Canada-produced fruit as offering the highest quality:
 - Apples 54% identify Ontario/Canada-produced as highest quality (67% among general population)
 - Peaches 47% identify Ontario/Canada-produced as highest quality (62% among general
 - Grapes 40% identify Ontario/Canada-produced as highest quality (67% among general population)
 - Nectarines 35% identify Ontario/Canada-produced as highest quality (57% among general population)
 - Pears 37% identify Ontario/Canada-produced as highest quality (68% among general population)
 - Plums 36% identify Ontario/Canada-produced as highest quality (64% among general population)
- Among those who have some preference for Ontario/Canada-produced fruit, the motivations for doing so are relatively consistent with the general population, with one exception: support for local economy/farmers is less likely to be considered an important motivation.
 - Fresher Fruit 66% select as Most/2nd Most Important (60% among general population)
 - Better Tasting 43% select as Most/2nd Most Important (41% among general population)
 - Higher Food Safety Standards 39% select as Most/2nd Most Important (34% among general population)
 - Support Local Farmers/Economy 21% select as Most/2nd Most Important (44% among general
 - Better for Enviro. 15% select as Most/2nd Most Important (14% among general population)
 - After Purchase Shelf Life 15% select as Most/2nd Most Important (8% among general population)

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Ipsos	Executive S	uninary		
	Engaged Fruit Lovers	Healthy Trend Setters n=58	Exotic Fruit Seekers n=183	Uninvolved Fruit Avoiders _{n=76}
Involvement With Fruit	Very high involvement with fruit. Pro-Ontario and supportive of local producers.	Average involvement with fruit. Pro-Ontario and supportive of local producers.	Most involved with diverse spectrum of fruit, especially exotics.	Very uninvolved with fruit.
Volume	High volume of fruit purchases. High expenditure on food overall and second highest on fruit. High volume of fruit purchases during winter months.	Average volume of Apples, less for other fruits. Average expenditure on food overall and fruit. Much higher purchases of peaches in summer months.	High volume of variety of fruits but less grapes. High expenditure on food overall and highest on fruit. Seasons do not have big impact on fruit purchases.	Average volume of apples, but very low on all others. Lowest expenditure on food overall including fruit. Seasons do not impact fruit purchases.
Attributes Associated with Ontario Fruit	Freshness, best taste, consistent quality, and texture.	Freshness, best taste, consistent quality, best texture, best appearance, and value for money.	Least likely to associate "highest quality fruits" with Ontario. Unlikely to associate positive fruit attributes with Ontario- produced fruit.	Unlikely to associate positive fruit attributes with Ontario fruit
Shopping	Highly engaged and enjoys shopping for fruit.	Low engagement but price is not a barrier.	Average level of engagement towards grocery shopping.	Unengaged shopper.
ood Lifestyle Choices	Fruit plays a very active role in diet.	Actively avoids processed foods and prefers organic.	Actively avoids processed foods and reads literature about healthy eating.	Fruit is not an active part of lifestyle.
Purchase From	Majority of fresh whole-fruit purchased from large and discount grocery stores.	Majority of fresh whole-fruit purchased from large chains and least likely from discount grocery stores.	Discount and large chain food retailers are where most consumers purchase fruit.	Fresh whole-fruit is purchased most often from discount and large chain grocery stores.
Personal Situation	More women than men. Middle age and more likely to be retired.	More women than men. Middle age and more likely to be retired.	More women than men. Least likely to be born in Canada. Most likely to be employed full-time.	More men than women. Likely to be born in Canada. Likely to be employed full-time Most likely to be in a domestic partnership.



Persuasion Staircase

Engaged Fruit Lovers: This segment has the highest engagement with fruit, purchases high volumes and variety regardless of season and has a strong belief system as it relates to Ontario fruit.

Maintaining the needs of this segment should be a top priority for Ontario fruit marketers.

Exotic Fruit Seekers: This segment is highly engaged with fruit, however, does not recognize Ontario quality.

Better understanding the needs of this segment should be the top priority for Ontario fruit marketers.

Recognizing and Selecting
Ontario Quality

Healthy Trend Setters: This segment is highly engaged with fruit and has a strong, positive belief system toward Ontario fruit. Encouraging more variety in fruit consumption during both winter and summer should be a secondary priority for fruit marketers.

