

DataBar Online User Tutorial

Updated 2025

The DataBar Online tool was created to allow produce sellers to communicate their Global Trade Item Numbers (GTINs; encoded in the DataBar barcode) along with the corresponding PLU codes to their buyers and to allow buyers to download that information into their Point-of-Sale (POS) systems to enable them to scan the DataBar on loose/bulk items. Retailers can also search for suppliers of a particular commodity by searching a specific PLU code.

It is important to note that this tool is used for **loose/ bulk produce items only** (i.e., only those items that are labeled with PLU stickers) NOT packaged produce or those labeled with a UPC. The GTIN encoded in the DataBar is a similar technology used for case-level identification; however, case-level identification is a separate initiative called the Produce Traceability Initiative (PTI). The DataBar Online tool (for loose/bulk produce identification) is separate from the Produce Traceability Initiative (case-level produce identification). Please refer to the <u>PTI website</u> if you are looking for information on case-level identification and data synchronization.

Fees

Suppliers who are IFPA members pay a one-time access fee of \$300. Suppliers who are not IFPA members pay a one-time access fee of \$1,100. Register now (see page 3 for more information).

Non-members can save up to 73% on DataBar Online by becoming a IFPA member. Join today.

There is no charge for retailers, wholesalers or distributors for download access in DataBar Online. Retailers, wholesalers or distributors interested in using the DataBar Online tool should contact the Supply Chain Efficiencies team directly.

Questions

Please review the <u>FAQs</u> or contact the <u>Supply Chain Team</u> if you have any questions.

Thank you for your interest in IFPA's DataBar Online tool to help make conducting business with your trading partners more streamlined and efficient.

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REGISTERING FOR (ORDERING) DATABAR ONLINE

1. To register to use the DataBar Online tool as a **supplier**, please access the <u>e-store</u> using your IFPA login credentials and complete the electronic order process.

If you need your IFPA user ID or would like to become a IFPA member and **save up to 73%**, please contact Member Services at +1 (302) 738-7100 or via <u>email</u>. You can also inquire online <u>here</u>.

Refer to **Appendix A** for detailed instructions on placing your order.

Note: Retailers, wholesalers and distributors should contact the <u>Supply Chain Team</u> for free download access.

2. The order (registration) must be completed and the fee paid in full prior to gaining access to DataBar Online. Upon completion of the order process, you will receive an Order Confirmation showing your payment (if paying by credit card). You will then have immediate access by scrolling down to the DataBar Online subscription hyperlink to begin uploading your data file(s). a confirmation with the link will also be emailed.

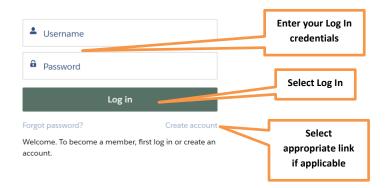
Important: Be sure to save your Order Confirmation/email to your files and bookmark the link to the DataBar tool in your browser for future access.

3. If paying by check, you will not be able to access the full rights to DataBar Online until the payment has cleared. After placing your order, you will receive an Order Confirmation giving further direction for paying by check. Once the check has cleared, you will receive an email confirming that the payment has been processed and access to DataBar Online has been granted. You can then access the tool by selecting the hyperlink in the email receipt to begin uploading your data file(s).

ACCESSING DATABAR ONLINE

1. Access the <u>DataBar Online</u> login page.

To access DataBar Online, you must have your own IFPA login credentials. Enter your IFPA user ID and password and select **Log In**. If you cannot recall your password, please select the **Forgot Password?** link.

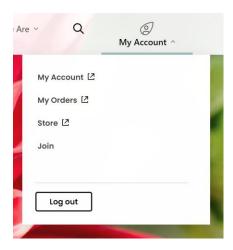


2. You can also log in to IFPA's website using your IFPA user ID and password. Go to http://www.freshproduce.com/ and select **Join/Sign In**.



