

CUSTOMER SPOTLIGHT

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Trust on Ice Why Sustainability in Seafood Matters More Than Ever

There was a time when "fresh fish" was all a menu needed to make a sale. But not anymore. Today's diners and shoppers want more than freshness-they want a story. And increasingly, that story needs to be rooted in responsibility, transparency, and sustainability.

At Superior Foods, we're seeing a shift not just in what customers are buying, but in why they're buying it. Labels like MSC (Marine Stewardship Council) and ASC (Aquaculture Stewardship Council) aren't fringe anymore-they're table stakes. Chefs want to know the journey of their seafood. Grocers want to show consumers they're making the right choices. And consumers? They're asking questions that only a clear supply chain can answer.

This growing emphasis on sustainability is more than a marketing trend-it's a mandate for trust. In the wake of inflation, war-related supply shocks, and climatedriven unpredictability, people want to know their food choices are doing more good than harm. Traceability isn't just about logistics; it's about values.

For suppliers like us, it means leaning into partnerships that prioritize responsible harvesting, ethical labor, and transparent sourcing. It means investing in certifications, telling our sourcing stories clearly, and helping our restaurant and retail partners do the same. Because at the end of the day, it's not just about offering great seafood. It's about offering confidence. And in a market where trust is the new currency, that makes all the difference.

JIM OSTERHAVEN President & CEO





SUPERIOR SUMMER 2025 EDITION



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ON THE COVER



NEW PRODUCTS Check out some of the newest products offered Superior Foods Company!

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CHEF IDEAS The Deep Flavor of Wagyu Zabuton



Summer 2025

Owners of Bearded Dutchman Meats, Bryant and Ashley Hengst, tackle another Monday following a busy Father's Day Weekend.

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New PRODUCTS

#12158 **MADELINE'S PÂTISSERIE Almond Croissant**

24/3.5 oz Hand rolled, rich, and buttery with a luscious almond filling.



CLICK HER To view more Madeline's products



MICHIGAN BREAD

Brioche Sub Bun, 6", Sliced, Retail-Ready #12549 12/6 ct

CLICK HERE To view more Michigan Bread products

To view more

Landes

products

CLICK HERE

To view more Vollwerth's products

Vollwerth's Bun Length Natural Casing Wiener #40000 12/15 oz

KING OF MEATS

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LWERTH'S



more about Ace Bakery





GROWER OWNED AND PROUD OF IT.

Featured Michigan Turkey Products:



#90458 **Hickory Smoked Turkey Breast**, **Green Tier** 2/9.5 lb.

- Whole muscle deli shape
- No MSG added
- Og of trans fat per serving
- G - Oven Roasted RKFY

Summer 2025

#90445 **Oven Roasted Turkey Breast**, **Black Tier**

- 2/9.5 lb.
- Whole traditional shape Reduced sodium
- Gluten free

4 | Superior Taste

4/5.25 lb

Summer 2025

LOCAL FIRST Michigan Turkey Producers Grand Rapids, MI

Michigan Turkey Co-Op was established in 1998 by 15 growers seeking to sell their birds locally. Today, these growers are part of the company's board and play an active role in its operations. Their local ownership allows them to easily adjust to evolving demands.

Michigan Turkey's family farms have dedicated years to perfecting their skills and setting a new standard for quality. Their expertise is evident, and their products offer the most nutritious and delicious options with exceptional value.



CUSTOMER SPOTLIGHT:

O = image courtesy of Bearded Dutchman Meats



Bryant's roots in butchery go back to his college days, when he first learned the trade working in a small shop. That early experience—paired with time spent processing deer with his brothers—sparked a love for the craft that would eventually become something much bigger. Originally from Zeeland, Michigan, Bryant and Ashley spent five years living in Wisconsin, drawn there by family and work in the water well industry. While there, they were inspired by exceptional meat markets throughout the region. Before returning to West Michigan in 2022 with their three children, the Hengsts decided they wanted to start something on their own. Their goal: bring the best of what they'd seen in Wisconsin back to the Holland/ Zeeland area—more variety, premium cuts, and a shop aesthetic that stood out.