Purchasing a Variety of Fruit Regardless of Season

Uninvolved Fruit Avoiders: At this time this segment is a low priority for Ontario fruit marketers due to low consumption and engagement in the category.

Involvement in Fruit Buying

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Conclusions and Recommendations

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Conclusions and Recommendations

- The ethnic grocery shopper represents a significant immediate and critical long-term opportunity for the Ontario fruit producer:
 - Despite lower average monthly grocery spend than the general population, ethnic grocery shoppers
 report spending approximately 40% more on fresh whole fruit. Further, this fruit spend appears to be
 broadly distributed across a wide range of domestic and imported fruit.
 - Segmentation reveals that nearly three quarters of ethnic grocery shoppers are "Engaged Fruit Lovers" or "Exotic Fruit Seekers", the two most valuable segments to fruit marketers. These segments have achieved high involvement in fruit purchasing and purchase a variety of fruit regardless of season. The only stage of the persuasion staircase potentially left unfulfilled is to recognize and select Ontario quality.
 - The literature review conducted on behalf of Vineland indicates the number of ethnic shoppers is expanding at a rapid rate: "Depending on the projection scenario used, Canada's visible minority population could number between 6.3 million and 8.5 million in 2017; that is, it could be anywhere from 56% to 111% larger than in 2001"

Recommendation: Ethnic grocery shoppers should be a top priority segment for the Ontario fruit industry. Better serving the needs of the ethnic grocery shopper could be a long-term competitive advantage.

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Conclusions and Recommendations

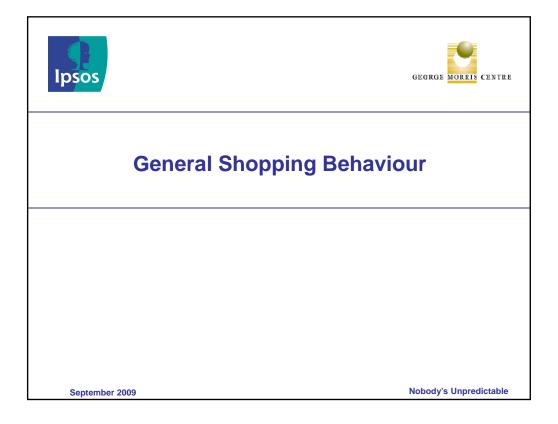
- Despite being a highly desirable audience in terms of consumption, ethnic grocery shoppers pose a significant challenge to Ontario fruit marketers:
 - Shopping location suggests a large proportion of ethnic grocery shoppers are motivated by low price. It may be difficult to establish loyalty if price is the primary motivator.
 - A sizeable proportion of fruit shopping, especially for Chinese Canadians, is occurring at ethnic grocery stores. This means multiple points of contact for the industry with varying levels of size and sophistication.
 - Ethnic grocery shoppers demonstrate significantly less seasonality in purchase volume. The lack of a summer "surge" in demand is incongruent with the Ontario growing season.
 - Ethnic grocery shoppers are less likely to "actively look" for country of origin. Additionally, a sizeable
 proportion of ethnic shoppers are simply unaware of Ontario production for all fruit except apples.
 - Ethnic grocery shoppers are less likely to perceive Ontario as "the best" source of high quality fruit.
 - For ethnic grocery shoppers, the preference for Ontario fruit is linked directly to functional factors such as quality, freshness and taste. "Supporting Local" is not a strong motivator for preference.

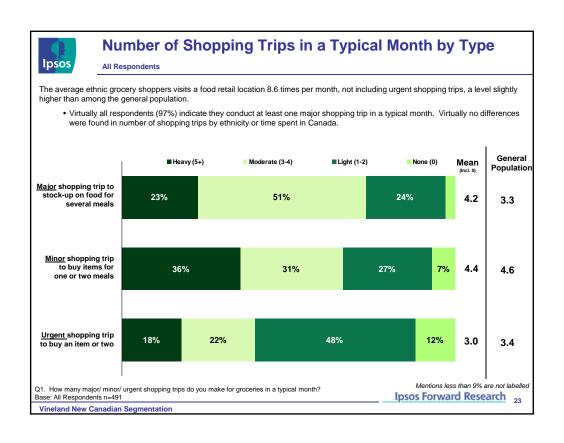
Recommendation: While the ethnic market provides a broad array of challenges and barriers to entry, the rapidly expanding size of this market is likely to large to be ignored by Ontario fruit marketers. Ontario fruit marketers should act now and develop an action plan to address each of the issues listed above. While some may be relatively easy to address, others (such as looking for and recognizing Ontario quality) will require a long-term sustained effort.

