



UNLIMITED  
GROUP

**SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS  
ANNUAL REPORT  
2021**





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# INTRODUCTION

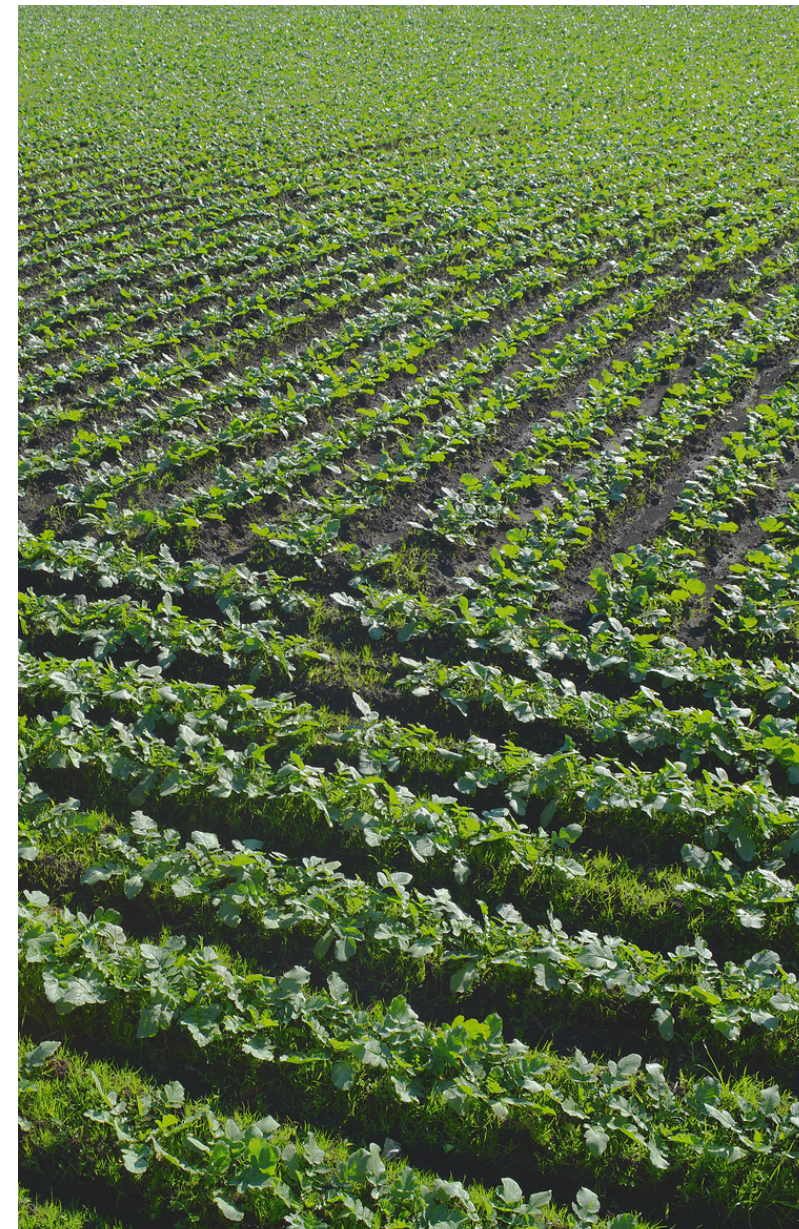
The Unlimited Group established the Group Sustainability Unit on the 1st of October 2021. With this, the Group is committing to the principles of sustainability, as defined by the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We firmly believe that a united effort is needed across the globe to make the significant impact that is so essential for the future of this planet.

The Unlimited Group is a vertically integrated fresh produce business with a global footprint. As producer, packer, processor, exporter and importer of fresh fruit, vegetables and nuts, there are several SDGs that align with our sustainability drive. We are focusing on goals where we believe our business can make a significant contribution. Our current pillars are: (1) food waste, (2) climate change, (3) sustainable packaging, and (4) equality. For this report, we will focus on the first three topics.

We aim to reduce the amount of waste (food and packaging) sent to landfill throughout our value chain and promote the use of recyclable materials in our operations, packaging and products. We also aim to reduce our environmental impact, by focussing on climate change and carbon reduction. We need to ensure that appropriate adaptations and mitigating actions are taken to manage our carbon emissions. By doing so, we are contributing to the following Sustainable Development Goals:



The Unlimited Group's 2021 Sustainability Report details the progress made in our sustainability journey in the past financial year, 1 October 2020 to 30 September 2021.





# MANAGING DIRECTOR FOREWORD

**Hans Christiaan Muylaert-Gelein**  
*Managing Director, Unlimited Group*

We are incredibly proud to present our 2021 Sustainability Report, our first ever. It showcases the work of the Unlimited Group's Sustainability Unit over the past year. Using the UN Sustainability Goals as a framework, we decided to go narrow and deep and settled on four goals: food waste, sustainable packaging, climate change-carbon and equality. We want to work in areas that are relevant to our industry, and our country – efforts that are scalable and results that are measurable. It's important to track progress in the coming years; it is what will keep us motivated.

Embarking on such a journey starts with understanding where you're at. A lot of the work in the past year has been to create a baseline for all our companies and start plotting our course for the next few years. It's been a year of discovery and, in Mandela's words: 'After climbing a great hill, one only finds there are many more hills to climb'. Yet, climb we must. I hope to look back in five years and demonstrate progress across all our goals.

I wish to thank Zoë and Hannah for their drive and commitment to make our first year such a success. A shout out to all the 'champions' across our business that stepped up to the challenge. I hope you enjoy the read and trust some of it will be uncomfortable. It should be and we have deliberately taken an honest and transparent approach. It makes us look vulnerable, which doesn't come easily to a commercial entity, but I hope you find it as refreshing as I did. We challenge you to do the same.

Sustainably yours,  
Hans Christiaan



# SUSTAINABILITY UNIT FOREWORD



**Zoë Mostert**

*Sustainability Officer, Unlimited Group*

Sustainability is at the heart of the Unlimited Group. We strive to be responsible stewards of the land that we have been entrusted to take care of. I am proud to be part of the newly established Sustainability Unit and to be a member of a team that is committed to preserving our beautiful environment for generations to come.

We are pleased to present the first Unlimited Group Sustainability Report. We are committed to our conscious journey and encourage all of our stakeholders to join us. By doing so, we can successfully enable the triple bottom line of people, planet and profit.



**Hannah Hopper**

*Sustainability Assistant, Unlimited Group*

In the context of climate change, it is clear that "business as usual" is no longer sufficient. To ensure a just future for all life on Earth, sustainability needs to be at the core of every business. With its establishment of the Sustainability Unit, the Unlimited Group is part of the transition towards a new way of doing business. It has been an honour to be a part of some of the sustainability initiatives the Group has taken on over the past few years.



# MEET OUR CHAMPIONS

## The role of our Champions

The Unlimited Group has assigned staff members within each business unit to be the point of contact with the Sustainability Unit – they are our Champions. They provide the Unit with the required data, knowledge and expertise to make each of the various sustainability initiatives possible.

It is important that the value of sustainability is shared by all within the Group. These Champions truly make this a reality!

The Unlimited Group would like to thank each of our Champions for their contribution to this report.



