

SÜDZUCKER AG Overview 2023/24



Südzucker Group 2023/24



€ **10,289** [9,498] million Consolidated group revenues

€ 1.318 [1.070] million **Group EBITDA**

€ 947 [704] million Group consolidated operating result

19,204 [18,341] Employees

€ **1,046** [927] million Cash flow

€ **547** [467] million **Investments**, thereof

€ 546 [400] million Investments in fixed assets

13.2 [9.9] % ROCE

€ 7.2 [7.1] billion Capital employed

€ **1.795** [1.864] million Net financial debt





€ 4,162 [3,216] million Revenues

€ **558** [230] million Operating result

Outlook

2024/25

 $\rightarrow p. 89$

€ **10.0** to **10.5** billion € 0.9 to 1.0 billion Consolidated group Group EBITDA expected. revenues expected

€ **500** to **600** million Group consolidated operating result expected.



www.suedzuckergroup.com



Special products

segment

€ **2,414** [2,217] million

€ **196** [102] million

Slight decrease of

ROCE expected.

capital employed and

significant decrease of

→ p. 73

Revenues

Operating

result

CropEnergies segment → p. 77

> € **1,091** [1,390] million Revenues

€ **60** [251] million Operating result

About 100 production locations in 32 countries

Starch segment \rightarrow p. 81

> € **1.056** [1.193] million Revenues

€ **48** [70] million Operating result



Fruit segment

→ p. 84

€ **1,566** [1,482] million Revenues

€ **85** [51] million Operating result





Key Figures

		2023/24	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21	2019/20
Revenues and earnings						
Revenues	€ million	10,289	9,498	7,599	6,679	6,671
EBITDA	€ million	1,318	1,070	692	597	478
EBITDA margin	%	12.8	11.3	9.1	8.9	7.2
Operating result	€ million	947	704	332	236	110
Operating margin	%	9.2	7.4	4.4	3.5	1.7
Net earnings	€ million	648	529	123	-36	-55
Cash flow and investments						
Cash flow	€ million	1,046	927	560	475	372
Investments in fixed assets 1	€ million	546	400	332	285	335
Investments in financial assets / acquisitions	€ million	1	67	4	15	13
Total investments	€ million	547	467	336	300	348
Performance						
Fixed assets ¹	€ million	3,482	3,354	3,215	3,209	3,322
Goodwill	€ million	693	697	707	722	74(
Working capital	€ million	2,967	2,999	2,318	2,179	2,213
Capital employed	€ million	7,187	7,095	6,325	6,222	6,388
Return on capital employed	%	13.2	9.9	5.3	3.8	1.8
Capital structure						
Total assets	€ million	10,278	9,698	8,441	7,973	8,38
Shareholders' equity	€ million	4,273	4,199	3,699	3,536	3,644
Net financial debt	€ million	1,795	1,864	1,466	1,511	1,570
Net financial debt to cash flow ratio		1.7	2.0	2.6	3.2	4.2
Equity ratio	%	41.6	43.3	43.8	44.3	43.4
Shares						
Market capitalization	€ million	2,670	3,278	2,493	2,661	2,873
Closing price on 28/29 February	€	13.08	16.06	12.21	13.03	14.07
Earnings per share	€	2.72	1.93	0.32	-0.52	-0.60
Cashflow per share	€	5.12	4.54	2.74	2.33	1.82
Dividend per share ²	€	0.90	0.70	0.40	0.20	0.20
Employees		19,204	18,341	18,019	17,876	19,188

€ million	2023/24	2022/23	+/-in %
Sugar	4,162	3,216	29.4
Special products	2,414	2,217	8.9
CropEnergies	1,091	1,390	-21.5
Starch	1,056	1,193	-11.5
Fruit	1,566	1,482	5.7
Group total	10,289	9,498	8.3

TABLE 002

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Operating result by segmen	t		
€ million	2023/24	2022/23	+/-in %
Sugar	558	230	>100
Special products	196	102	92.2
CropEnergies	60	251	-76.1
Starch	48	70	-31.4
Fruit	85	51	66.7
Group total	947	704	34.5

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¹ Including intangible assets. ² 2023/24: Proposal.