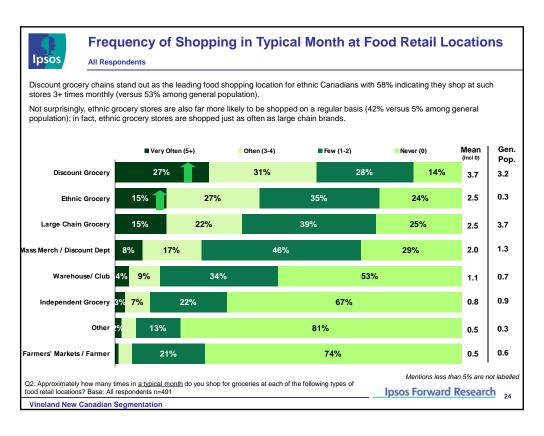
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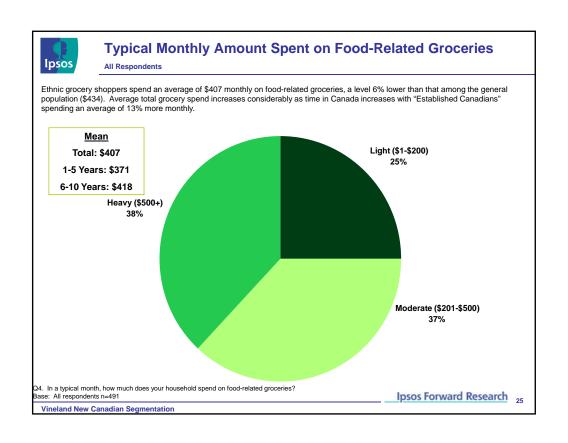
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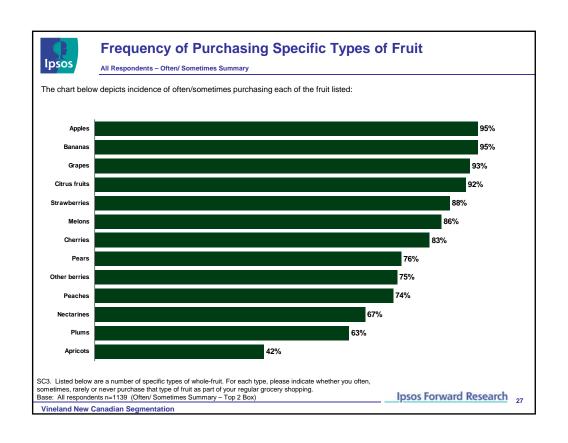