**Cindy Steyn**

Champion for Fruition

*Food Waste and Sustainable Packaging*

*"I am honoured to be part of a business that is providing excellent quality fruit while being environmentally responsible. The sustainable packaging initiative has opened my eyes to a new world, while food waste reduction has always been a key focus in our business. Sustainability is truly the key to innovation and I look forward to what the future holds."*



**Freddy Morapi**

Champion for Fruition

*Climate Change - Carbon*

*"I am proud to work for a company that cares about our impact on the environment and the climate. Carbon footprint is one of the sustainability goals Unlimited Group has set for itself. It is with great gratitude that I am able to contribute positively to reducing our carbon footprint and towards improving the quality of life of our future generations through the sustainable decisions we make."*





**Jacqueline Finnemore**  
Champion for FieldFresh Foods  
*Food Waste and Sustainable Packaging*

*"I am passionate about sustainability. I believe it is the responsibility of our generation to ensure that future generations are able to not only meet their own needs but live in a harmonious and beautiful world."*



**Gratia van Jaarsveld**  
Champion for FieldFresh Foods  
*Sustainable Packaging*

*"The greatest threat to our planet is thinking someone else will save it. As a business, we need to find solutions on how to approach waste and packaging in a more responsible and eco-friendly way. It is an honour to be part of the sustainability development, as a business, we need to find a way to meet the business' needs without jeopardizing future businesses and future generations. We need to do our part now."*



**Riaan du Preez**  
Champion for FieldFresh Foods  
*Food Waste*

*"Sustainability is one of our key focuses within the Unlimited Group and FieldFresh Foods division. Part of our team's KPIs is directed toward waste reduction, efficiencies and sustainable packaging. Staff awareness around this will be an integral part of the success of this operation and forms a part of our weekly staff sessions."*







**Magduldt van Eeden**  
Champion for Icon  
Sustainable Packaging

*"The pressure is building on businesses to develop and supply products in a sustainable food chain and that contributes to the long term and future generations. Sustainability is an important key focus point in the Icon Fruit team. The changes in ecological and social responsibility are forcing us to re-think the way we do business. We have directed our energy toward waste reduction, efficiencies, sustainable packaging and carbon dioxide reduction, which is certainly a challenge. It is an honour to be part of the sustainable development team, as we build the foundation for our future businesses and generations."*



**Marili Viljoen**  
Champion for FieldFresh Veg  
Sustainable Packaging and Food Waste

*"I believe sustainability is important in our business, as it improves efficiency and drives innovation. We are all contributing to secure a liveable future by investing in sustainable and responsible practices like reducing waste, changing to environment-friendly packaging and paying fair wages."*



**Edmund Sunkutu**  
Champion for FieldFresh Veg  
Food Waste and Sustainable Packaging

*"I am a firm believer in sustainability. My passion lies specifically with green packaging alternatives, which have less of an impact on the environment. I am happy to be working in this space within FieldFresh Veg."*







**Julia Delpert**

Champion for Yukon International  
*Sustainable Packaging*

*"I am passionate about sustainability and am grateful to play a role in driving the changes towards improved and more sustainable packaging in our business unit. I believe putting the necessary focus and attention on understanding the entire chain will help us make the right decisions in packaging changes that will both protect the product and be less harmful to the environment."*



**Lindsay du Plessis**

Champion for Yukon International  
*Food Waste*

*"I am passionate about efficiency, good management and tracking where issues arise that need addressing so that we can maximise our outputs and reduce food waste. We work hard on our systems and disciplines to ensure continual improvement".*





# SUSTAINABILITY PILLARS

The Unlimited Group has four core Sustainability Pillars: (1) food waste, (2) climate change – carbon, (3) sustainable packaging, and (4) equality. This report focuses on the first three. Each of the sustainability initiatives within the Unlimited Group addresses these pillars.



## 1. Food Waste

Food loss and waste results in the emission of green house gases, which contributes towards climate change. Food waste also negatively impacts global food security and availability.



## 2. Climate Change

Every country around the world is being impacted by climate change. Agriculture contributes significantly towards the climate crisis, but climate change is also has a large impact on the agricultural sector.



## 3. Sustainable Packaging

Packaging tends to have a much lower product lifecycle in relation to other products. Sustainable packaging, therefore, plays a significant role in reducing the ecological footprint in all the stages of a product's life cycle.

# PILLAR ONE: FOOD WASTE

Food loss and waste compromise the sustainability of our food systems. When food is wasted, all the resources that were used to produce it, including: water, land, energy, labour and capital are also wasted. Additionally, the disposal of food waste in landfills, leads to greenhouse gas emissions, which contributes to climate change. Food waste can also negatively impact food security and availability and contribute to the rising price of food (United Nations, 2021). According to the United Nations Environment Programme's (UNEP's) Food Waste Index Report 2021, people globally waste one billion tonnes of food annually (UNEP, 2021a). A staggering one-third of all food produced globally is lost or wasted (UNEP, 2021b). The evidence is becoming impossible to ignore.

In South Africa, 45% of the available food supply is thrown away. This is equivalent to 10.3 million tonnes annually (Mandaha, 2021). Fruit and vegetables account for 19% of food waste (Bega, 2021). The Unlimited Group is committed to reducing its food waste. In alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 12.3, the Unlimited Group goal is to cut global food waste in half at the retail and consumer level by 2030.

*\*Icon Fruit and Yukon International are not included in this section as their food loss and waste is negligible.*

## Food Waste Utilisation Hierarchy



**Source:** CGC SA Food Loss And Waste ([www.cgcsa.co.za/service-offering/food-safety-initiative/food-loss-and-waste](http://www.cgcsa.co.za/service-offering/food-safety-initiative/food-loss-and-waste))



# FOOD WASTE GOAL & OBJECTIVES



## GOAL

**CUT FOOD WASTE BY  
HALF AND REDUCE  
FOOD LOSSES ALONG  
PRODUCTION AND  
SUPPLY CHAINS  
BY 2030**

## OBJECTIVES 2021

**1**

**Generate baseline data for food waste in each business unit**

**2**

**Sign up local supplying businesses to the CGC SA Food Loss and Waste Declaration**

**3**

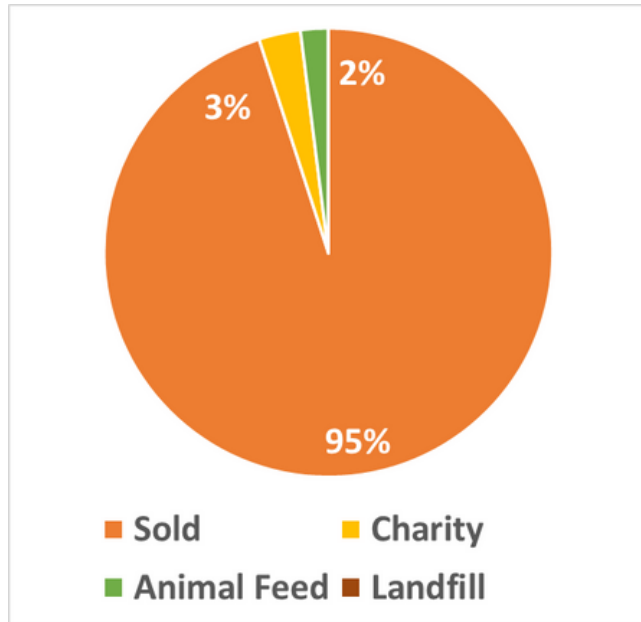
**Redistribute surplus food to registered charities and secondary markets**

**4**

**Divert food waste to animal farms and local composting companies**

# FOOD WASTE FINDINGS: FRUITION

Fruition completed the food waste baseline exercise, by indicating what percentage of product was sold, sent to charities, sent for animal feed and how much went to landfill. The results can be seen below:



