CASE STUDY

CACAO TABLET AND TABLEYA CHOCOLATE SPREAD

FOR U.S. MARKET



MARKET OVERVIEW AND OPPORTUNITY



MARKET OVERVIEW

- The US chocolate market is projected to reach \$28.45 billion by 2025 and grow at a CAGR of 5.27% to \$36.79 billion by 2030 (Mordor Intelligence).
- Increasing demand for premium, organic, and ethically sourced chocolate products.
- Consumers are shifting toward healthier, high-cocoa content options due to awareness of antioxidant benefits.



MARKET OPPORTUNITY

- Niche Growth: Artisanal chocolate brands are gaining traction, competing against mass-market players like Hershey and Mars.
- Cultural Demand: Latin American and Asian communities seek traditional products like chocolate tablea, offering a built-in market.
- E-commerce Boom: Online food sales are increasing, providing a direct-to-consumer (DTC) opportunity.

SEGMENTATION & COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE



MARKET SEGMENTATION

- >>> Health-Conscious Consumers Seeking organic, low-sugar, high-antioxidant chocolate options.
- >>> Ethnic Communities Latin American and Asian populations familiar with chocolate tablea.
- >>> Gourmet & Specialty Buyers Consumers preferring premium, artisanal, and ethically sourced chocolates.

SEGMENTATION & COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE



COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE

- >>> The Hershey Company: Held approximately 35.5% of the U.S. chocolate market in 2022. Statista
- >>> Mars, Incorporated: Accounted for about 30% of the U.S. chocolate market in 2017. StatInvestor
- >>> Lindt & Sprüngli (including Ghirardelli and Russell Stover): Held a combined market share of approximately 9.1% in 2017. StatInvestor
- >>> Nestlé: Captured around 4.3% of the U.S. market in 2017. StatInvestor
- >>> Ferrero Group: Noted as one of the top companies in the U.S. chocolate market, with significant revenue contributions. Global Market Insights Inc.

MARKETING AND RISK MITIGATION STRATEGY



MARKETING STRATEGY

- >>> Brand Storytelling: Highlight cultural heritage, sustainability, and health benefits.
- >>> Digital Marketing:
 - "Social media campaigns on Instagram, TikTok, and Facebook."
 - "Collaborations with influencers and chefs.
 - "Content marketing (recipes, health benefits, product origins).
- >>> Retail Partnerships: Specialty grocery stores (Whole Foods, Trader Joe's), ethnic supermarkets, and foodservice collaborations.
- Sampling & Promotions: In-store tastings, online discounts, and seasonal promotions.

MARKETING AND RISK MITIGATION STRATEGY



RISK MITIGATION STRATEGY

- >>> Regulatory Compliance: FDA labeling, USDA organic certification, import regulations.
- >>> Supply Chain Management: Secure ethical cacao sourcing, optimize logistics.
- >>> Market Entry Strategy: Start with e-commerce, then expand to brick-and-mortar retail and foodservice.
- >>> Pricing & Customer Retention: Competitive pricing with premium branding and loyalty programs.

SALES PLAN

- Establish a strong brand presence in the US artisanal and premium chocolate market.
- Position chocolate tablea and spread as a cultural and health-conscious alternative to mainstream chocolate products.
- Achieve \$500,000 in first-year revenue, scaling to \$2.5M by Year 3 through strategic market penetration.
- Develop a robust distribution network, securing 30+ retail partnerships in the first year.
- Expand direct-to-consumer (DTC) sales via e-commerce, targeting a 35% repeat purchase rate by Year 2.



TARGET MARKET AND SEGMENTATION

- >>> Health-Conscious Consumers Seeking organic, low-sugar chocolate.
- >>> Ethnic Communities Latin American & Asian populations familiar with tablea.
- >>> Gourmet & Specialty Buyers Premium chocolate lovers.
- >>>> Retail & Foodservice Clients Specialty grocers, cafés, and online stores.



DISTRIBUTION CHANNEL

- **E-Commerce:** Sell via Amazon, Shopify, and own website for direct-to-consumer sales.
- **Retail Partnerships:** Distribute through Whole Foods, Trader Joe's, ethnic supermarkets, and gourmet stores.
- Foodservice & B2B: Supply to cafés, bakeries, and specialty chocolate retailers.



PRICING STRATEGY

- >>> Premium Positioning: Competitive pricing with organic, artisanal branding.
- >>> Volume Discounts: Bulk purchase incentives for retailers and foodservice clients.



PROMOTIONAL STRATEGY

- >>> Social Media & Influencers: Instagram, TikTok, and food bloggers for brand awareness.
- >>> Sampling & Retail Activations: In-store tastings and partnerships with chefs.
- >>> Trade Shows & Events: Fancy Food Show, chocolate expos, and ethnic food fairs for B2B connections.

YEAR	PROJECTED REVENUE (\$xx)	GROWTH RATE (%)
YEAR 1	-	-
YEAR 2	-	-
YEAR 3	-	-
YEAR 4	-	-
YEAR 5	-	-

^{*}Estimated VendorMatch sales activities projections; customizable per client's goal

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (KPIs)



Sales Metrics:

- >>> Monthly Sales Growth (Target: 10% MoM).
- >>> Customer Acquisition Cost (CAC) vs. Customer Lifetime Value (CLV).
- >>> Retail & E-Commerce Conversion Rates (Target: 5%+ online, 10%+ retail trials).
- >>> Repeat Purchase Rate (Target: 35%+ by Year 2).
- >>> Market Share in Specialty Chocolate (Target: 15% by Year 3).

RISK MITIGATION & CONTINGENCY PLAN



Regulatory Compliance: Ensure FDA labeling & USDA certification.



Supply Chain Stability: Secure multiple cacao suppliers to prevent shortages.



Market Adaptation: Adjust marketing based on consumer feedback & trends.



Pricing Strategy Flexibility: Offer bundle discounts & limited-time offers to drive volume.



Diversified Sales Channels: Balance DTC (direct-to-consumer) and retail to reduce risk.

SERVICE DELIVERABLES



Market Entry Compliance & Readiness

>>> FSVP (Foreign Supplier Verification Program) alignment

>>> FDA & USDA labeling and regulatory compliance

>>> Organic certification guidance (if applicable)



Sales Channel Enablement

>>> Matching with vetted U.S. distributors, importers, and brokers

>>> E-commerce onboarding (Amazon, Walmart Marketplace, Shopify setup)

>>> Retail buyer introductions (specialty grocers, ethnic stores, gourmet chains)



Marketing & Brand Development

- >>> Packaging review and U.S. market fit adaptation
- >>> Go-to-market content strategy for DTC and retail audiences
- >>> Digital campaign planning with influencer and social media support



Logistics & Operations Support

- >>> Freight forwarding and customs coordination
- >>> 3PL (Third-Party Logistics) warehousing solutions
- >>> U.S.-based fulfillment and distribution network setup



U.S. Market Specialists

>>> We focus exclusively on helping international food brands enter and grow in the U.S. market—bringing regulatory, retail, and cultural expertise tailored to your product.



End-to-End Support

>>> From FDA compliance to finding buyers and managing fulfillment, we deliver a full-service solution so you can focus on scaling your brand.



Verified Network of Buyers & Distributors

>>> We connect you with trusted retail buyers, brokers, and distributors already working with top specialty and ethnic retailers in the U.S.



Build Your Brand! Grow With Us!

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