

Seneca Foods Reports Sales and Earnings for the Quarter and Nine Months Ended December 28, 2024

FAIRPORT, N.Y. February 6, 2025 -- Seneca Foods Corporation (NASDAQ: SENEA, SENEB) today announced financial results for the third quarter and nine months ended December 28, 2024.

Executive Summary (vs. year-ago, year-to-date results):

- § Net sales for the nine months ended December 28, 2024 totaled \$1,233.0 million compared to \$1,150.6 million for the nine months ended December 30, 2023. The year-over-year increase of \$82.4 million was due mainly to higher sales volumes.
- § Gross margin as a percentage of net sales is 10.9% for the nine months ended December 28, 2024, as compared to 14.6% for the nine months ended December 30, 2023.

"We are pleased with the continued unit volume sales growth experienced in the third quarter, up over 16% compared to last year. However, margins remain pressured versus last year due to the poor 2024 pack season, driven by historic rainy weather in our primary growing areas," stated Paul Palmby, President and Chief Executive Officer of Seneca Foods. "The short pack combined with robust sales momentum have contributed to significant working capital reductions, strong operating cash flow, and debt paydown in the quarter."

Executive Summary (vs. year-ago, third quarter results):

- § Net sales for the third quarter of fiscal 2025 totaled \$502.9 million compared to \$444.5 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2024. The year-over-year increase of \$58.4 million was driven by higher sales volumes, offset by lower selling prices.
- § Gross margin as a percentage of net sales is 9.8% for the three months ended December 28, 2024, as compared to 12.2% for the three months ended December 30, 2023.

About Seneca Foods Corporation

Seneca Foods is one of North America's leading providers of packaged fruits and vegetables, with facilities located throughout the United States. Its high quality products are primarily sourced from more than 1,200 American farms and are distributed to approximately 55 countries. Seneca holds a large share of the market for retail private label, food service, restaurant chains, international, contracting packaging, industrial, chips and cherry products. Products are also sold under the highly regarded brands of Libby's®, Green Giant®, Aunt Nellie's®, Green Valley®, CherryMan®, READ®, and Seneca labels, including Seneca snack chips. Seneca's common stock is traded on the Nasdaq Global Select Market under the symbols "SENEA" and "SENEB". SENEA is included in the S&P SmallCap 600, Russell 2000 and Russell 3000 indices.

Non-GAAP Financial Measures

Adjusted net earnings excludes the non-cash charges related to the last-in, first-out (LIFO) inventory valuation method, net of applicable income taxes. The Company believes this non-GAAP financial measure provides for a better comparison of year over year operating performance. The Company does not intend for this information to be considered in isolation or as a substitute for other measures prepared in accordance with GAAP. Set forth below is a reconciliation of reported earnings before income taxes to adjusted net earnings (in thousands).

	Three Months Ended				Nine Months Ended			
	December 28, 2024		December 30, 2023		December 28, 2024		December 30, 2023	
Earnings before income taxes, as reported	\$	19,348	\$	23,199	\$	52,917	\$	86,037
LIFO charge		10,919		12,027		22,978		19,643
Adjusted earnings before income taxes	<u> </u>	30,267	·	35,226		75,895		105,680
Income taxes		7,353		8,519		17,901		25,363
Adjusted net earnings	\$	22,914	\$	26,707	\$	57,994	\$	80,317

Set forth below is a reconciliation of reported net earnings to EBITDA and FIFO EBITDA (earnings before interest, income taxes, depreciation, amortization and non-cash charges related to the LIFO inventory valuation method). The Company does not intend for this information to be considered in isolation or as a substitute for other measures prepared in accordance with GAAP (in thousands).

	Three Months Ended					Nine Months Ended			
EBITDA and FIFO EBITDA:	December 28, 2024		December 30, 2023		December 28, 2024		December 30, 2023		
Net earnings	\$	14,659	\$	17,675	\$	40,623	\$	65,565	
Income taxes		4,689		5,524		12,294		20,472	
Interest expense, net of interest income		7,841		9,388		27,199		23,146	
Depreciation and amortization		12,611		12,645		37,573		38,070	
Interest amortization		(177)		(113)		(408)		(327)	
EBITDA		39,623		45,119		117,281		146,926	
LIFO charge		10,919		12,027		22,978		19,643	
FIFO EBITDA	\$	50,542	\$	57,146	\$	140,259	\$	166,569	