Fruition	%
Product Sold	95
Charity	3
Animal Feed	2
Landfill	-

Objectives 2021	Achieved?
1. Generate baseline data for food waste in each business unit	✓
2. Sign up local supplying business units to the CGC SA Food Loss and Waste Declaration	✓
3. Redistribute surplus food to registered charities and secondary markets	✓
4. Divert food waste to animal farms and local composting companies	✓

### Some of the charities supported by Fruition

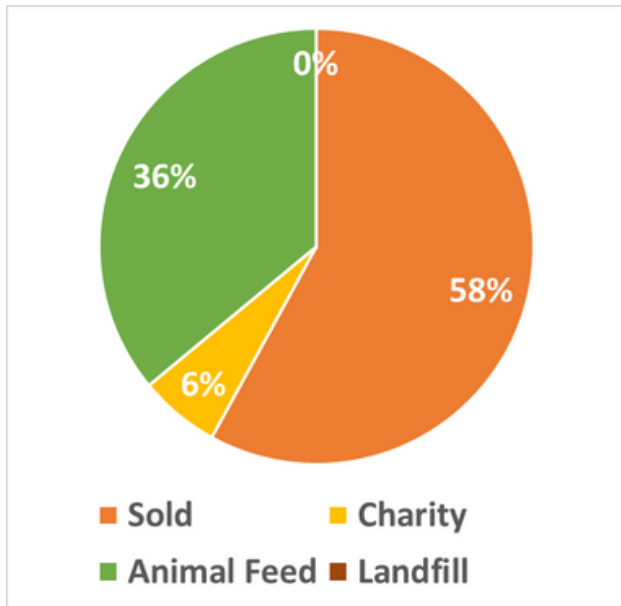
- Circle of Life
- Haven Care Centre
- Kids World Nursery
- Manger
- Rearabilwe
- Siyonqoba Care Centre
- Staff Welfare Babsfontein
- Psalm 91 Soul Recovery





# FOOD WASTE FINDINGS: **FIELDFRESH FOODS**

FieldFresh Foods completed the food waste baseline exercise, by indicating what percentage of product was sold, sent to charities, sent for animal feed and how much went to landfill. The results can be seen below:

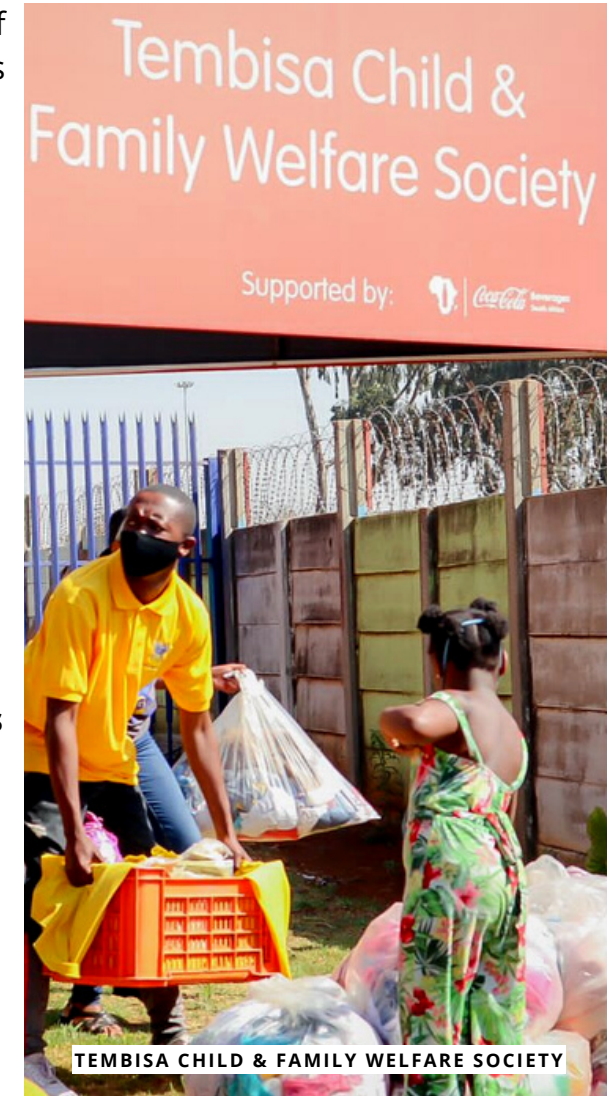


FieldFresh Foods	%
Product Sold	58
Charity	6
Animal Feed	36
Landfill	-

Objectives 2021	Achieved?
1. Generate baseline data for food waste in each business unit	✓
2. Sign up local supplying business units to the CGC SA Food Loss and Waste Declaration	✓
3. Redistribute surplus food to registered charities and secondary markets	✓
4. Divert food waste to animal farms and local composting companies	✓

### Some of the charities supported by FieldFresh Foods

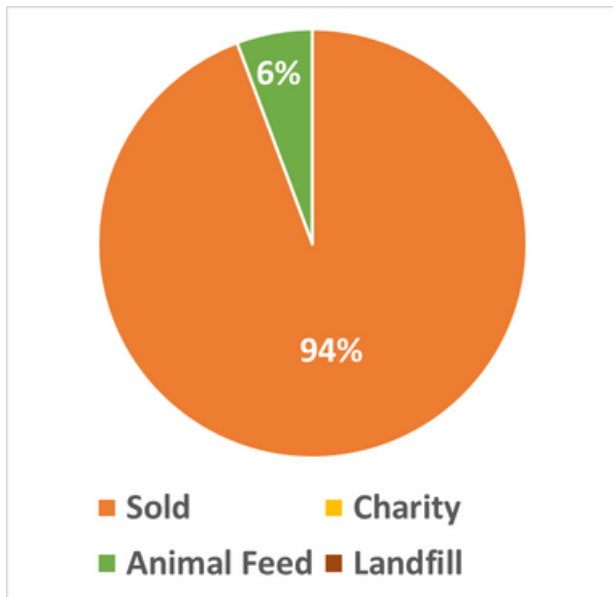
- Tembisa Child & Family Welfare Society
- EnDeo AGS
- Enon Family Church
- Cypress AGS
- Angel Wings
- Bethlehem House
- Haven Care Centre
- Apacotolic Faith
- Germiston Full



TEMBISA CHILD & FAMILY WELFARE SOCIETY

# FOOD WASTE FINDINGS: **FIELDFRESH VEG**

FieldFresh Veg completed the food waste baseline exercise, by indicating what percentage of product was sold, sent to charities, sent for animal feed and how much went to landfill. The results can be seen below:



Objectives 2021	Achieved?
1. Generate baseline data for food waste in each business unit	✓
2. Sign up local supplying business units to the CGC SA Food Loss and Waste Declaration	✓
3. Redistribute surplus food to registered charities and secondary markets	✓
4. Divert food waste to animal farms and local composting companies	✓