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Executive board

EXECUTIVE BOARD¹



Dr. Niels Pörksen Limburgerhof, Germany Chairman/Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Labor director

Portfolios

- Strategy & Transformation
- Human resources
- Communication
- Data protection
- Raw materials & Agriculture
- Audit & Compliance
- Sugar (Südzucker)
- Special products (BENEO)

Initial appointment: 1 March 2020 Term ends: 29 February 2028

Born in 1963. Study of Agricultural Sciences at the University of Kiel, Doctorate degree in 1991. 1992 to 2009 in different management positions at BASF SE. 2009 to 2013 executive board member (CAO) of Nordzucker AG. 2014 to 2020 at Nufarm AG, including as Head of Commercial Operations and Group Executive. P

Stephan Büttner Vienna, Austria COO / Chief Executive Officer of AGRANA Beteiligungs-AG (CEO AGRANA)

Portfolios

- Fruit
- Starch
- Sugar (AGRANA)
- er of AGRANA Chief Operating Officer (COO) ANA) Portfolios
 - Technical & Operations Excellence
 - Research, Development & Innovation
 - Digitization & IT

Hans-Peter Gai

Weinheim, Germany

- Sustainability, Environment & Occupational Safety
- Quality Management
- Corporate Development
- Special products (Freiberger, PortionPack)
- CropEnergies

Initial appointment: 1 November 2022 Term ends: 31 October 2025

Born in 1966, studied mechanical engineering focusing on production technology at the University of Karlsruhe (TH). More than 25 years of professional experience in the areas of food production, supply chain, technology and product development as well as transformation as part of his work for companies such as Unilever, Theo Müller and Danone.



Thomas Kölbl Speyer, Germany Chief Financial Officer (CFO)

Portfolios

- Controlling
- Finance
- Investor relations
- Legal
- Procurement
 Property/insurance
 - Taxation
 - Initial appointment: 1 June 2004 Term ends: 31 May 2024

Born in 1962. Started his career as an industrial business manager, then studied business administration at the University of Mannheim, graduating with a degree in business administration. Joined Südzucker in 1990. Director of strategic corporate planning, corporate development and investments prior to being appointed to the executive board in 2004.



Dr. Stephan Meeder Mannheim, Germany Chief Financial Officer (CFO; as of 1 June 2024)

Portfolios (as of 1 June 2024)

- Controlling
- Finance
- Investor relations
- Legal
- Procurement
- Property/insurance
- Taxation

Initial appointment: 19 December 2023 Term ends: 18 December 2026

Born in 1970, graduated in business administration from the University of Mannheim and ESSEC, Cergy-Pontoise, France. After gaining his doctorate in 1999 and holding positions at KPMG and Robert Bosch GmbH, among others, he joined Südzucker AG in the corporate finance department in 2006. From 2007 to 2015 Chief Financial Officer at Saint Louis Sucre. From April 2015 CFO, from July 2020 until the end of February 2024 also CEO of CropEnergies AG. Member of the executive board of AGRANA Beteiligungs-AG since 1 March 2024.

Initial appointment: 4 December 2023 Term ends: 3 December 2026

Born in 1973. Following his studies in commercial sciences at the Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration, he worked among other things in the auditing sector. Joined Raiffeisen Ware Austria AG in 2001 and became CEO of its subsidiary Ybbstaler Fruit Austria GmbH in 2004. Since 2012 working for the AGRANA Group. Appointed to the executive board of AGRANA Beteiligungs-AG on 1 November 2014, CFO since 1 January 2015, CEO since 1 January 2024.

¹ Other board memberships are listed starting on page 185.

Letter from the executive board

MANNHEIM, 26 APRIL 2024

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COMBINED MANAGEMENT REPORT

The 2023/24 fiscal year has been extraordinarily successful for Südzucker Group, and we can be proud of everything we have accomplished. We have deliberately placed this statement at the beginning of this letter and highlighted it so clearly because business performance like this is anything but a given in an era of multiple crises. The effects of the Ukraine war and other geopolitical conflicts have impacted our business as much as the persistently challenging supply situation for raw materials, sustained high volatility in energy prices, inflation and the cooling economy in Central Europe – to name just a few of the economic conditions within which we operate. So it is all the more gratifying to see our current strategy validated and receive confirmation that our concentrated and focused efforts have paid off. It would be a mistake, however, to take these accomplishments for granted: As the Südzucker Group, we are constantly challenged to adapt and evolve to secure our future success. It is likely that we will continue to face a number of different challenges moving forward.

