



International Association for  
**Food Protection**®

2900 100th Street, Suite 309  
Des Moines, IA 50322-3855, USA  
Phone: +1 515.276.3344  
Fax: +1 515.276.8655  
Email: [info@foodprotection.org](mailto:info@foodprotection.org)  
Website: [www.foodprotection.org](http://www.foodprotection.org)

Contact: Susan Smith, Association Services, + 1 515.276.3344, Fax: + 1 515.276.8655, Email: [ssmith@foodprotection.org](mailto:ssmith@foodprotection.org). Mailing address: 2900 100th Street, Suite 309, Des Moines, Iowa 50322-3855, USA

# Press Release

## **IAFP Names Ajinomoto Foods North America, Inc. as Recipient of the Prestigious Black Pearl Award**

**Des Moines, Iowa** (*June 22, 2020*)— The International Association for Food Protection (IAFP) selected Ajinomoto Foods North America, Inc. as the 2020 recipient of the prestigious Black Pearl Award. Sponsored by F&H Food Equipment Company, the Black Pearl Award will be presented at IAFP’s Annual Meeting in Cleveland, Ohio.

This honor is given annually to one company for its efforts in advancing food safety and quality through consumer programs, employee relations, educational activities, adherence to standards, and support of the goals and objectives of IAFP.

As a leading manufacturer in the frozen food industry, Ajinomoto Foods North America, Inc. is dedicated to contributing to a healthier lifestyle through nutritious and balanced foods. With a commitment to excellence and innovation, all of its products are produced with customers in mind, providing healthy and delicious meals for the entire family. Ajinomoto currently operates nine factories and one corporate office domestically in the U.S. With more than 3,000 employees working with a high standard of food safety and quality, the company serves as a brand leader across all categories of frozen foods.

Ajinomoto products span across the largest categories of ethnic frozen foods, ranging from Mexican to Italian to Asian, across every distribution channel including foodservice, grocery, warehouse club, and custom manufacturing. Brands include Tai Pei, Ling Ling, Ajinomoto, José Olé, Posada, and Fred’s for Starters.

Ajinomoto’s focus is on economic, cultural and educational development of each community where the company does business. As members of local communities, Ajinomoto is encouraged as individuals to participate in social contribution activities. Together, the company can improve the health and wellness of its customers and help create a sustainable environment so everyone can continue to “Eat Well and Live Well.”

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The International Association for Food Protection is a non-profit educational association of food protection professionals. The Association is dedicated to the education and service of its Members, specifically, as well as industry personnel. The Association provides Members with an information network and forum for professional improvement through its two scientific journals, *Journal of Food Protection* and *Food Protection Trends*, educational Annual Meeting, and interaction with other food safety professionals.



Eat Well, Live Well.

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NORTH AMERICA, INC.

THE ELUSIVE BLACK PEARL,  
SOUGHT AFTER FROM OCEANIA  
TO THE ORIENT BY EUROPEAN LORDS  
AND ASIAN EMPERORS ALIKE, ITS RARITY  
A SIGN OF DETERMINATION, ITS LUSTER A  
SIGN OF QUALITY, ITS ACQUISITION A SIGN  
OF EXCELLENCE.

THE WILBUR S. FEAGAN  
F&H FOOD EQUIPMENT CO.  
BLACK PEARL AWARD  
OF CORPORATE EXCELLENCE  
IN FOOD SAFETY & QUALITY

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