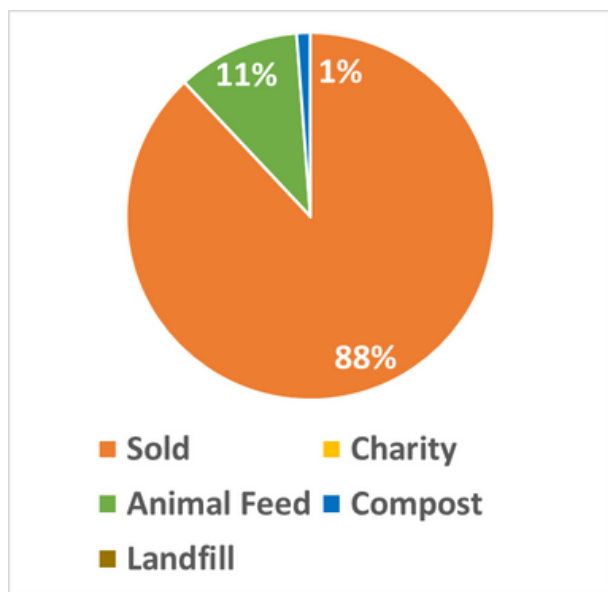
FieldFresh Veg	%
Product Sold	94
Charity	-
Animal Feed	6
Landfill	-





# FOOD WASTE FINDINGS: YUKON INDUSTRIES

Yukon Industries completed the food waste baseline exercise, by indicating what percentage of the product was sold, sent to charities, sent for animal feed and how much went for composting. Yukon Industries is a farm set-up and only the waste in the packhouse was taken into account. Any product left on the field is worked back into the soil, and was thus not part of this exercise. The results can be seen below:

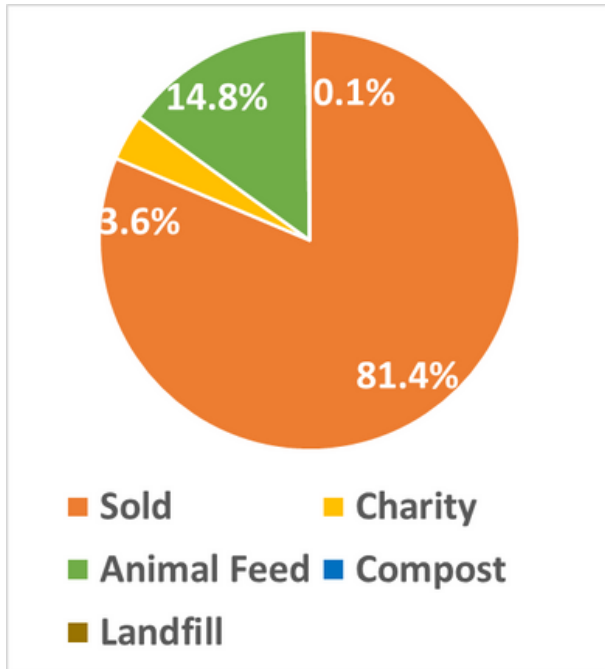


Yukon Industries	%
Product Sold	88
Animal Feed	11
Compost	1
Landfill	-

Objectives 2021	Achieved?
• 1. Generate baseline data for food waste in each business unit	✓
• 2. Sign up local supplying business units to the CGC SA Food Loss and Waste Declaration	N/A
• 3. Redistribute surplus food to registered charities and secondary markets	N/A
• 4. Divert food waste to animal farms and local composting companies	✓



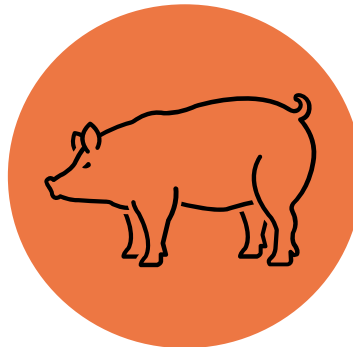
# FOOD WASTE FINDINGS: UNLIMITED GROUP



Unlimited Group	%
Product Sold	81.4
Charity	3.6
Animal Feed	14.8
Compost	0.1
Landfill	0.1



**301 tonnes**  
of surplus food  
redistributed to charities



**1 246 tonnes**  
of food waste diverted  
to farms for animal feed



Each of the business units that reported on food waste for 2021 were able to achieve each of the four set objectives for the pillar, namely: generate baseline data; sign up supplying business units to the CGC SA Food Loss and Waste Declaration; redistribute surplus food to charities; and divert food waste to animal farms for feed. From the data presented this year, the Unlimited Group aims to put strategies in place to reduce food loss and waste even further.

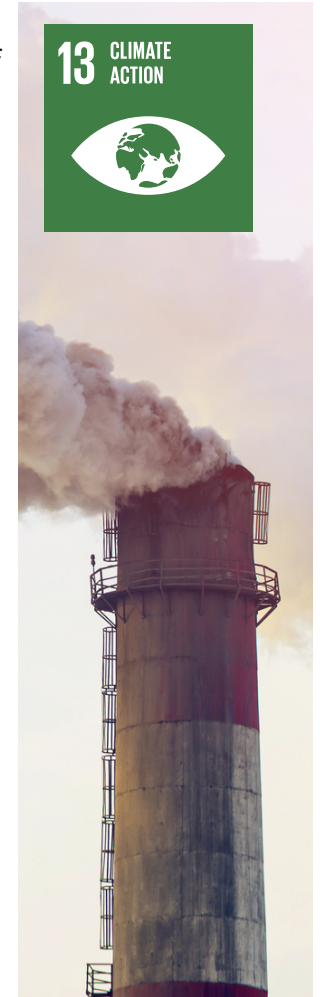


# PILLAR TWO: CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate change is here (United Nations, 2022a). Every country around the world is being impacted by the effects climate change. It is disrupting national economies and is affecting people's lives. In 2019, levels of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and other greenhouse gases in the atmosphere reached new highs. 2019 was the second warmest year on record, and it marked the end of the warmest decade on record: 2010-2019 (United Nations, 2022b). A warming climate is expected to impact the availability of basic needs for many, such as: fresh water, food security and energy (United Nations, 2022a).

Climate change is having an enormous impact on the agricultural sector, with increasing temperatures, weather variability, shifting agroecosystem boundaries, invasive crops and pests, and more frequent extreme weather events. With the world's population expected to reach 9.6 billion people by 2050 and food demand expected to rise by 60-100%, raising agricultural productivity to feed the growing population while decreasing our global imprint is by far one of our most pressing issues (United Nations, 2022d). However, this challenge also works in reverse. Agriculture is a major contributor to the climate crisis. It currently generates 19-29% of total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Without any action, this percentage could increase substantially as other sectors reduce their emissions (The World Bank, 2021).

The Unlimited Group recognises the role it plays in climate change and therefore has aligned its strategy with the United Nations SDG 13, which calls for urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts. The goal is to reduce carbon dioxide emissions with 25% by 2030 and ultimately reach net-zero carbon dioxide emissions by 2050. This year the Unlimited Group is baselining each business unit's carbon emissions, to identify problem areas and develop strategies to reduce its emissions where possible. Currently, only one business unit has completed the carbon audit and will be reported in on in this report. The rest will be reported in the next Sustainability Report.



