



From: Raymond Smith, Facilities and Quality Director

Re: Beet Sugar/Cane Sugar Comparison

Sugar sold by United Sugars is derived from domestically grown sugar beets and sugar cane. The following information is provided to explain that although there are different sources of sugar (empirically known as sucrose). Both beet sugar and cane sugar meet the World Codex Standards for white sugar.

United Sugars' sugar beets are grown primarily in the upper Midwest. Sugar beets are planted annually and the vegetative body of the beet which provides the sugar is grown below ground. Sugar beets are harvested in the fall and the sugar is extracted through the diffusion process which involves heating up the beets and boiling the sugar juice out of the sugar beets. Sugar cane provided for United Sugars is grown in southern Florida. Sugar cane is a member of the grass family and the cane stalks grow above ground. The sugar cane is harvested throughout the fall into late winter. The sugar cane is the source of the sugar juice which is extracted through a process similar to sugar beets.

World Codex Standards define white sugar as having a purity level no less than 99.7% pure sucrose. United Sugars' white sugar routinely measures at 99.9% purity. The empirical formula for sucrose ($C_{12}H_{22}O_{11}$) is the same for either sugar derived from beets or cane.

Please call or write if you have any questions or concerns. United Sugars Corporation is committed to continued service to our valued customers.

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