Food Marketing Impact on Consumer Purchasing and Food Waste

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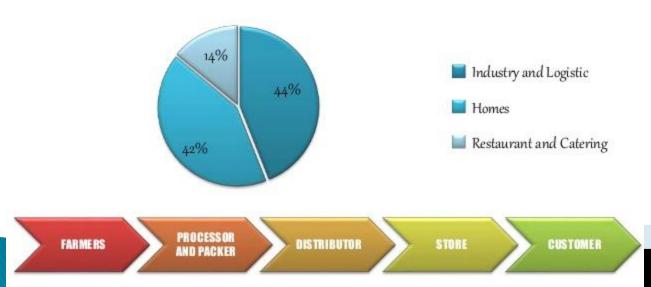
I am not sure anyone knows how much food waste is caused by the food industry

But I know it is a lot!

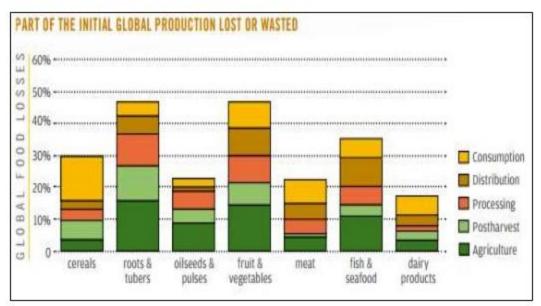
Here is one estimate

FOOD WASTE

Industrialized Countries



Global Food Waste by Product



Source: FAO: Food Wastage Footprints, 2012

In order to fix the problem we need to know why the problem exists

- It makes no economic sense that the food industry would tolerate food wastes.
- Some things in the system lead food companies to waste!

I want to focus on the source of the problem:

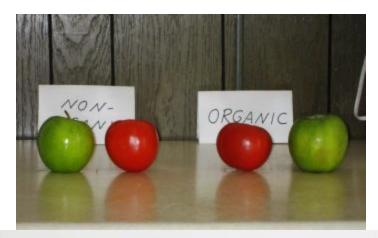
- I think consumers are the biggest source of food waste.
- Not because they just throw things away, but how they Shop, Cook and Eat.
- Consumers want food waste...well maybe not want but act like they want food waste!!

If we believe that marketing is not making consumers buy what you want to sell but selling what people want to buy...then

Food processors and the ilk are responding to consumers' desires.

Which desires?

- Perfect food
- Consumers will not buy ugly food







One of the biggest food wastes in supermarkets is caused by the consumer desire for perfect food

- They will not buy apples that are slightly bruised, beans that are not a perfect color, mushrooms with brown spots; none of which significantly affects taste.
- The slightest imperfection on fruits and vegetables and consumers leave them.

Variety

Consumers want to see a variety of choices in any category.







Variety

- When consumers look at a shelf they want to see choice and variety.
- By choice I mean they don't want to see a dozen tomatoes to choose from they want a pile of tomatoes. They think these are just poor leftovers.
- A convenience store chain was having a lot of problems with pre-made salad waste.
 - They had a contest to see which store manager could have the lowest salad waste. And here is the winner's strategy:

The winner

- He put one salad out at a time.
- He not only had the lowest food waste but the lowest sales of salads!!





Diced Marinated Tomatoes, Basil,

Garlic, Olive Oil, Onions and Parmesam

(With Cheese)

Bruschetta





Stuffed Mushrooms

Fried Ravioli (8 Pieces)

Homemade Fresh Soups

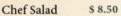
\$ 5.95

Minestro	\$ 4.95	
Italian soup	with Vegetable	s & Pasta

Chicken Noodle	\$ 4.95
Homemade traditional recipe	

Salads

Tossed Salads \$ 2.50	Caesar Salad	\$ 4.95
House Greens	Caesar Salad	3343333
Verona Salad \$ 4.50	(With Chicken)	\$ 7.95
Mozzarella, Olives, Tomatoes & Mushrooms		



Grilled Chicken, Roasted Peppers, Tomatoes & Fresh Mozzarella

Greek Salad Special \$ 6.50

Onions, Olives, Feta Cheese, Tomatoes, Roasted Red Peppers with Red Vinegar & Olive Oil.

\$ 6.50 Antipasta Salad

Ham, Salami, Provolone Cheese, Olives, Tomatoes, Mushrooms and Mozzarella Cheese.

Grilled Chicken Florim's Salad \$ 8.95 Black Olives, Onions, Mushrooms, Artichoke Hearts, Tossed in Olive Oil and Vinegar.

Hot Subs (foot long)

Hamburger & Canadian Bacon.