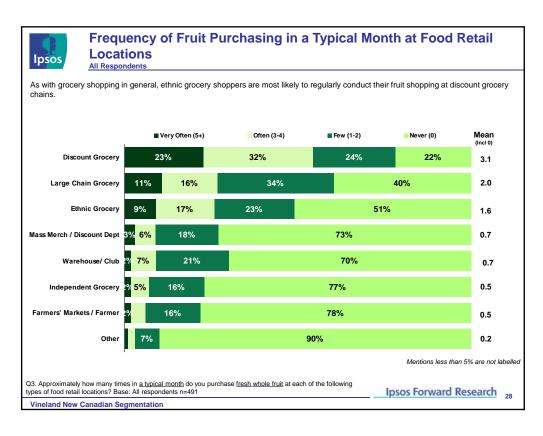


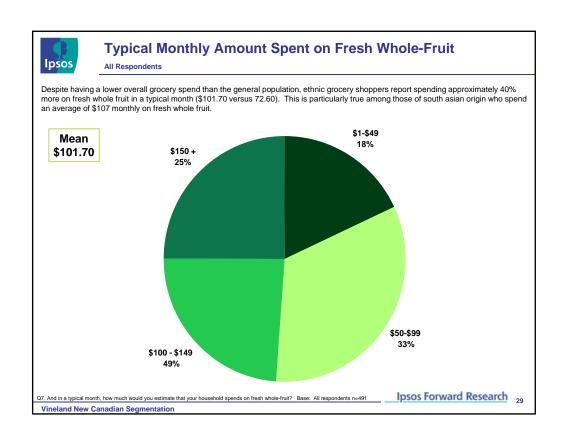


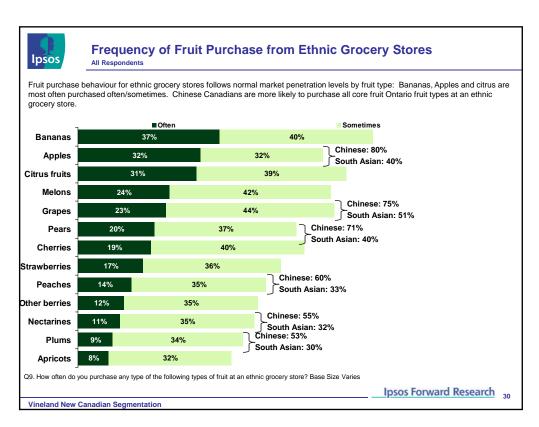


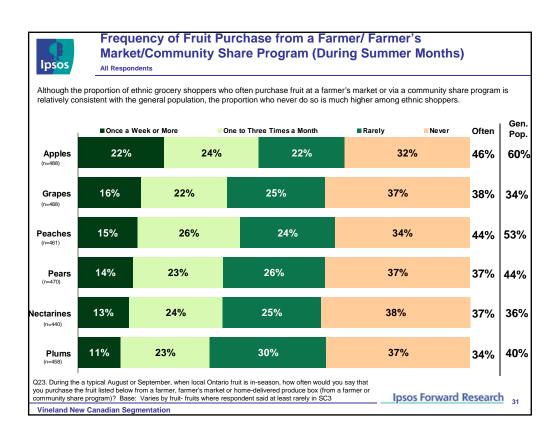


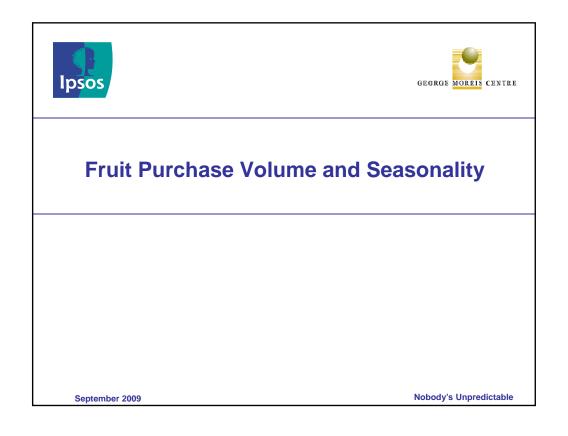




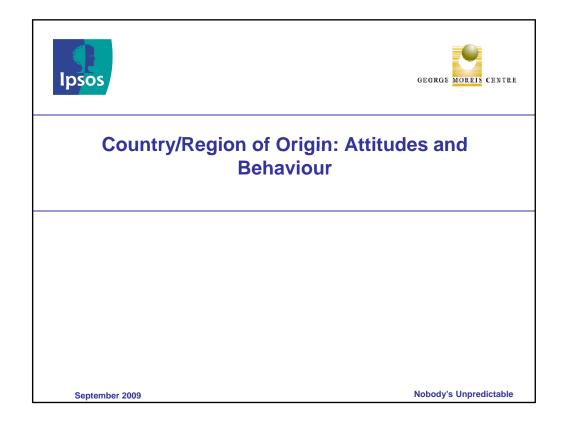


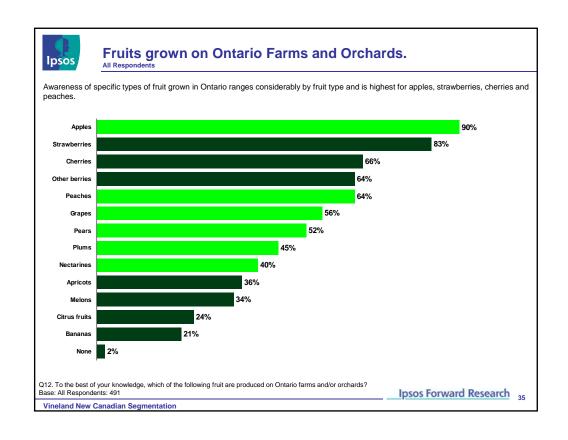


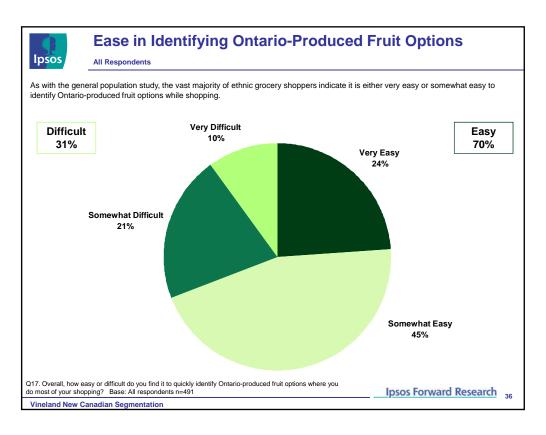


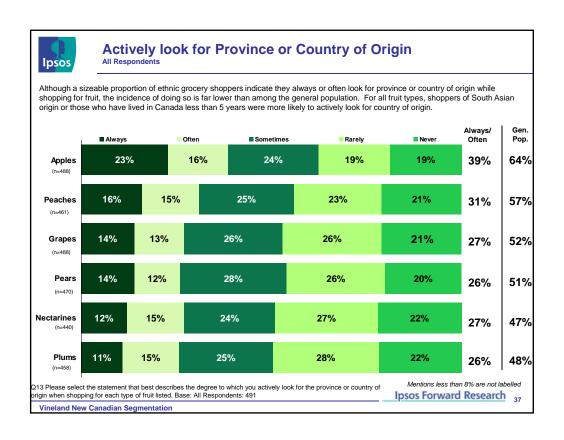


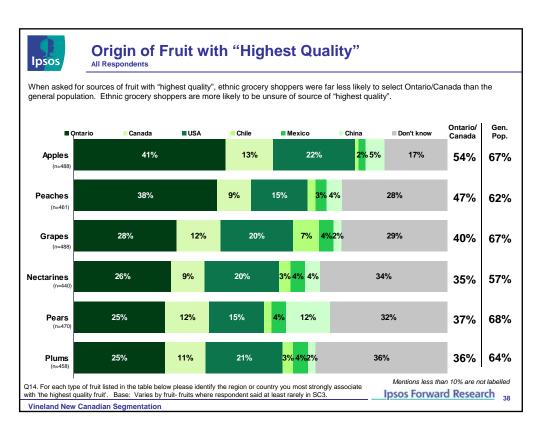


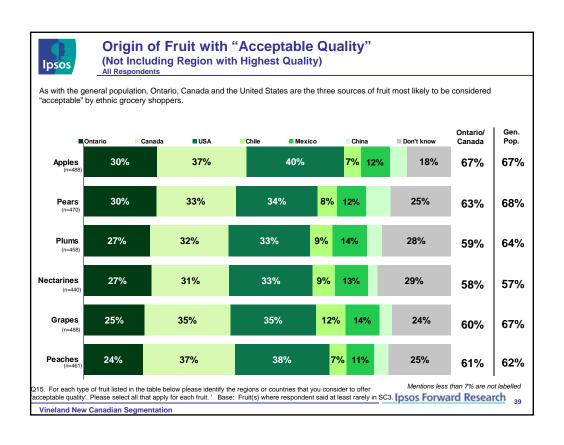


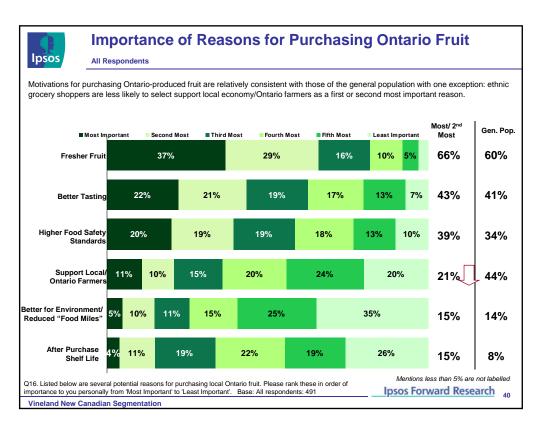


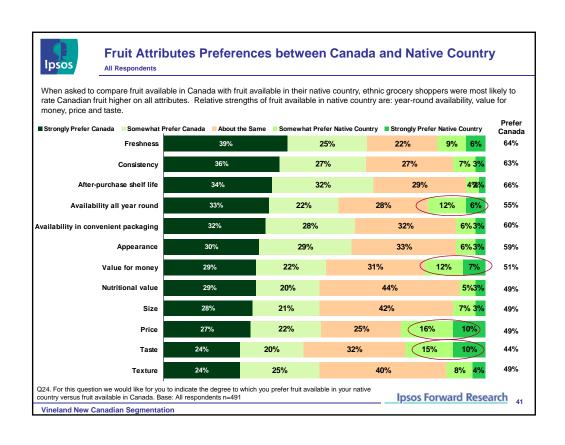


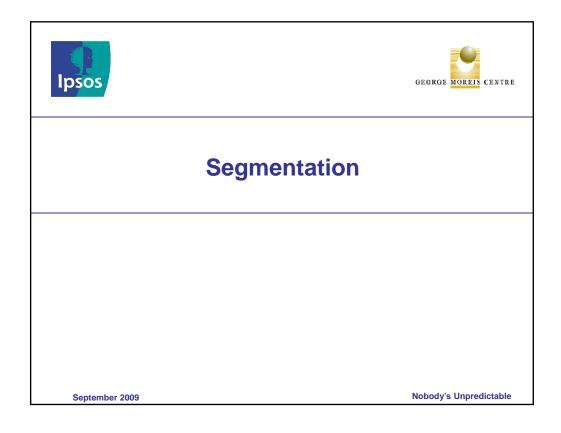
















Segmentation Overview

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Segmentation Overview

Segmentation Process

At Ipsos Forward, our in-house marketing sciences professionals assisted with the development of the final segmentation solution.

