Retail Supply Chain Update
June 12, 2020

Walmart

- Senior hour of 7-8am too early for some, they want the high-risk shopping hour later in the day.
- Sam’s Club will offer curbside pick-up at all locations by the end of June.

Meat packing facilities operating at 95% average capacity

- Cattle, swine and broiler processing facilities are operating at more than 95% of their average capacity compared to this time in 2019, according to the US Department of Agriculture’s updated production capacity data of federally inspected meat and poultry processing plants.
- USDA said beef facilities are operating at 98%, pork facilities are at 95% capacity and poultry facilities are operating at 98%.

Tyson Foods

- 199 of the 1,102 employees at the Springdale Berry Street processing plant have tested positive for COVID-19.
- Of the 199, only one had symptoms.
- The 199 are in addition to 48 positive cases identified at the facility by the Arkansas Department of Health or by employees seeking care through their own healthcare providers.
- “At Berry Street, we are routinely finding high levels of asymptomatic positives when we conduct large-scale testing at our facilities and because of that, we can do a public service by sharing the results with the local community,” said Tom Brower, senior vice president of health and safety for Tyson Foods.

JBS plant in Utah continues to operate after 287 positive COVID-19 cases

- When the JBS beef plant in the city of Hyrum tested about 1,000 of its 1,400 workers on May 30, 287 tested positive.
- Instead of shutting down the plant to stop the outbreak, as some plants had done earlier in the pandemic, JBS told these employees to stay home but report back to work less than two weeks later, despite their Covid-19 diagnosis.
- On Tuesday, some JBS employees staged a walkout from the Hyrum plant and protested in nearby Logan.
- The employees, many of whom are immigrants, are not currently offered paid leave unless they’ve tested positive.
• The Bear River Health Department, which oversees the area in which the plant is located, says it doesn’t have the authority to force a closure.

**Beyond Meat to begin production in Europe by the end of 2020**

• Beyond Meat has announced the opening of its first co-manufacturing capabilities in Europe.
• The plant, which is owned and operated by meat company Zandbergen, is in Zoeterwoude, the Netherlands. It will produce the Beyond Burger and Beyond Sausage. As a result of local production, Beyond Meat says it expects to ‘improve its cost structure’.

**Impossible Burger starts direct to consumer shipping**

• Impossible Foods is launching a new direct-to-consumer e-commerce website where consumers can buy its plant-based burger and get it delivered straight to their homes in two days with free shipping. Only consumers in the lower 48 states can order online.
• In addition to expanding its reach online, the company is increasing its presence in grocery and expects to grow its retail footprint by more than 50-fold this year.

**Exactly how much toilet paper do you use during a lockdown?**

• We used 140 percent more toilet paper during quarantine compared to pre-pandemic life.
• According to data from IRI and the U.S. Census, the average American household—containing two to three people—uses 409 regular rolls of toilet paper each year.
• Toilet paper manufacturer Georgia-Pacific, which makes Angel Soft and Quilted Northern, then calculated that if you were to stay home all day, every day, there would be a 140 percent increase compared to the average daily usage.
• This means that a four-person family would need 17 double rolls or nine mega rolls to hold them over for two weeks. Meanwhile, a two-person household would use about nine double rolls or five mega rolls in the same time span.
• Many places in the U.S. were in lockdown for around 13 weeks—even if it might have felt like a lifetime. By now, a cohabiting couple would have burned through 59 rolls of toilet paper. That estimate jumps to a whopping 111 double rolls of toilet paper for a four-person household.
• To keep up with the skyrocketing demand, Georgia-Pacific is making 1.5 million more rolls of toilet paper per day.

**Instacart raises $225 million in additional funding**

• Instacart has raised a new round of financing that makes it one of the most valuable private companies in the U.S., leapfrogging DoorDash, Palantir and Robinhood.
• Amid surging demand for grocery delivery due to the coronavirus pandemic, Instacart has raised $225 million in a new funding round led by DST Global and General Catalyst.
• The round increases Instacart’s valuation to $13.7 billion, up from $8 billion when it last raised money in 2018.
According to research firm Second Measure, which tracks credit card spending, Instacart’s share of grocery pickup and delivery sales jumped to 55 percent in the third week of May, up from about 30 percent in February — pushing past Walmart and making it the biggest player in the space.