# CLIMATE CHANGE GOALS & OBJECTIVES

13 CLIMATE ACTION



## GOALS

**REDUCE CARBON DIOXIDE EMISSIONS BY 25% BY 2030**

**REACH NET-ZERO CARBON DIOXIDE EMISSIONS BY 2050**

## OBJECTIVES 2021

1

Generate carbon baseline data for all business units by the end of 2022

2

Identify problem areas and investigate alternatives

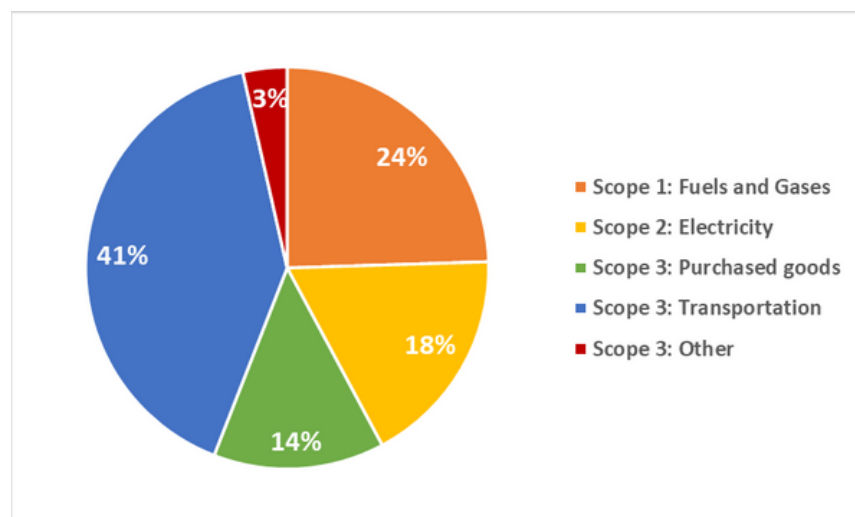
3

Reduce carbon emissions by implementing suitable projects (example: solar energy projects)



# CARBON FINDINGS: FRUITION

Fruition completed its first carbon audit and baselining exercise, based on 2021 financial year data (1 October 2020 to 30 September 2021). The Unlimited Group partnered with Promethium Carbon to complete the carbon baselining exercise. Promethium calculated Fruition's direct and indirect emissions in accordance with the ISO 14064 (2006) and SANS 14064-1:2021 standards. Fruition's largest direct emissions were from refrigerants, and its largest indirect emissions originated from purchased goods and services, as well as upstream transportation and distribution.



Scope	Tonnes CO2 per tonnes product sold (tCO2/tproduct) *
Scope 1: Fuels and gases	0.19
Scope 2: Electricity	0.14
Scope 3: All	0.45
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.78</b>

\*Ratio calculation: Tonnes of carbon dioxide ÷ tonnes of product sold

Scope 1 and 2 refer to the direct greenhouse gas emissions that are controlled by Fruition's own operations. Scope 3 emissions are the result of activities from assets not owned or controlled by Fruition but indirectly impact its value chain. Scope 3 emissions include all sources not within Fruition's Scope 1 and 2 boundaries.

## To reduce emissions, it is recommended that Fruition considers:

- Implementing renewable energy for electricity, which could serve to decrease energy emissions.
- Changing packaging to reduce PET plastics used.
- Using alternative refrigerants with a lower Global Warming Potential (GWP).

# PILLAR THREE: SUSTAINABLE PACKAGING

Waste is an increasingly pressing global challenge (Geyer *et al.* 2017). Its implications have been amplified by population growth and a rising demand for resources and land. Since packaging tends to have a much lower product lifecycle in relation to other products, such as construction or textiles, its annual waste generation is extremely high. Single-use packaging is responsible for almost half of global plastic waste and is the greatest contributor to waste generation (Geyer *et al.* 2017). Thus, sustainable packaging is a crucial aspect in the transition towards a more sustainable future.

Sustainable packaging plays a significant role in reducing the ecological footprint in all the stages of a product's life cycle. It helps both the producer and the consumer reduce its environmental impact. A circular product (1) contains renewable, recycled or reusable content, (2) is reusable, recyclable or compostable and (3) is produced using renewable energy (Pauer *et al.* 2019).

The Unlimited Group export fruit, vegetable and nuts to numerous countries over the world and each country has their own sustainable packaging policies, guidelines and goals. However, the Unlimited Group use the Tesco Sustainable Packaging Guideline as its reference (Figure 1) in most cases. (Cont next page)





In South Africa, the WWF led the development of a national initiative, known as the South African Plastics Pact, in 2019. It brings key stakeholders, including businesses, government and NGOs, together to focus on a common vision to address plastic waste and pollution issues.

GreenCape, which was chosen as the implementing organisation by the pact's steering committee, is responsible for delivering the SA Plastics Pact by 2025.

**All members are committed to:**

- 1 100% of packaging reusable or recyclable by 2025
- 2 Average of 30% recycled content for packaging by 2025
- 3 Reducing average packaging weight by 30% by 2025
- 4 100% of cardboard and paper sourced from responsibly managed forests by 2025
- 5 100% of retailer-branded products will carry the revised On-Pack Recycling Logo by 2023

RED Materials we need to remove	AMBER Materials we will either investigate alternatives for or use only where required	GREEN Materials we will continue to use and use as replacements for the red list
Compostable / PLA & Biodegradable Plastics	NIR Black HDPE (non-food grade)	Sustainably sourced Paper & cardboard (FSC/PEFC)
Oxy/Oxo degradable plastics & water-soluble plastics	Non-PE flexible films (incl. complex laminates)	Rigid PET – Polyethylene terephthalate (Clear only)
Polystyrene	Foiled paper	Glass
PVC & PVdC	Wood & Cork	Steel & Aluminium
MDF	New material innovations	Rigid PP – Polypropylene (films, caps, etc.)
Paper/board laminated on both sides	Composite drums	Flexible and rigid PE – Polyethylene (preferred material for film)
Expanded / Foamed / Density Modified plastics	Shrink sleeves (perforated, incl. messaging to remove, max ink coverage of 60%)	Paper / board with plastic; single side lamination <15% by weight
Rigid black plastic	Spouted pouches of mixed material	Mono PET lidding film on PET tray
Waxed paper & complex laminated using aluminium layers for decoration		Mono material spouted pouch
Complex laminated using aluminium layers for decoration		

**Figure 1:** Tesco Packaging Preferred Material & Formats Guidelines 2021. (Source: [www.tescopl.com/media/757460/uk-packaging-preferred-materials-formats-guidelines-2021.pdf](http://www.tescopl.com/media/757460/uk-packaging-preferred-materials-formats-guidelines-2021.pdf))

To achieve these targets for a plastic circular economy, various measures are required: plastic items that are problematic or unnecessary need to be phased out; reuse models can reduce the need for single-use packaging and hold the potential for significant user and business benefits. All packaging needs to be designed to be reusable, recyclable or compostable in practice and at scale.

Since the South African recycling stream looks completely different compared with other countries, we use South African specific guidelines (Figure 2) for companies that supply product locally.

<b>RED</b> Materials we need to remove	<b>AMBER</b> Materials we will investigate alternatives for or use only where required	<b>GREEN</b> Materials we will continue to use and use as replacements for the red list
PVC & PVdC	Home Compostable – cellulose, mater-bi, Natureflex	Sustainably sourced Paper & cardboard (FSC/PEFC)
Oxy degradable materials	Polypropylene (certain food) including BOPP	PET – Polyethylene terephthalate (clear & black)
Rigid Water-Soluble plastics	New material	PP – Polypropylene (films, caps and tubes)
PLA – Polylactic acid	Complex laminates /Multilayer	HDPE, LDPE
Industrial compostable		PE – Polyethylene (preferred material for film)
Polycarbonate (BPA)		Glass / Steel / Aluminium
Multi-layer lidding films		Polystyrene
Multi-layer labels		Pulp

**Figure 2:** Packaging Preferred Material & Formats Guidelines for South Africa in 2021.

The Unlimited Group aims to achieve sustainable packaging goals that are in alignment with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 12.5: reduction in waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse.



