



The world's first fruitaric acid plant

The world's first fruitaric acid plant has been developed by Isegen South Africa, a Durban-based manufacturer of a wide range of food acidulants, at a cost of R8 million.

The product, which replaces citric acid, has been patented worldwide. It has the potential to compete in the world organic food acidulants market, presently well in excess of one million tons per annum, says Robert Fowlds, managing director of Isegen.

The unique characteristics of this invention would make it the product of choice for many niche areas of this market, where for example, citric acid suffers from certain unfavourable physical and chemical properties, added Fowlds. The product is used in key food markets including confectionery and baking.

Don Persadh, one of four Isegen laboratory analysts testing raw materials.