If you have problems logging into the website, please contact IFPA's Member Services via $\underline{\text{email}}$ or phone at +1 (302) 738-7100 to reset your login credentials.

3. In the upper right, select the **My Account,** then **Store** in the dropdown menu.



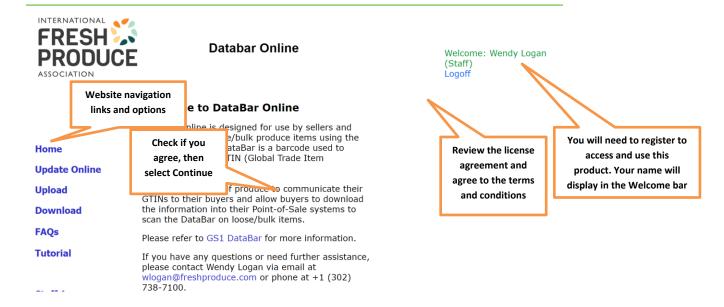
4. Under **Subscription**, select **DataBar Online**. You will be directed to the site.



5. If you have not accessed the product previously, you will be directed to the <u>license agreement</u> page. Review and agree to the terms and conditions to access DataBar Online.



6. Once agreeing to the terms and conditions, you will be directed to the DataBar Online home page.



7. **Please read the <u>FAQs</u> before proceeding.** They are brief and contain helpful information on communicating your DataBar information with your trading partners.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUPPLIERS

CREATING THE DATA FILE(S)

1. Using Excel, create a two-column listing where the first column contains your 14-digit item-level GTINs and the second column contains the corresponding PLU codes. No headings are necessary for the columns. If you have an older version of Excel, delete any extra sheets in the workbook.

Important: Retailer assigned codes **cannot** be used in place of valid PLU codes as these are assigned to different commodities by different retailers. Uploading these codes could inadvertently corrupt a retailers POS system. Retailer assigned codes should be communicated to retailers directly.

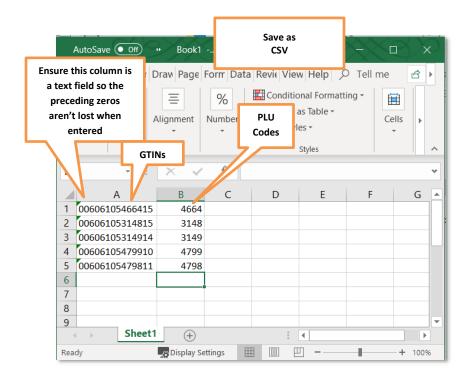
Each 14-digit GTIN is broken into four parts:

The first part is an **indicator digit** (which is always a '0' for the DataBar GTIN), followed by the **GS1 Company Prefix**, the **item reference number** and then the **check digit**. You can find more information on building your GTIN <u>here</u>. If you do not have a UPC Company Prefix or do not know yours, please contact GS1.

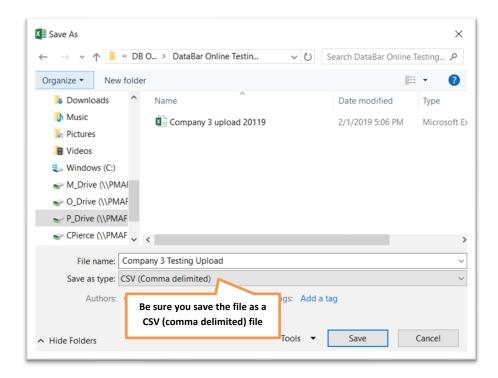
- The first number of the 14-digit GTIN (indicator digit) will always be '0'.
- The second part of the GTIN is your GS1 Company Prefix



- The third part is the **item reference number** and is assigned by the brand owner. It is recommended that the number does not incorporate any logic so the maximum amount of item numbers can be assigned.
- The final part is the **check digit**, which can be calculated within the DataBar Online tool on the Update Online page or through the <u>GS1 check digit calculator</u>.
- The corresponding **PLU codes** should be four or five digits (4 for conventional; 5 for organic) and should NOT be a retailer assigned number.
- 2. Format both columns (GTINs and PLUs) as **text** so that the preceding zeros are not truncated when the file is saved.