# PACKAGING GOALS & OBJECTIVES



## GOALS

**REDUCE PACKAGING WASTE GENERATION THROUGH PREVENTION, REDUCTION, RECYCLING AND REUSE.**

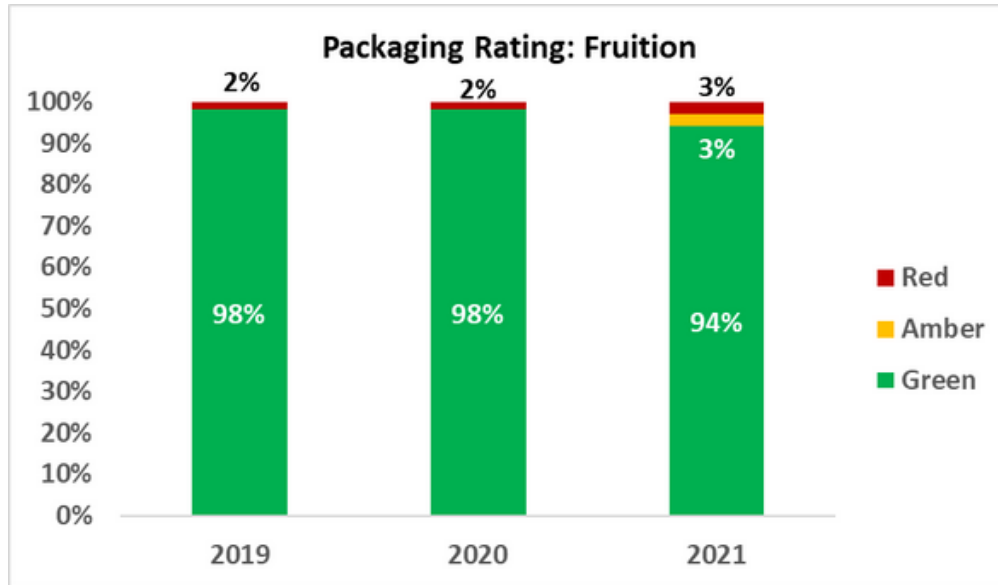
**ALL PACKAGING SHOULD BE RECYCLABLE, REUSABLE OR COMPOSTABLE BY 2030**

## OBJECTIVES 2021

- 1** Generate packaging baseline data for all business units
- 2** Ensure all packaging is recyclable, by eliminating all “red-rated” packaging.
- 3** Increase recycled content in plastic packaging
- 4** Reduce plastic use and packaging weight, where possible
- 5** Ensure all paper and cardboard packaging is FSC-certified

# PACKAGING FINDINGS: FRUITION

Fruition's sustainable packaging rating is based on Woolworths Holdings' Good Business Journey Targets and the South African preferred packaging material list.



Goal description	Achieved?
% Packaging recyclable or reusable	94%
% Recycled content (only rPET)	11%
% Weight reduction average per unit sold	35g per unit
% Cardboard/paper FSC/PEFC certified	100%
% Products with on-pack recycling logo	100%



Fruition has completed its third sustainable packaging audit. Fruition currently has 94% green-rated packaging, with only 3% amber and 3% red rated. The amber-rated packaging refers to a polystyrene punnet. In November 2021, Woolworths moved polystyrene from the green to the amber list, which is reflected in Fruition's data. Although there are currently no existing alternatives available, Fruition is committed to finding a solution. The red-rated packaging refers to the PVC cling wrap that is still in use. Woolworths is in the process of eliminating PVC and replacing it with Superthene™ Polyolefin stretch wrap, which is fully recyclable. If successful, these changes will eliminate all amber- and red-rated packaging for Fruition. This will make Fruition 100% green rated.

### Areas of improvement for Fruition in 2022:

- Change PVC to Superthene™ Polyolefin stretch wrap.
- Investigate alternatives to polystyrene punnet.

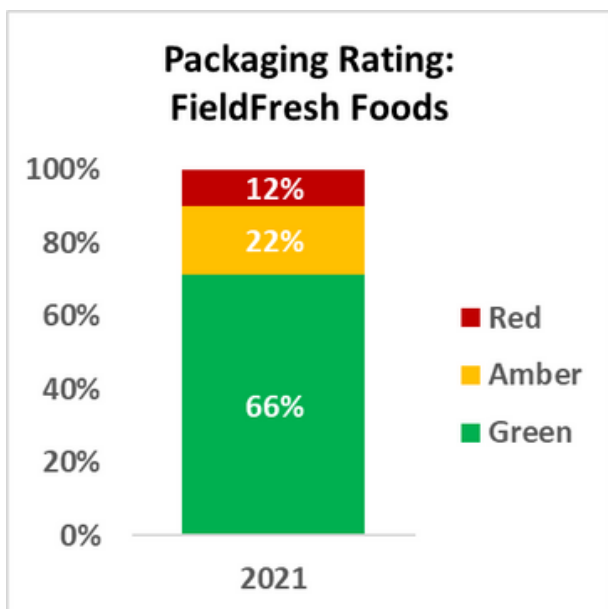
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# PACKAGING FINDINGS: **FIELDFRESH FOODS**

FieldFresh Foods' sustainable packaging rating is based on South African packaging guidelines and customer requirements.



Goal description	Achieved?
% Packaging recyclable or reusable	66%
% Recycled content (only rPET)	13%
% Weight reduction average per unit sold	Baseline 2021- 14g per unit
% Cardboard/paper FSC/PEFC certified	N/A
% Products with on-pack recycling logo	100%



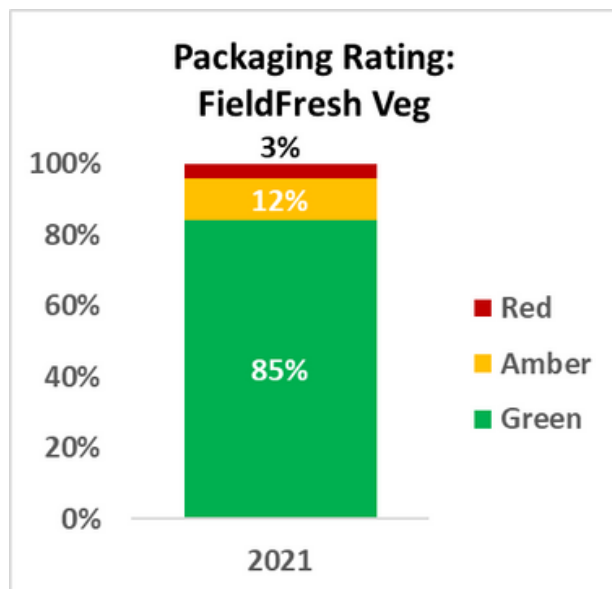
FieldFresh Foods completed the sustainable packaging audit for the first time in 2021, with 66% green-rated packaging, 22% amber and 12% red. The red-rated soup doy bag (PVDC/PET) should be addressed as soon as possible and an amber-listed BOPP alternative should be investigated.

### Areas of improvement for FieldFresh Foods in 2022:

- Investigate Doy Bag alternatives.
- Investigate BOPP alternatives. BOPP is recyclable but is not actively being recycled in South Africa. The retailer determines packaging at this stage.

# PACKAGING FINDINGS: **FIELDFRESH VEG**

The sustainable packaging rating for FieldFresh Veg is based on South African guidelines and customer requirements. FieldFresh Veg do not pack product under their own brand. Instead, they supply the product in the local retailers' brand.



