

THE PACKER

Handling & Distributing Red Jacket Orchards certified sustainable by Food Alliance

Published on 08/20/2009 12:40pm By Ashley Bentley

Red Jacket Orchards' apricots, plums and prunes will now carry the Food Alliance seal for sustainability.

The Geneva, N.Y.-based tree fruit grower-shipper was inspected by Food Alliance for certification of its Japanese and European-type plums and apricots the first week of July, and received its approval early August.

New packaging, a new juice processing facility and a plan to use apple pomace to generate power earned the company the sustainability seal. The Food Alliance certification includes measures of soil and water conservation, safe and fair working conditions, responsible pest and nutrient management and protection of wildlife habitat, according to a news release.

Both Red Jacket's fields and packing houses were certified to Food Alliance's criteria. The company's certified apricots and plums are available at NYC Greenmarket, Whole Foods, Wegmans, Fresh Direct, Price Chopper, Tops, King Kullen, Food Emporium, Fairway, ShopRite and Red Jacket Orchards farms stands in the New York metropolitan area, according to the release.

Red Jacket's sustainability efforts coincide with the family-owned company's 50th anniversary in 2008.

For more information on Red Jacket's sustainability initiatives, [click here](#).