The process of developing the final segmentation solution included in this research included factor analysis as well as the development of a number of segmentation models.

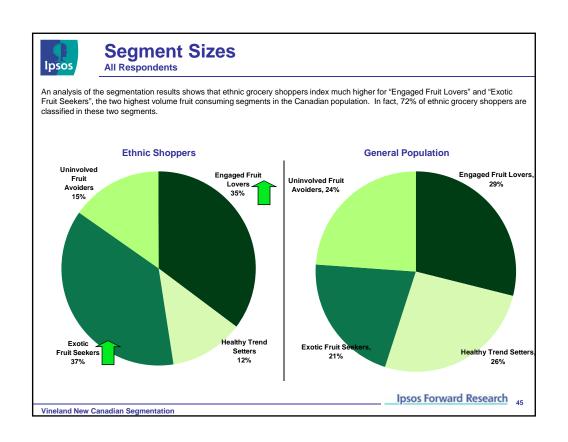
Respondents were classified into four clusters or groups taking into consideration the following:

- Respondents within each segment have similar attitudes and behaviour (often similar socio-demographic and psychographic profiles),
- A key aspect of our approach to segmentation is searching for meaningful differentiation across the segments; each segment needs to be a unique and credible marketing entity,
- In the case of this research, variances in fruit consumption across segments must be consistent with the client's "gut feel".

The questionnaire was designed to allow for segmentation to be run on attitudinal, behavioural and lifestyle variables.

Based on the segmentation solution developed for the general population study, we were able to create an algorithm to replicate the segmentation process for the ethnic study.

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lpsos	Distinguishing Segment Factors					
	Engaged Fruit Lovers n=174	Healthy Trend Setters n=58	Exotic Fruit Seekers n=183	Uninvolved Fruit Avoiders n=76		
Involvement With Fruit	Very high involvement with fruit. Pro-Ontario and supportive of local producers.	Average involvement with fruit. Pro-Ontario and supportive of local producers.	Most involved with diverse spectrum of fruit, especially exotics.	Very uninvolved with fruit.		
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Segmentation Persuasion Staircase

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Segmentation Persuasion Staircase