Goal description	Achieved?
% Packaging recyclable or reusable	85%
% Recycled content (only rPET)	16%
% Weight reduction average per unit sold	Baseline 2021 - 10g per unit
% Cardboard/paper FSC/PEFC certified	100%
% Products with on-pack recycling logo	100%



FieldFresh Veg has completed its first packaging audit, with 85% green-rated packaging, 12% amber and 3% red. The red-rated packaging refers to the PVC cling wrap. PVC should be eliminated as soon as possible, as it is already banned in numerous countries. Superthene™ Polyolefin stretch wrap will be trialed in 2022. Alternatives for the amber-listed BOPP bags should be investigated.

## Areas of improvement for FieldFresh Veg in 2022:

- Eliminate PVC.
- Investigate BOPP alternatives. BOPP is recyclable but is not actively being recycled in South Africa.

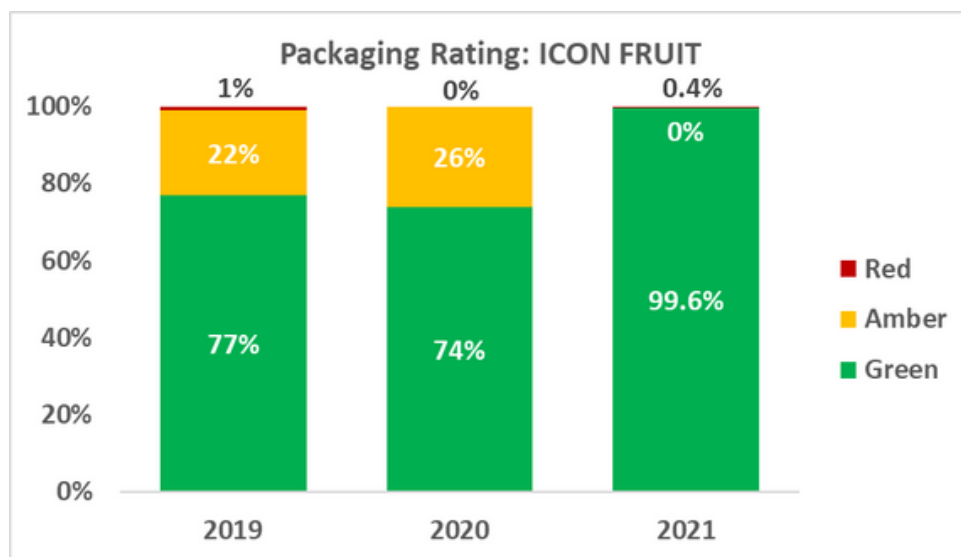
**UNLIMITED GROUP**

// SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2021



# PACKAGING FINDINGS: **ICON FRUIT**

The sustainable packaging rating for Icon Fruit is based on international guidelines and policies. The Unlimited Group uses Tesco's Packaging Preferred Materials guidelines, which are based on the UN's guidelines for a circular economy, as its guide.



Goal description	Achieved?
% Packaging recyclable or reusable	99.6%
% Recycled content (only rPET)	35%
% Weight reduction average per unit sold	635g per unit
% Cardboard/paper FSC/PEFC certified	100%
% Products with on-pack recycling logo	100%



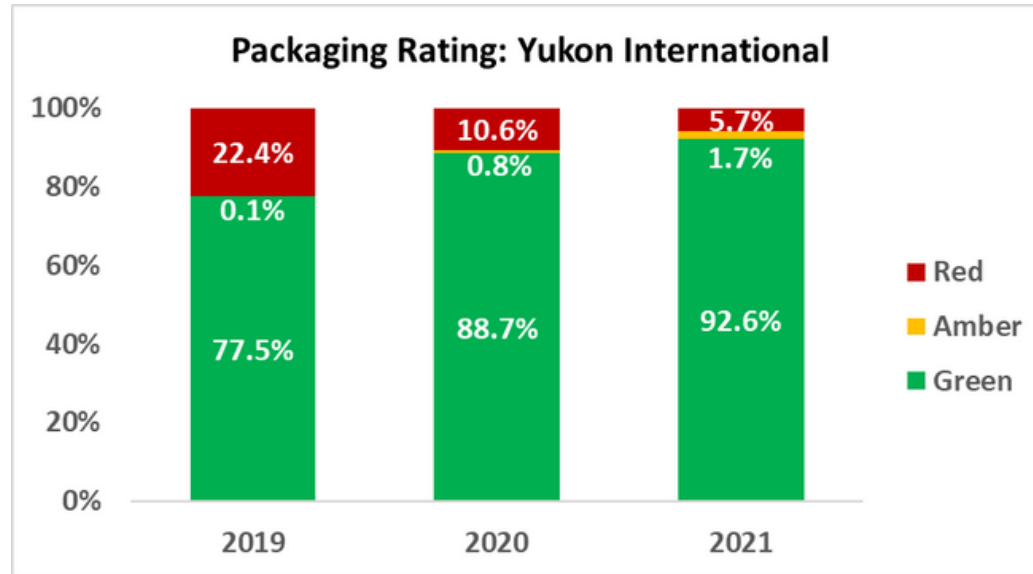
Icon Fruit completed its third sustainable packaging audit. All cartons are FSC-certified, assuring all paper is sourced from sustainable forests. Icon Fruit eliminated the red-rated polystyrene and PVC stretch wrap from its product line. Icon Fruit also launched a green-rated polyethylene carry-bag to its product line. The 0.4% red-rated packaging refers to the sponges used in the apricot cartons. These sponges cannot be eliminated at this stage as there is no alternative available. Tesco has changed its policy regarding pulp, which has changed from amber to green rated. The sustainability score of pulp will be closely monitored.

### Areas of improvement for Icon Fruit in 2022:

- Investigate an alternative for the thin and thick sponges.
- Investigate a paper-based punnet to reduce plastic.

# PACKAGING FINDINGS: YUKON INTERNATIONAL

Yukon International's sustainable packaging rating is based on international guidelines and policies. The Unlimited Group uses Tesco's Packaging Preferred Materials guidelines, which are based on the UN's guidelines for a circular economy, as its guide.



Goal description	Achieved?
% Packaging recyclable or reusable	93%
% Recycled content (only rPET)	4%
% Weight reduction average per unit sold	40g per unit
% Cardboard/paper FSC/PEFC certified	70%
% Products with on-pack recycling logo	100%



Yukon International completed its third sustainable packaging audit. Yukon increased its green rating by 4.9 percentage points since 2020. The biggest contributor to the increase was the launch of an FSC-certified solid board punnet, wrapped with a BOPP bag. The latter replaced the PET plastic punnet wrapped in PVC wrap (red rated). The remaining PVC should be eliminated by the end of 2022. The red-rated Yukon polystyrene punnet and black PET punnet should be addressed.

## Areas of improvement for Yukon International in 2022:

- Eliminate PVC and replace it with BOPP.
- Replace remaining black PET punnets with clear PET.
- Investigate polystyrene punnet alternatives.
- France pledged to eliminate plastic by June 2022. Investigate cellulose packaging alternatives.

**UNLIMITED GROUP**

# CASE STUDY: YUKON INTERNATIONAL

## REDUCES PLASTIC BY 90%

With the focus on plastic reduction, Yukon International investigated a green-rated, sustainably sourced natural fibre punnet to replace the plastic PET punnet.

By changing to an FSC-certified solid board punnet, we are able to ensure responsible and sustainable sourcing of raw materials. We have reduced our plastic use and now have a 100% recyclable punnet. The solid board punnet does not affect shelf life and is food safe.