Expressed in figures, we are concluding the 2023/24 fiscal year with revenues of \notin 10.3 billion and an operating result of \notin 947 million. This positive business performance has given us the opportunity to reduce once again the company's debt-to-equity ratio and position ourselves strategically and sustainably for the future. We were also able to significantly simplify our group and capital structure by successfully delisting our subsidiary CropEnergies, thereby fulfilling a central demand of our stakeholders.

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Extraordinary year for the sugar segment

Let us now turn our attention to development in the individual segments. The sugar segment significantly contributed to our overall success in 2023/24. After several weaker years, we capitalized on the market opportunities presented to us, which enabled us to achieve an excellent result. At the same time, the beet campaign was extremely challenging – not only due to the weather conditions but also because of the unexpected emergence of a new beet disease, Stolbur. This has presented us and our farmers with unanticipated challenges from the field to the factory. As the fiscal year comes to a close, this, particularly in combination with high raw material prices and challenging logistics conditions, is reflected in a considerable increase in production costs, which have noticeably impacted the result since the fourth quarter of the fiscal year.

Development was positive overall in the special products segment. Worthy of special mention here is the Freiberger Group, which was able to substantially increase revenues and the result on the heels of two less impressive years. Sales of frozen pizza continue to be the driving force in this segment; we are also pleased that our US subsidiary, Richelieu, showed improved performance development due to the measures implemented. The past year has been a turbulent one for CropEnergies, marked not only by the delisting but

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Letter from the executive board

also by falling ethanol prices, volatilities in raw material markets and a strategic realignment of the company. Our subsidiary AGRANA is responsible for both the starch and fruit segments. While starch experienced a difficult business year, the development in the fruit segment, particularly the fruit preparations division, was positive overall.

Changing political framework

Expanding our analysis to consider the environment in which Südzucker Group operates reveals a wide range of political and social developments that we are currently addressing and must continue to consider in the foreseeable future. These include discussions concerning nutritional strategies, advertising bans, sugar taxes, highly processed foods or reformulations, as well as issues surrounding pesticides, genetic engineering, reductions in cultivation area or the path to carbon neutrality, to name just a few topics. We must address these issues as a group of companies, represent our positions in the political arena and be able to respond appropriately to decisions. It is also our responsibility to highlight potential negative consequences. One

issue, for example, is the duty-free importing of goods such as sugar into the EU from countries that can produce more cost-effectively due to less stringent manufacturing regulations. The potential impact of these significant sugar import volumes on the European market and sugar producers is considerable. Another issue is farmer protests. The longsimmering discontent among farmers over bureaucracy and rigid political mandates, coupled with a lack of recognition for the role they play in society, has now expanded into a discussion across various sectors throughout Europe. As agriculture becomes more complex and thus more expensive, production costs rise first, followed by food prices. Nevertheless, the situation cannot be resolved by calling for ostensibly cheap imports from third countries, where food is produced under less stringent conditions for people and the environment and in some instances must be transported over long distances to the EU – all at the expense of domestic agriculture, the food industry and the supply security of the local population. Ecological and economic sustainability should not apply exclusively to products made in the EU.

Outlook for 2024/25: Simplify structures, review investments

Returning our focus to the Südzucker Group, the most pressing issue is: What is the result for the 2023/24 fiscal year and what developments do we expect to see in 2024/25? Over the past year, we have consistently continued along the path we defined with our 2026 PLUS strategy. This applies to improving our established business segments as well as investments in our protein activities and alternative ethanol chemistry. We continue to see tremendous potential for new, innovative business segments here.