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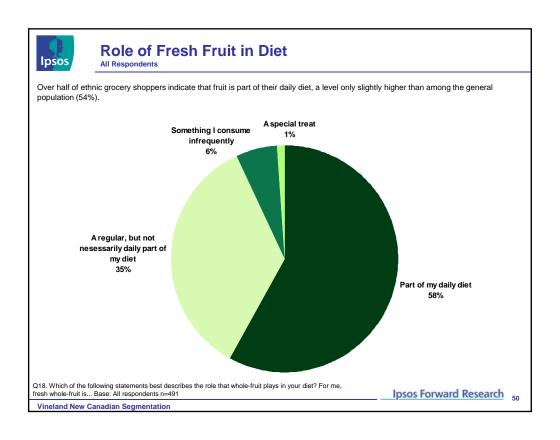
Purchasing a Variety of Fruit Regardless of Season

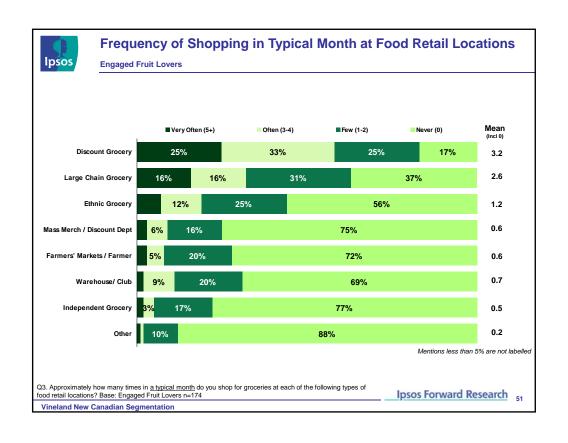
Uninvolved Fruit Avoiders: At this time this segment is a low priority for Ontario fruit marketers due to low consumption and engagement in the category.

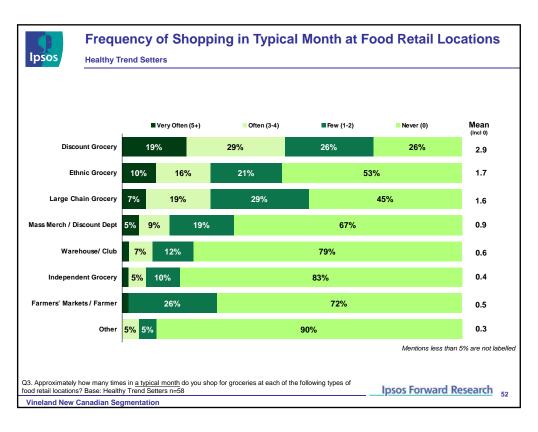
Involvement in Fruit Buying

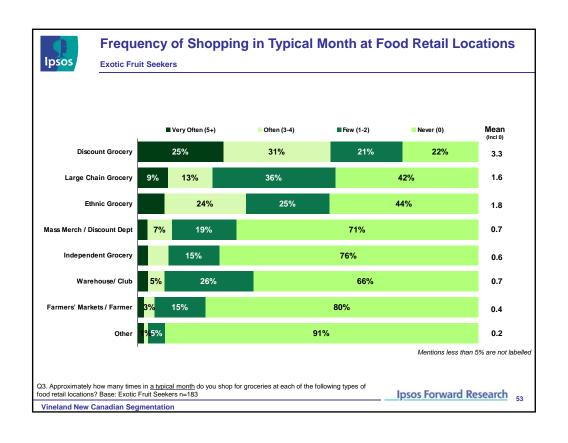
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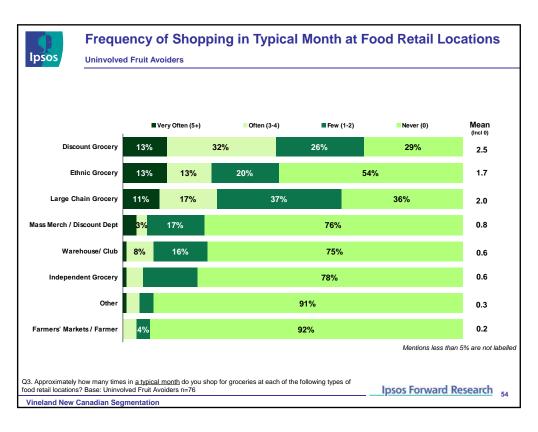












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