As part of its sustainability journey, Yukon International completes a sustainable packaging audit every year. Here, we identify packaging material that needs to be replaced or removed. The company has made excellent progress over the past three years and has increased the use of green-rated packaging by almost 16 percentage points.

For more information, please contact Calle Badenhorst, General Manager of Yukon International - [calle@yukon.co.za](mailto:calle@yukon.co.za)



# UNLIMITED GROUP SUMMARY

The Unlimited Group sustainable packaging audit results for 2019, 2020 and 2021 can be seen below:

Packaging type	Code	2019		2020		2021	
		Units	Total Weight (kg)	Units	Total Weight (kg)	Units	Total Weight (kg)
Carton	Green	2,158,784	576,080	1,694,486	477,361	2,692,693	901,446
Clear PET	Green	7,458,038	141,408	8,222,604	130,972	8,016,149	132,384
Clear PET bottles	Green	*	*	*	*	141,606	2,304
HDPE Bottle Cap	Green	*	*	*	*	141,606	377
LDPE Liner / Bag	Green	1,548,852	12,151	1,270,884	12,504	2,504,705	33,368
cPE Bag	Green	*	*	*	*	52,312	1,046
Paper Mum / Riffle sheet	Green	1,848,485	20,507	1,455,634	14,336	4,012,153	39,814
PE Shrivel Sheet / Bubble wrap	Green	108,574	2,710	113,504	908	289,598	2,302
Paper Label	Green	1,880,271	9,394	7,044,908	7,045	12,773,407	13,993
Acrylic Label	Green	*	*	*	*	2,355,584	2,846
PP Label	Green	13,013,473	13,017	8,420,441	8,425	10,445,503	12,914
PP - Baby Food Tub, Lid & Spoon	Green	*	*	*	*	366,786	20,173
Solid board punnet	Green	-	-	-	-	1,227,056	15,903
Aluminium Tray	Green	*	*	*	*	25,825	568
Pulp**	Green / Amber	1,220,675	93,426	901,294	89,229	2,998,026	409,145
PP Xtend Bag	Amber	244,651	5,322	-	-	-	-
BOPP Bags	Amber	146,008	292	462,757	926	6,475,297	47,668
Polystyrene (RSA)**	Green / Amber	793,791	4,871	901,071	5,561	905,399	7,307
Soup Mix bag - PET / LDPE	Amber	*	*	*	*	75,437	377
Black PET (EU)	Red	3,237,847	39,897	270,748	2,602	35,001	662
PE & Ethyl vinyl acetate Sponge	Red	253,277	3,280	81,617	1,143	303,420	4,811
PVDC / PET Soup Doy Bag	Red	*	*	*	*	22,044	5,506
Polystyrene (EU)**	Red	162,494	4,066	64,462	1,741	44,664	1,206
PVC	Red	7,365,432	29,461	5,479,819	21,919	3,669,460	10,561

\* packaging type was not measured that year

\*\* Pulp and Polystyrene has different sustainable packaging ratings in different countries.

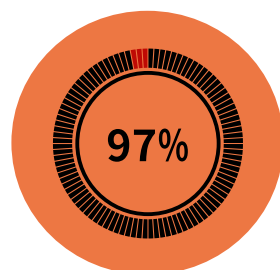


# PACKAGING FINDINGS: UNLIMITED GROUP

The Unlimited Group increased the use of green-rated packaging by 13 percentage points during the 2021 financial year. The Group decreased the use of red-rated packaging by 2 percentage points. Until new technologies are developed, there will, unfortunately, always be an element of red-rated packaging present. The Unlimited Group is committed to being part of the global movement to rethink, refuse, reduce, reuse and recycle packaging material. We look forward to moving our entire product range to more sustainable packaging.



**923 tonnes**  
of paper/cardboard is  
FSC certified  
(95% of paper used)



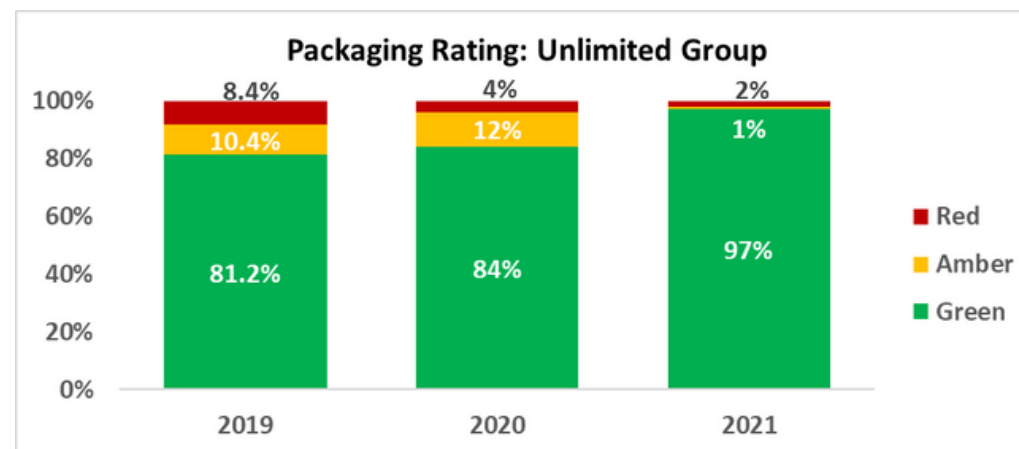
**97%**  
green-rated packaging  
within the Unlimited  
Group



**13 tonnes**  
less PVC used



**27 tonnes**  
less plastic used by Yukon  
International



	2019		2020		2021	
Sustainability rank	Kilogram	%	Kilogram	%	Kilogram	%
Green	775 356	81.2	657 328	84	1 589 974	97
Amber	99 040	10.4	91 056	12	18 097	1
Red	79 930	8.4	31 982	4	27 932	2
Total	954 326		780 365		1 636 003	

# NEXT STEPS



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## 1. Food Waste

With regards to food waste, 2021 was a baselining year for most of the business units within the Unlimited Group. From this, the Group shall develop innovative strategies to reduce food waste in 2022. The Group aims to put in place reporting systems for those business units that were not able to report on their food waste in 2021. The Group will continue to work closely with the Consumer Goods Council of South Africa to improve industry standards and work towards cutting food waste by half by 2030.

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## 2. Climate Change - Carbon

Fruition completed its first carbon baselining report. The other business units are in the process of completing their audits, which will be presented in the next Sustainability Report. The baseline report will identify the problem areas within each business unit and strategies will be developed to reduce carbon emissions. The Group has launched a solar working group to investigate renewable energy alternatives. In order to reduce emissions further, the Group will be investigating the use of alternative refrigerants with a lower Global Warming Potential (GWP).

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## 3. Sustainable Packaging

Each business unit has different sustainable packaging projects to focus on, based on their packaging rating. The goal is to eliminate red-rated packaging and to investigate non-plastic alternatives to reduce plastic waste. The Unlimited Group is committed to gradually moving its entire product range to more sustainable packaging.



**Thank you to all the staff members  
and partners of the Unlimited  
Group for their valuable  
contributions to this report**

*We would like to thank the following people:*

- *Unlimited Group Board of Directors*
- *Unlimited Group Management*
- *General Managers*
- *Sustainability Unit*
- *Sustainability Champions*
- *Finance Departments*
- *Promethium Carbon*
- *Packaging companies*
- *Consumer Goods Council*

**For more information, contact:**

Sustainability Unit  
Zoë Mostert  
zoe@fruits.co.za



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