Our traditional core business remains the most important pillar for our group's continued growth. It is essential to strategically position this business to be efficient and competitive in an environment marked by numerous uncertainties and conditions in the markets, politics and society that are largely beyond our control. We are confident that 2024/25 can be a successful year, despite recent signs of deteriorating conditions and the likelihood of declining results overall. This is particularly true for our sugar business:

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Letter from the executive board

Here, we are confronted not only with volatile sugar prices and escalating production costs, but also with the urgent need to enhance our measures against beet diseases transmitted by cicadas, such as SBR (Syndrome Basses Richesses) and Stolbur. These efforts are crucial to safeguard our most vital raw material and guarantee high-quality beet harvests. Overall, however, a significant decline in the group result will be unavoidable.

Südzucker Group will continue to move ahead with the implementation phase of our defined 2026 PLUS strategy during the 2024/25 fiscal year. Where can we enhance efficiency, optimize processes, streamline structures, collaborate more effectively and foster stronger integration as a group? What adjustments can we make to sharpen our competitive edge and more effectively demonstrate the value of our plantbased solutions to our customers? Additionally, how can we better showcase our strengths as an employer to attract potential employees? Here, we see promising opportunities for the future and are confident that we have initiated the right measures.

Another increase in the proposed dividend

A decision already made by the executive and supervisory boards concerns this year's dividend: In light of the excellent result achieved in the 2023/24 fiscal year, we are proposing an increase of the dividend to € 0.90 (0.70) per share to the annual general meeting. This decision continues our longterm dividend payout policy, which aims to allow our shareholders to participate in the success of our company.

This success would not have been possible without our dedicated employees, who embraced and overcame all the challenges presented during the fiscal year with enthusiasm, skill and determination. Our sincere thanks go out to all of them. We also want to express our appreciation to our shareholders for the confidence they have placed in us and Südzucker Group.

We wish you all the best, great success and, most importantly, good health.

Yours truly,

Südzucker AG Executive board



HANS-PETER GAI

DR. STEPHAN MEEDER

DR. NIELS PÖRKSEN (CHAIRMAN)

STEPHAN BÜTTNER

THOMAS KÖLBL

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Supervisory board

SUPERVISORY BOARD¹

Dr. Stefan Streng

Chairman

Uffenheim, Germany

Chairman of the executive board of Verband Süddeutscher Zuckerrübenanbauer e.V.

Rolf Wiederhold²

1st deputy chairman

Wabern, Germany Chairman of the central works council of Südzucker AG

Erwin Hameseder 2nd deputy chairman

Mühldorf, Austria

Chairman of Raiffeisen-Holding Niederösterreich-Wien reg. Gen.m.b.H.

Fred Adjan² Hamburg, Germany Deputy chairman of

Gewerkschaft Nahrung-Genuss-Gaststätten

Helmut Friedl Egling a. d. Paar, Germany Chairman of the executive board of Verband bayerischer Zuckerrübenanbauer e. V.

Ulrich Gruber² Plattling, Germany Deputy chairman of the central works council of

Südzucker AG

Georg Koch Wabern, Germany

Chairman of the executive board of Verband der Zuckerrübenanbauer Kassel e.V.

¹ Other board memberships are listed starting on page 183.
 ² Employee representative.

Susanne Kunschert Stuttgart, Germany

Managing partner of Pilz GmbH & Co. KG

Ulrike Maiweg² Bellheim, Germany

Member of the works council Headquarters Mannheim Südzucker AG

Walter Manz

Dexheim, Germany

Chairman of the executive board of Verband der Hessisch-Pfälzischen Zuckerrübenanbauer e.V.

Julia Merkel Wiesbaden, Germany

Member of the executive board of R+V Versicherung AG

Sabine Möller²

Hamburg, Germany

Divisional officer of Gewerkschaft Nahrung-Genuss-Gaststätten

Dr. Stefan Mondel (as of 1 May 2024)² Rödelsee, Germany Technical Director

Südzucker AG

Angela Nguyen²

Biederitz, Germany Chairwoman of the works council of Freiberger Osterweddingen GmbH **Mustafa Öz**² Altdorf, Germany

Regional Chairman Bavaria of Gewerkschaft Nahrung-Genuss-Gaststätten

Joachim Rukwied Eberstadt, Germany President of

Deutscher Bauernverband e.V.

Bernd Frank Sachse² Zeitz, Germany Chairman of the works council at the Zeitz plant of

Südzucker AG

Clemens Schaaf Landsberg (Saalekreis), Germany Chairman of the executive board of Verband Sächsisch-Thüringischer Zuckerrübenanbauer e.V.

