UCI NSF I-Corps Winter 2019, Group #5



SGREEN SCIENCE







Improving consumer confidence in agricultural products through quality testing Total Customer Interviews: 32 | Week #2 (Feb. 20-26) Interviews: 12



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Hypothesis

Consumers will seek information outside of point-of-sale

Consumers care about quality only up to a subjective level

Consumers are <u>less</u> vigilant when shopping for their pets

Consumers are <u>more</u>
vigilant when shopping
for their children

Experiments

"Describe process of learning about new products from word-ofmouth?"

Hypothetical product comparisons

"What information do you consider when using a product on your pet?"

"What information do you consider when using a product on your child?"

Results

Through product reviews, general intuition, public familiarity, and current news

Consumers will overlook subjective "extras" (diminishing returns)

Lower standards or same standards/habits as when shopping for themselves

Same standards/habits as when shopping for themselves

Iterate

Too variable, need more consumers

"What kinds of information would make you stop seeking more information? (good/bad)"

"What do you look for when comparing two products?" (Less leading)

Hypothesis

R&R = Resellers/Retailers

"Front line of consumer

(mis)education"

R&R care about educating consumers about product safety

R&R are knowledgeable in state and federal regulations

R&R perform due diligence with suppliers

R&R concerned with consumer safety

Experiments

"Does anyone ask these questions (regarding instructions/safety)?"

"Is this regulated? Can you describe these certifications?"

"What is the process to stock new brands?"

"What if a consumer gets sick?"

Results

There exists consumers that are interested in that information

Know just enough to sell products, information may be incorrect or misunderstood

Based primarily on verbal trust with vendors

Deflects to brand being at fault or "just try something else"

Iterate

"What should I be looking for as a consumer?" (Less leading)

"How did you learn about these products?"

"What are some red flags vendors have exhibited?"

Value Propositions

- Increased supply due to faster product turnaround
- Increased profit margins with reduced testing cost
- Improved trust with end user with better understanding of product safety through simplified reports
- Improved trust with end user when stocking high-quality products through streamlined B2B communications
- Improved trust with end user with better understanding of products through simplified reports
- Improved consumer trust in brand/retailer/market with free educational resources & reviews
- Improved consumer trust in brand/retailer/market with special certifications
- Improved convenience with streamlined B2C communications
- Improved consumer trust in market with simplified educational resources
- Improved trust in market with high velocity translational research
- Improved standards for consumers

Customer Segments

* No interviews yet

Solely Producer*
Producer + Retailer

Wholesaler/Distributor*
Reseller/Retailer

Consumers

Advocacy

Academia

Regulatory