

Recyclable cardboard trays: the future of berry packaging

The food industry is facing a central challenge: reducing plastic packaging in favor of sustainable alternatives. Particularly for fresh products such as berries and herbs, solutions are needed that are environmentally friendly while also ensuring functionality and product protection.

Plastic trays for berries are still widespread. However, the trend is clearly moving toward sustainable packaging solutions. As an environmentally friendly alternative, Pawi offers a recyclable cardboard tray. It is made from FSC-certified materials and can be returned to the recycling stream after use. This actively contributes to reducing plastic usage and meets the growing environmental requirements of retailers and consumers.

In addition to ecological sustainability, the tray stands out for its functionality. A double-glued rim construction provides stability and enables smooth filling—both machine-based and manual. A special coating protects against moisture, and the well-thought-out design ensures optimal air circulation, both of which help to keep the fruit fresh for longer.

The space-saving design enables efficient storage and optimized logistics: the 250 g and 500 g trays are delivered pre-erected and can be stacked compactly, while the 1 kg trays are delivered flat and can be erected with just a few steps prior to filling. Pawi also offers the option of individual printing, allowing the packaging to be customized to specific brand designs.

Competence Center for Trays

Within the Pawi Group, a competence center for erected cardboard trays has been established at the Singen site. These can be used for a variety of products, ranging from berries and cakes to herbs. "As a manufacturer of solid board packaging, we have comprehensive material and development know-how as well as in-depth technical expertise.

We rely on high-quality, sustainable solid board materials that are specially optimized for food packaging. Through innovative coating technologies and precise die-cutting processes, we ensure that our packaging solutions are both functional and environmentally friendly,"



Functional and recyclable: cardboard trays.

Bild: Pawi

says Irfan Cüven, Head of Sales Promotion & Sales. "Our development department is continuously working on new

solutions to further improve the stability, barrier performance, and recyclability of our packaging. Modern production

processes and highly precise machinery enable us to produce customized packaging solutions with optimal perfor-

mance for a wide range of applications. Through this combination of material expertise, technological progress, and sustainable responsibility, we offer innovative packaging solutions that meet the high demands of our customers." Pawi supports its customers in selecting suitable board grades, thicknesses, and coatings. The company accompanies the entire process—from initial development through to machine-based series production—and develops tailored solutions.

Its clients include well-known brands in the food and non-food industries.

Innovative Herb Packaging

Another example of Pawi's sustainable packaging strategy is an innovative herb packaging solution. By combining unbleached virgin fiber board with a minimal plastic coating, the plastic content was reduced by 83 %—a saving of more than 60 metric tons of plastic per year.

The new tray is made of environmentally friendly virgin fiber board and features a viewing window that enhances the presentation of the herbs. Pawi uses a transparent plastic for the window that is specifically suitable for food packaging. The packaging is designed to be recycled in a conventional way: the viewing window can be easily separated from the cardboard, allowing both materials—paper and plastic—to be fed separately into their respective recycling streams. A thin plastic layer provides the necessary product protection and extends shelf life. In addition, a reclosable tuck-in closure preserves aroma and enables easy handling.

The packaging offers high stability, protects the sensitive herbs, and ensures optimal ventilation to maintain freshness. In addition, the trays can be individually printed and flexibly adapted to different types of herbs.

Irfan Cüven, Head of Sales Promotion & Sales at Pawi Packaging Germany



The viewing window in the herb packaging can be easily separated from the cardboard.

Picture: Pawi

Autoclave technology and steam generation in interaction Sterilization and steam generation as a system

The two companies Maschinenbau Scholz and Georg Hagelschuer will be appearing together for the first time at interpack 2026 with their own joint booth. What connects the two companies goes beyond a classic collaboration. Over many years, an intensive technical exchange has developed—shaped by joint projects, similar customer requirements,

and the ambition to think of solutions not in isolation, but holistically. Scholz and Hagelschuer are making this very approach tangible at the trade fair.

At the center is the interaction of their technologies: from autoclaves for sterilization and pasteurization to precisely matched steam generation. For trade visitors, this creates

a clear advantage: they encounter two specialists who think of their systems in a coordinated way—and thus offer solutions that convince through their interaction. Maschinenbau Scholz brings more than a century of experience into the partnership. Over decades, the company has established itself in the development and manufacture of

quick-closing systems and autoclaves and has continuously expanded its expertise—among other things through the integration of well-known manufacturers such as Lagarde and Lubeca. Today, its systems stand for precise processes, uniform heat distribution, and high efficiency in food production. Hagelschuer complements this know-how with over 35 years

of experience in industrial steam generation. The company develops customized steam and hot water boiler systems that are precisely tailored to customer requirements. Topics such as decarbonization, electric steam generation, hybrid systems, alternative fuels, as well as increasing regulatory requirements—such as those resulting from the 44th Feder-

al Immission Control Ordinance—are playing an increasingly important role and also shape the trade fair presence. That both technologies complement each other ideally is particularly evident in the details: autoclaves rely on reliably generated steam—and this is exactly where Hagelschuer comes in.

Hall 5, D41