Nadine Seidemann²

Donauwörth, Germany

Deputy chairwoman of the works council at the Rain plant of Südzucker $\ensuremath{\mathsf{AG}}$

Dr. Claudia Süssenbacher Gablitz / Austria

Managing director of Raiffeisen-Holding Niederösterreich-Wien reg. Gen.m.b.H.

Wolfgang Vogl (until 30 April 2024)² Bernried, Germany

Regional manager South Offenau, Plattling and Rain plants of Südzucker AG

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Sugar segr	Business report		
4,162 million evenues	€ 558 million Operating result	€ 3,347 milli Capital employed	on 16.7 %
sugar is generally not reflected in Wes increasing demand for specialty sugars Competitive pressure remains high in t		and Poland (4 Slovakia 1 wheat s 2 refineri	factories: Germany (7), Belgium (2), France (2), 4), Moldova (1), Austria (2), Romania (1), (1), Czech Republic (2), Hungary (1) starch plant (Germany) ies (Bosnia-Herzegovina, Romania) ution locations (Greece, Italy, Spain, UK) ets, cane raw sugar, wheat
 Offer a product portfolio consisting o supplemented by starch-based sweet 	f sugar and reduced sugar products,	Products Sugar, su	gar specialties, glucose syrup, animal feed
Offer sustainable non-food applicatio made from sugar beets		•	European market leader) and world market ustry, retailers, agriculture
			er, Cukier Królewski, Saint Louis, Jiker, Wiener Zucker

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Business report

Special products segment

At a glance

€ 2,414 million Revenues



€ **2,013** million Capital employed

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9.7 % ROCE

Strategy

BENEO

BENEO's business performance is driven by sustained high interest in health-conscious and increasingly plantbased diets – both in the food and animal nutrition sectors. Global trends such as clean label and mental wellbeing are additional contributing factors

- Expand product portfolio to include textured plant proteins and dietary fibers with added benefits
- Achieve greater market penetration with competitive application solutions for plant-based fish, meat and dairy alternatives with a focus on the European market
- Reinforce international sales expertise by building on and adapting regional sales strategies

Freiberger

The Freiberger division's sales markets are benefiting from the steady demand for convenience food. Current trends such as organic, vegan, plant-based and ready-to-go food are consistently analyzed and integrated into the product range where appropriate.

- Actively and flexibly align and adapt the product portfolio to address current trends, develop new marketing concepts and channels
- Actively embrace innovations and sustainability topics and refine existing approaches
- Fortify market position in Europe, expand market position in North America, analyze and develop third markets

PortionPack

Investments in co-packing/co-manufacturing will dramatically reduce dependence on the out-of-home market and open up new growth segments.

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Continuously expand product portfolio with focus on sustainable packaging
- Continue to grow in wholesale and food service, expand sales activities in retail, offer packaging solutions for food manufacturers (contract packaging)
- Expand market position in Europe; expand activities in Southern Africa

02 Combined management report

Business report

Special products segment

At a glance

	BENEO	Freiberger 🙆	PortionPack
📥 Production	Germany (1), Belgium (2), Italy (1), Netherlands (1), Chile (1)	Germany (4), UK (1), Austria (1), USA (4)	UK (1), Netherlands (3), Spain (1), South Africa (1), Czech Republic (1)
Distribution	Europe (3), USA (1), South America (2), India (1), Singapore (1)	Europe (3), UK (2), USA (2)	Europe (8), South Africa (1)
脊 Raw materials	Beet sugar, rice, chicory root, wheat, barley, faba bean	Flour, milk (cheese), soybean oil, tomato paste, meat/salami/ham	Dry products (e.g. sugar, sweeteners), liquid products (e.g. sauces), chunky products (e.g. cookies)
🚓 Products	Ingredients offering additional benefits (dietary fibers, sugar substitutes, new sugars, rice starches, barley/rice flours, texturized wheat protein, vegetable texturates) for food, animal nutrition, non-food and pharmaceuticals	Convenience Food (chilled and frozen pizzas, pasta, baguettes, breadsnacks, sauces, dressings)	Portion packs (food and non-food), individual contract manufacturing and packaging
Markets	Worldwide	Europe, North America, South Korea	Primarily Europe, South Africa
Customers	Food, animal feed, pharmaceuticals industries	Food retailers	Hotels, restaurants, caterers (food service), food industry
C Brands	Isomalt, Palatinose™, galenIQ™, Orafti® Inulin, Orafti® Oligofruktose, Orafti® ß-Fit, Remy, Meatless®	Private labels, Alberto, Pizzatainment	Hellma, Van Oordt