After months of searching, they found their space. Though not ideal at first glance, the location's traffic and visibility turned out to be perfect, especially with the added bonus of vacation and beachgoer traffic. They spent eight months remodeling the space themselves before opening in 2022.

Customer feedback quickly became central to the business. Originally stocking USDA Choice across the board, they were surprised by how fast demand shifted toward higher-end options. Today, Bearded Dutchman Meats offers a full lineup of premium products—top-tier cuts of beef, local pork, and carefully sourced chicken, including pasture-raised birds raised by Bryant and a friend. Nearly everything in the store is made or processed in-house, from brats to bone-in cuts, with only a few exceptions.

Bryant handles the meat program and operations while Ashley, who joined full-time just five months in, oversees the retail experience, product mix, and day-to-day management. The team has grown to 11–15 employees, and the focus now is on refining efficiency to keep pace with growing demand. The Hengsts aim to deliver two things: top-tier customer service and a high-quality product. They know their prices are higher than grocery chains, so the customer experience has to deliver every time. Relationships matter, whether it's remembering what a customer bought last week or explaining where the meat came from.

Their connection with Superior Foods began by chance, through a local recommendation. A visit by Superior sales representative Tommie Gatlin and a few samples later, the partnership began—and helped accelerate the business beyond what they had initially envisioned. Bearded Dutchman Meats is now a fixture in Holland, with its eye on growth that's thoughtful, not rushed. For the Hengsts, quality and community remain at the center of everything they do.

Bearded Dutchman Meats | Holland, MI

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Summer 2025



Beef Brisket

4/15 lb

USDA Choice Signature Striploin, 0X1 6/12 lb

USDA Choice Beef Chuck Roll, Neck Off 2/27 lb

USDA Choice Teres Major 6/9 lb

#88518 **Boneless Pork Loin, Center Cut, Lip-Off** 6/7 lb

JUICY. TENDER **ALWAYS DELICIOUS**.

MEDE IN MICHIGAN

8 OZ PORTION PACK

10 G Protein

READY TO COOK

social

kitchens

PROFESSIONAL

#10042

DeVries

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DeVries Meats

Lightly Dusted Calamari Rings and Tents, Gluten Free 6/2 lb

Premium wild caught calamari that is hand cut and lightly dredged with a crispy and mildly seasoned gluten free coating.

CLICK HERE To view more about SK Professional The Deep Beef Flavor of Wagyu Zabuton

CLICK HERE To view this post and more Chef Ideas

Chef Ideas —



JEFF BRANDON





#97462 **Snake River Farms** Zabuton Chuck, Wagyu Gold 4/6.5 lb

#88105 **River City Meats** Zabuton Steak, Wagyu Gold 1/10 lb

Highlights:

- American Wagyu
- 100% US Raised
- Richly Marbled
- Unique Flavor Profile
- Supple Texture

The Snake River Farms Zabuton Chuck is a true hidden gem in the world of premium beef-luxuriously marbled, deeply flavorful, and impossibly tender. Cut from the chuck flap and named after the plush Japanese cushion it resembles, the Zabuton offers an indulgent eating experience that's typically reserved for elite culinary circles. Its rich intramuscular fat ensures a buttery texture and mouthwatering finish, whether it's seared, grilled, or braised. Chef Brandon loves working with it for its versatility and stunning plate appeal, making it a standout centerpiece that elevates any menu with bold, unforgettable flavor. It could easily sit on the plate alone and shine, but he decided to accompany it with some blistered veggies and a roasted pepper and olive demi. Follow the QR code for a different look!

