

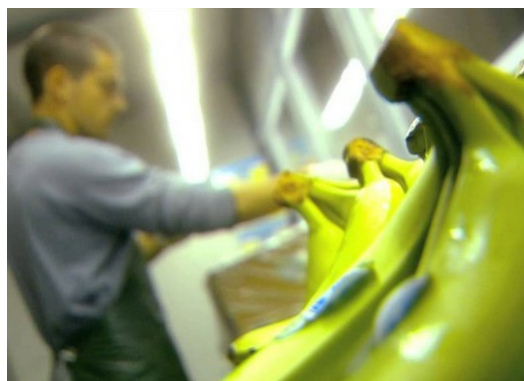


By Carl Collen

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Sales tumble at Chiquita

Fresh produce group reports its third quarter results, with lower sales in bananas and other produce



Chiquita Brands International has filed its third quarter results with the US Securities and Exchange Commission, with the US-based fresh produce group reporting on a year-on-year loss in sales.

Net sales came in at US\$674.7m

for the quarter, down from US\$738.5m, and total sales for the nine months to the end of September fell to US\$2.18bn from US\$2.33bn.

Banana sales dropped 12.8 per cent for the quarter to US\$416.2m, while sales in the group's other produce segment slid 22.6 per cent to US\$20.7m.

However, lower costs throughout the group helped it turn a net income loss of US\$17.9m in Q3 2014 into a gain of US\$10.2m this year.