

FOODPRO VHT/DHT & CATTS POST HARVEST ALTERNATIVE TREATMENT TO METHYL BROMIDE

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Foodpro International, Inc. is located in Central California with corporate headquarters in San Jose and Engineering Offices in Stockton. A leader in the field of post harvest insect control for over 30 years. Early on, Foodpro engineers designed and provided installation oversight of both methyl bromide fumigation chambers and hot water dip treatment facilities. In the late 1980s Foodpro presented new and innovative heat treatment designs with the first of their heat treatment chambers placed in Hilo, Hawaii for the post harvest treatment of papayas.

Today, as in the past, we firmly believe that the development of safe, acceptable and economical alternatives is the best path to maintain. To this end, we have continued to improve upon our original equipment design, maintaining the excellent operational features and upgrading fabrication and assembly methods to the end that we are able to offer to processors numerous options and features to their benefit.

Foodpro insect mitigation chambers are available in multi-operational formats, including DHT, VHT and CATTS combinations. Programmable computer control systems include programmable reversing of process air direction and an option to vary process air velocity tailored to the application. Also, temperature and internal environment may be varied with computerized controls including optional controlled atmosphere configurations. Optional systems for redundant monitoring at one or more off-site locations are also available.

As a provider of food technology transfer, we continue to recognize the value of providing leading edge equipment and direction to growers and processors that will serve their specific needs in an efficient and easily operated and maintained manner. To accomplish this it is our intent to work in close cooperation with USDA, ARS and APHIS technical, research and monitoring personnel, at all levels, in the coming years.

The Foodpro chambers provide proven economical and environmentally friendly treatments chambers that do not pollute the environment and at the same time treat specific commodities with the effectiveness and kindness that the USDA/ARS researchers strive to achieve through extensive testing and subsequently mandated in dependable published protocol guidelines.

The treatment chambers are provided in sizes from laboratory size to 20 metric tons capacity per treatment. The commercial sized chambers are fabricated in

modules to enable shipment in overseas containers if required. We invite growers and processors as well as interested USDA/ARS/APHIS personnel to contact us with requests for information or assistance regarding the units we are able to provide as well as information exchange.

The Foodpro Forced Hot Air Treatment Chambers are capable of maintaining the full range of allowable treatment temperatures as well as treatment air humidity and can be programmed for multiple variations and controlled reversing air patterns. They are a fully developed and tested and economical alternative to the hot water dip, irradiation and/or the methyl bromide treatments.

Chambers can be configured to treat applications in fruit bins or various ventilated fruit crates or to be operated using either type in the unit with minimal adjustments. Standard size commercial units are available in approximately 2,450 kilo, 4,900 kilo 9,800 kilo and 19,600 kilo fruit maximum capacity sizes. Fruit capacities will vary with the type of fruit and treatment containers used and this can be determined when the commodity to be treated and treatment container preference is specified.

In our corporate and affiliate research programs we keep foremost as objectives the reduction of fruit loss, improvement of fruit quality, appearance and taste, expansion of marketing base and increase of grower/processor profits. As in the past, we stand ready to work closely with both USDA/APHIS/ARS and grower/processor groups and welcome inquiries and information exchange regarding state-of-the-art methyl bromide alternatives for use by researchers, users of methyl bromide, legislators, government policy officials, and other interested parties.