

Fresh-Cut Leafy Sorting Overview

As a processor of fresh-cut produce, your goal is to package a high quality product that is free of defects and foreign material. The consequences of field debris, insect or animal parts, or packing material in a salad bag are immediate and damaging to your brand.

Prevention is the key... and Key wants you to know that it's built into our Manta® and Optyx® Sorting Systems. With our optical sorting technology, you can detect and remove objects that could be unsafe or perceived as repellent to consumers, as well as bacteria-carrying material. For over three decades, Key sorters have been at work around the world – using advanced technologies to target and remove defects and foreign material.

Key's integrated core removal system, onCore, revolutionizes the processing of iceberg and romaine lettuce for bagged salads. This patented system combines the strength of Smart Shaker® vibratory conveyors with state-of-the-art camera/laser sorting, enabling processors to:

- Eliminate manual coring
- Reduce labor costs
- Increase yields
- Enhance appearance / shelf-life / safety

Manual coring and wrapper leaf removal requires costly manual labor, and causes yield loss. In addition, the shelf-life clock starts ticking once the core cut is made, and the highly nutritional outer leaves are lost.

Now you can bring uncored lettuce into the plant and slice it using the same cutting technology traditionally used on cored product. Then, with powerful, dual-technology onCore, you automatically remove not only core, but leaf defects, animal material, insects, stones, sticks and dirt – anything your consumer doesn't want to see in the bag.

How you benefit

Yield – by eliminating manual coring and retaining dark outer leaves, less good product is removed and yield increases.

Shelf life – potential for contamination is reduced, product degradation is slowed and shelf life increases.

Consistency – when slicing whole romaine heads, a more uniform cut is achieved and product appeal increases.

Safety – camera/laser sorter removes dangerous foreign material and objectionable leaf defects along with remaining core.

Capacity per hour for optimum sort performance



Optyx® and Manta®
Vis/IR or Color Cameras
Raptor or FluorRaptor™ Lasers



Iceberg

5,000 to 16,000 pounds
2,275 to 7,275 kilograms
(with onCore)



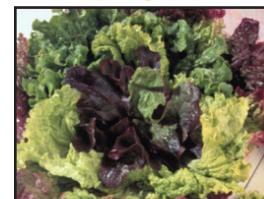
Romaine

4,000 to 13,200 pounds
1,820 to 6,000 kilograms
(with onCore)



Baby Spinach

6,500 to 7,275 pounds
2,950 to 3,285 kilograms
(without onCore)



Spring Mix

5,000 pounds
2,270 kilograms
(Optyx® only)

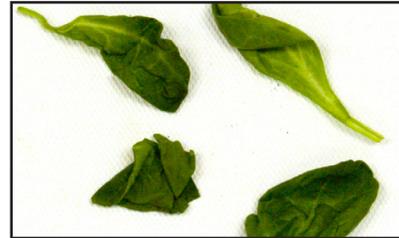
Foreign Material & Product Defects are Detected and Removed



Metal



Rocks & Bone



Wilt



Glass



Cardboard & Wood



Animal Matter



Rot



Chemical Burn



Feather



Insect



Core



Pinking



Plastic



Brown Leaf



Outer Wrapping