kikkoman

FEATURED PARTNER Kikkoman San Francisco, CA

41390

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KIKKOMAN

Ρ́ΑΝΚΟ

IAPANESE STYLE TOASTED BREAD CRUMBS

FOODSERVICE PACK

NET WT. 25 LBS. (11.3kg)

Kikkoman is a globally recognized leader in authentic Asian ingredients, celebrated for its commitment to quality, tradition, and innovation. With roots tracing back over 300 years to Japan, Kikkoman has become a trusted name in kitchens and professional culinary settings around the world. Best known for its naturally brewed soy sauce, the brand also offers a diverse range of products-including marinades, sauces, seasonings, and Japanese Style Panko Bread Crumbs-that bring rich, umami flavor and consistent performance to every dish. As a featured partner, Kikkoman represents a blend of timehonored craftsmanship and modern culinary excellence.

CRISPY, CRUNCHY DIFFERENCE

Kikkoman Panko Bread Crumbs are made fresh from specially baked, crustless bread. With an oblong shape, Panko crumbs are larger, crispier and lighter, so they coat without "packing" like regular bread crumbs, allowing foods to stay crispier longer. Their delicate, crisp texture makes them the ideal choice for baked or fried foods.

CLICK HER

To view more about Kikkoman SCAN THE QR CODE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT KIKKOMAN AT SUPERIOR FOODS COMPANY.

#44195 Toasted Panko Bread Crumbs

• Authentic Japanese Style

- Versatile Culinary Use
- Golden, Crispy Finish
- Trusted Quality
- No Artificial Colors or Preservatives
- Globally Recognized Brand

MENU Inspirations

Za'atar Black Pearl Salmon with feta dressing, cucumber salad & mint



Featured Superior Products Used in these Recipes:

#12549 **Michigan Bread** Brioche Sub Bun, 6", Sliced, Retail-Ready 12/6 ct



#26233 **Black Pearl Seafoods** Yellow Lake Perch. Butterflied. Large "Ohio Size" 1/5 lb





#7589 **Garden Cut** Diced Red Beets, 3/4" 1/5 lb *Special Order

(C)

PANKO



12 | Superior Taste

#44195

1/25 lb









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A COMMITMENT TO QUALITY POULTRY & unmatched service to our customers





MEDE IN

TRADITION YOU CAN TASTE!

Founded in 1962 by Louie Alpers, Louie's Meats began as a small, custom processor serving local farmers and businesses. What started in a modest facility quickly grew into a trusted name across the state, expanding into restaurants, delis, and foodservice distributors with the same hands-on care and attention to quality. In 1980, Louie's introduced its signature corned beef under the O'Brien brand—an instant classic that remains a customer favorite to this day. Still family-owned and proudly rooted in tradition, Louie's Meats continues to deliver consistent quality, outstanding service, and premium products made with USDA-inspected choice beef. Every item is produced with full HACCP compliance, ensuring both safety and flavor in every bite.



#91309 **Top Round Corned Beef**

Tender and flavorful corned beef made from USDA Choice top round that is cooked and hand-trimmed, making it perfect for slicing and sandwich-making. 2/4.5 lb.

Summer 2025

LOCAL FIRST Louie's Meats **Traverse City, MI**







#91310 **Top Round** Pastrami

Perfectly seasoned pastrami made from USDA Choice top round that is cooked and full of robust smoky flavor. 1/10 lb.

STRENGTH & DEXTERITY



The Ammex X3 Nitrile Gloves are an excellent choice for kitchen use, offering lightweight yet durable protection for food prep and handling. Made from industrial-grade nitrile, they provide superior puncture resistance, chemical protection, and dexterity compared to vinyl or latex. Their powder-free, latex-free design ensures food safety and reduces the risk of allergies or contamination. Perfect for chopping, mixing, and cleaning, X3 Nitrile Gloves help maintain hygiene while keeping hands comfortable and protected in any kitchen environment.

> #4922, 4923, 4924, 4925 (S-XL) X3[®] Black Nitrile Gloves 10/100 ct

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