Forward-Looking Information

This release contains "forward-looking statements" as that term is used in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements can be identified by the fact that they address future events, developments, and results and do not relate strictly to historical facts. Any statements contained herein that are not statements of historical fact may be deemed to be forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements include, without limitation, any statement that may predict, forecast, indicate, or imply future results, performance, or achievements, and may contain the words "will," "anticipate," "estimate," "expect," "project," "intend," "plan," "believe," "seeks," "should," "likely," "targets," "may," "can" and variations thereof and similar expressions. Forward-looking statements are subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties, and other important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed. We believe important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from our expectations include, but are not limited to, the following:

- the effects of rising costs and availability of raw fruit and vegetables, steel, ingredients, packaging, other raw materials, distribution and labor;
- · crude oil prices and their impact on distribution, packaging and energy costs;
- an overall labor shortage, ability to retain a sufficient seasonal workforce, lack of skilled labor, labor inflation or increased turnover impacting our ability to recruit and retain employees;
- climate and weather affecting growing conditions and crop yields;
- · our ability to successfully implement sales price increases and cost saving measures to offset cost increases;
- the loss of significant customers or a substantial reduction in orders from these customers;
- effectiveness of our marketing and trade promotion programs;
- · competition, changes in consumer preferences, demand for our products and local economic and market conditions;
- the impact of a pandemic on our business, suppliers, customers, consumers and employees;
- · unanticipated expenses, including, without limitation, litigation or legal settlement expenses;
- product liability claims;
- the anticipated needs for, and the availability of, cash;
- the availability of financing;
- leverage and the ability to service and reduce debt;
- foreign currency exchange and interest rate fluctuations;
- the risks associated with the expansion of our business;
- the ability to successfully integrate acquisitions into our operations;
- our ability to protect information systems against, or effectively respond to, a cybersecurity incident or other disruption;
- other factors that affect the food industry generally, including:
 - § recalls if products become adulterated or misbranded, liability if product consumption causes injury, ingredient disclosure and labeling laws and regulations and the possibility that consumers could lose confidence in the safety and quality of certain food products;
 - **§** competitors' pricing practices and promotional spending levels;
 - § fluctuations in the level of our customers' inventories and credit and other business risks related to our customers operating in a challenging economic and competitive environment; and
 - § the risks associated with third-party suppliers, including the risk that any failure by one or more of our third-party suppliers to comply with food safety or other laws and regulations may disrupt our supply of raw materials or certain finished goods products or injure our reputation; and
- · changes in, or the failure or inability to comply with, U.S., foreign and local governmental regulations, including health, environmental, and safety regulations.

Except for ongoing obligations to disclose material information as required by the federal securities laws, the Company does not undertake any obligation to release publicly any revisions to any forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date of the filing of this report or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events.

Contact:

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Seneca Foods Corporation Unaudited Selected Financial Data For the Periods Ended December 28, 2024 and December 30, 2023 (In thousands of dollars, except share data)

	Three Months Ended				Nine Months Ended				
	December 28,		December 30,		December 28,		December 30,		
	2024		2023		2024		2023		
Net sales	\$	502,856	\$	444,481	\$	1,233,048	\$	1,150,620	
Operating income (note 1)		25,660		30,762		75,782		104,683	
Other non-operating income		(1,529)		(1,825)		(4,334)		(4,500)	
Interest expense, net		7,841		9,388		27,199		23,146	
Earnings before income taxes	\$	19,348	\$	23,199	\$	52,917	\$	86,037	
Income taxes		4,689		5,524		12,294		20,472	
Net earnings	\$	14,659	\$	17,675	\$	40,623	\$	65,565	
Basic earnings per common share	\$	2.12	\$	2.47	\$	5.86	\$	8.86	
Diluted earnings per common share	\$	2.10	\$	2.45	\$	5.81	\$	8.78	

Note 1: The effect of the LIFO inventory valuation method on the third quarter pre-tax results decreased operating income by \$10.9 million and \$12.0 million for the three months ended December 28, 2024 and December 30, 2023, respectively. The effect of the LIFO inventory valuation method on YTD nine month pre-tax results decreased operating income by \$23.0 million and \$19.6 million for the nine months ended December 28, 2024 and December 30, 2023, respectively.

Note 2: The Company used the "two-class" method for basic earnings per share by dividing the earning attributable to common shareholders by the weighted average of common shares outstanding during the period.

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