Philly Cheese Steak Mushrooms, Bell Peppers & Onions	\$ 6.95	Eggplant Parmigiana	\$ 6.95
Chicken Parmigiana Sub	\$ 6.95	Sausage & Pepper Parmigiana	
Meatball Parmigiana Sub	\$ 6.95		
Sausage Calzone	\$ 6.50		\$ 6.95
Stromboli	\$ 6.95		
Pepperoni, Sausage,			6



\$ 5.95

\$ 5.95

Cheese Ravion \$7.95 Lasagna \$7.95 Baked Ziti \$7.95

Eggplant Parmigiana \$8.95 Pasta Combo Manicotti, Lasagna & Cannelloni Manicotti \$ 7.95

Pasta Stuffed with Chesse only (Ricotta & Mozarella topped with Marinara)

Eggplant Rollantini \$ 8.95

Fresh Eggplant filled with Riccotta & Romana cheese, topped with mozarella cheese

Cannelloni \$ 7.95

Pasta Stuffed with Ricotta, Mozarella, Ground Beef & Spinach topped with Marinara

Sausage & Peppers

Italian Sausage & Bell Peppers sauteed in a Red Sauce & topped with Mozzarella Cheese and served with Spaghetti

ALL ENTREES SERVED WITH HOMEMADE ROLLS AND HOUSE SALAD

Chicken and Veal Entrees





Piccata \$ 10.95 / \$ 12.95 Sauteed with fresh squeezed Lemon Butter & Capers in a White Wine Sauce. Scar Pella \$ 10.95 / \$14.95

Sauteed with Roasted Red Peppers, Onions and fresh Mushrooms in a creamy Pink Sauce topped with Provolone and served with Spaghetti. Carciofi

\$ 10.95 / \$12.95 Sauteed with fresh Mushrooms & Artichoke Hearts in a Pink Sauce over Linguine.

Sauteed with Eggplant in a Creamy White Wine Sauce topped with Provolone and served with Spaghetti.

Calabrese \$ 10.95 / \$13.95 Sauteed with fresh Mushrooms, Artichoke Hearts, and Red Bell Peppers in a Creamy Sauce.

Fettucini Alfredo \$ 9.95 / \$13.95 Sauteed with creamy Alfredo Sauce.

Verona \$ 12.95 / \$13.95 Sauteed with Mushrooms, Tomatoes and Artichoke Hearts, in a White Wine Sauce.

Francese Egg-battered and served with Lemon Butter Sauce on a bed of Linguine.









\$ 10.95 / \$13.95

\$ 11.95



Would you go to a restaurant that has a very limited menu?

- Some of you in this room might say "yes" but most Americans want lots of choices in a restaurant!
- How do you think they have such choice...they waste food.
- Supermarkets learned a lesson when they started selling more prepared food. Most lost a lot of money in food waste until they limited the choices.

Supply chain

- The trick is to get the right products to the right store when customers want them.
- It is not easy!
- Especially with sales and promotions.
- An example is a sale on Apples...if all the promotional material fails to get to the store on time or is not put up on time, there will be overstock and waste. *This happens more often than you think.*

It is not just consumers

- Food processors want the maximum space on the shelf to "billboard" their products.
- This often means "extra packaging" just to take up space.





- Most food processors want to develop their brand. But creating a proper package size for all the possible family sizes is difficult and often leads to waste.
- Given that the fastest growing HH size is single person HHs most food companies are still using family of 4 sizes.
- What happens when mismatch occurs...waste.

I sometimes think of the Rolling Stones song: You can't always get what you want!

We consumers in the food industry can usually get what we want but sometimes the cost is very high in terms of food waste.

In store

- To deal with varying HH sizes some food retailers put in "bulk food."
- You can just pick the amount that suits your family. Perfect right? Nope, it was deemed unsanitary and most supermarkets have taken it out.
- Some stores still don't understand things like selling half a cantaloupe.

Food processors hate waste more than anyone!

- It comes right off the bottom line. If they waste a million dollars they lose a million dollars.
- Food processors that reduce waste have a higher profit margin and will get an advantage in the market.
- The indirect costs of waste is often not even measure...the added fuel costs of shipping food to a distribution and then throwing it out.

I think it is the "point the finger at someone else" syndrome

- Let's blame someone else for our lack of concern.
- If consumers would consider less than perfect product (even at a lower price), or demand less variety, or pretty floor displays stacked to the ceilings food waste could be reduced.
- Make no mistake food processors can do more, and better forecasting and logistic technology is making a difference.

In my opinion it is "keep the pressure on"

- Don't look for huge changes, look for changes moving us in the direction of less waste.
- Reducing waste is good for everyone and everyone including the food processors have to make an effort.
- However when it comes to making more money by reducing food waste, food processors will be at the front of the line!!

