

# 2023 Kernza® Perennial Grain Market Demand Survey Findings

In February, The Land Institute conducted the first-ever market demand survey, focusing specifically on the challenges and successes of Kernza market development.

39 businesses responded, a response rate of 44%. Based on these responses, we have developed a plan and timeline for:

- Creating supply transparency (2023)
- Creating new marketing materials (2023)
- Creating a quality and grading program (2024)
- Conducting new pricing research (2024)
- Bringing on additional processing (2024)
- Developing defensible claims for the marketplace (2025)

# SUPPLY & MARKETING CONCERNS

# **SURVEY RESULTS**

We heard these top concerns:

- Guaranteed long-term availability of product
- Long-term consistency in quality and performance of the grain
- Lack of well-understood and scientifically supported claims

# **WHAT'S NEXT**

Consistent supply and quality is crucial to business success. We intend to improve your experience.



# Supply Dashboard

We will build an online dashboard that will provide real-time information on the availability of Kernza perennial grain in the marketplace and will connect buyers and sellers directly.



# Kernza LCA

We will work with partners to understand and verify desired environmental claims, such as contributions to biodiversity and carbon sequestration



# Kernza Quality Standards

We will work to develop a sampling protocol and build a network for producer submission to help develop grading and quality standards across production systems and regions.

# INDUSTRY SPECIFIC RESOURCES

# **SURVEY RESULTS**



33% of respondents want recipe development and testing to improve product development timelines





66% of CPGs and 100% of processors need marketing & storytelling materials to market Kernza products

# WHAT'S NEXT

We will create customized, industry-specific marketing and storytelling kits for Kernza



We want to equip businesses with tools for:

- Consumer education
- Targeted marketing strategies
- Specialized industry-specific recipes

The development of these kits will be informed by input gathered from YOU!







Provide input on what you need to market Kernza!

# PRICING INSIGHTS



# **SURVEY RESULTS**

When survey recipients were asked," Which of the following might help you move along the Kernza R&D journey?" Most businesses selected:

# A REDUCTION IN PRICE

# PRODUCT REFERENCE POINTS

After answering a series of pricing questions, we asked recipients:

"Thinking of the other ingredients which you purchase regularly, which is most similar in price/function to Kernza?"

And this is some of what we heard...

"Locally milled... organic spelt flour, finely milled. \$3.80/#..."

"Hard Red Wheat Berries \$0.85-\$1.50/lb"

"Kernza is the only expensive grain that I purchase. I use ancient grains such as rye, turkey red, red fife, buckwheat. Rye and Turkey Red are \$1 a lb, Red Fife is \$1.8 and Buckwheat is \$1.5."

"Besides Kernza, organic Einkorn is the most expensive grain I purchase to date. The price varies, but I have paid as much as \$2.40 / #"

"Other high-quality flours, such as King Arthur, Bob's Red Mill, Great River Milling, Sunrise Flour Mills heritage flours."

# PRICING RESEARCH

# **PRICE SENSITIVITY**

We used the Van Westendorp Method to ask which prices were "too expensive", "too cheap/low quality", "somewhat expensive", and "somewhat cheap/good value." The answers provided hypothetical price ranges for wholesale non-organic flour and wholesale non-organic whole grain based on buyers' input.

### **Van Westendorp Pricing Results**

Wholesale Product:	Theoretical Price Range	N
Whole Grain	2.00 \$/lb 3.00 \$/lb.	26
Flour	1.84 \$/lb 4.00 \$/lb.	16

# WHAT'S NEXT



Estimated price ranges still provide a wide window. We will know more and help consumers understand the value of Kernza products by:

- Developing new budgeting tools for producers that include federal and state risk mitigation payments.
- Developing pricing models based on volume off-take experiments, starting with BREWERS. Follow this QR code if you would like more information:

Learn more about our Perennial Pricing Experiment! Must be a brewery to sign up and must register by June 30, 2023.



# STAY INVOLVED

# WE RELY ON YOUR EXPERTISE TO MAKE SURE **OUR WORK IS AS HELPFUL AND USEFUL AS** POSSIBLE.

## What would you like to see in the industry-specific marketing kits?

Help us understand the most important tools you need (recipes, Kernza nutrient information, sourcing info, environmental information, etc.) Share your thoughts by following this QR code:



# **Join our Perennial Pricing Experiment!**



Do you have marketing or storytelling materials you'd like to share?



Are there specific claims you want validated?

Let use know by following the