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t a glance	Business report			
1,091 million evenues	€ 60 million Operating result	€ 540 Capital emp		11.1 % ROCE
they offer high revenues potential for arising from the broadening of the ra materials and the increasing demand products as well as the use of biogeni bio-based chemicals may give rise to • Expand ethanol, neutral alcohol an		LProduction🎸Raw materials<	Germany (1), Belgium (1), France (1), UK (1) Grain, sugar syrup, raw alc Fuel-grade ethanol, neutra food and animal feed, liqu Europe Oil companies and traders producers, beverage and c industrial and pharmaceur	al alcohol, protein-based id CO ₂ s, food and animal feed cosmetics producers,

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Starch segr	Business report		
At a glance			
€ 1,056 million Revenues	€ 48 million Operating result	€ 505 million Capital employed	9.5 % ROCE
Strategy The starch business capitalizes in the lon non-food sectors. Overall, demand for st foods containing plant proteins and organ particularly in the animal nutrition, paper, ceuticals and cosmetics sectors. • Grow market share in Europe; grow sele • Further develop and expand specializat • Innovate products and strengthen appl	arch-based products and generally for nic products is expected to rise sustainably, textiles, construction chemicals, pharma- ectively outside Europe tion strategy for the product portfolio	 Raw materials Potatoes, corn Products Native and mo ethanol, bypro Markets Central and Eas markets such a Customers Food, paper, to cosmetics, pet 	mania (1), Hungary (1 , joint venture) , wheat dified starches, saccharification products, ducts (animal feed and fertilizers) stern Europe (primarily Austria and Germany), special as the United States and United Arab Emirates extiles, industrial chemicals, pharmaceuticals, roleum, animal feed industries genasol, AGENABEE

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At a glance			

€ 1,566 million Revenues



€ 782 million Capital employed **10.9** %

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Strategy

Fruit preparations

A possible increase in global demand for high-quality food and the trends towards convenience food, naturalness, sustainability and health could create further opportunities for AGRANA Fruit in the future. While the market for fruit yogurt in Europe and North America continues to stagnate, new growth prospects are emerging in industries such as food service and ice cream. In addition, there are attractive regional growth opportunities, particularly in the Middle East and North Africa.

- Further develop product categories; strengthen diversification and marketing of innovative plant-based product solutions
- Focus on expanding out-of-home eating and ice cream sectors
- Expand global presence by entering geographically attractive markets

Fruit juice concentrates

Growth opportunities for this sector are arising from the increasing demand for natural – as opposed to synthetically produced – ingredients in the EU and around the world. An increase in juice consumption is expected in the developing markets. In Europe, consumption trends such as the decline in the share of fruit juice and the increasing demand for directly pressed juices are having a dampening effect.

- Expand product portfolio
- Consolidate local and regional customer bases

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Fruit segment	Business report		

At a glance

	Fruit preparations	Fruit juice concentrates
🚣 Production	Austria (1), Germany (1), France (2), Poland (1), Russia (1), Turkey (1), Ukraine (2), Egypt (1), Algeria (1), Argentina (1), Australia (1), Brazil (1), China (2), India (1), Japan (1), Morocco (1), Mexico (1), South Africa (1), South Korea (1), United States (4)	Austria (1), Germany (1), Poland (5), Romania (1), Ukraine (1), Hungary (4), China (1)
🗳 Raw materials	Main raw material: strawberries	Main raw material: apples
🐟 Products	Fruit preparations	Fruit juice concentrates, not-from-concentrate juices (NFC), fruit wines, natural flavors and beverage compounds
K Markets	Worldwide	Focus Europe
Customers	Dairy, ice cream and baked goods industries, food services	Beverage industry