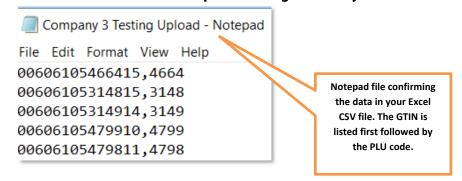
- 3. Save the file as a comma separated value (CSV)/comma delimited file. *Remember to delete any extra worksheets as CSV files do not support multiple worksheets.*
- 4. Record the location of the file for future reference. Any future data uploads will append to the previous upload. (**Note:** You may add, delete, or change **individual** items by selecting **Update Online** from the navigation menu [left] on the home page.)



5. Open your newly created CSV file with a text editor such as Notepad to verify that the information in the data file is correct. Your format should be exactly like you see below with GTINs separated from PLU codes by commas with no spaces inbetween. If you have extra commas at the end of a line or if your leading zeros do not show up, you will need to review your file to ensure it was built correctly.

ALWAYS VERIFY YOUR DATA USING NOTEPAD PRIOR TO UPLOADING

DO NOT OPEN YOUR CSV FILE IN EXCEL as it will drop the leading zeros off your GTINs.



UPLOADING THE DATA FILE(S)

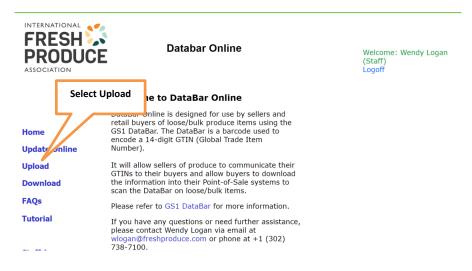
Once you've received confirmation of access to DataBar Online and have created your data file(s), you can upload the data.

1. Access the <u>DataBar Online</u> home page.

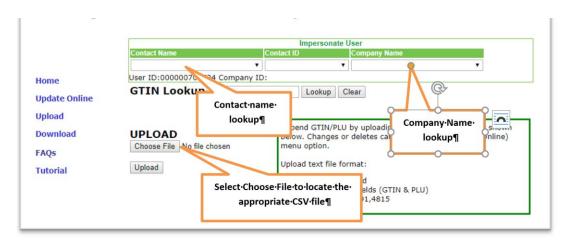
To access DataBar Online, you must have your IFPA login credentials. If you do not remember them, please use the **Forgot Username?** or **Forgot Password?** links. If you need assistance, please contact IFPA Member Services via <u>email</u> or phone at +1 (302) 738-7100.

You can also access the DataBar Online home page by logging into IFPA's website and selecting **My Subscriptions** from the top menu bar and then selecting **DataBar Online** (as outlined in the **Accessing DataBar Online** section of this tutorial [p. 4]).

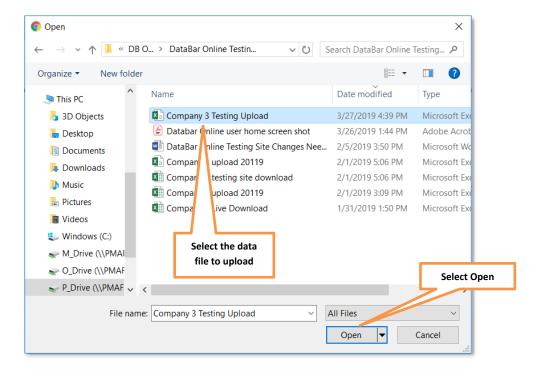
2. Select the **Upload** link from the home page to upload your data.



 You will be directed to the Upload screen where you will select your name in the Contact Name dropdown and select your data file. You can also use the lookup function by selecting the Company Name. From this screen, select Choose File to locate the CSV file you created earlier.

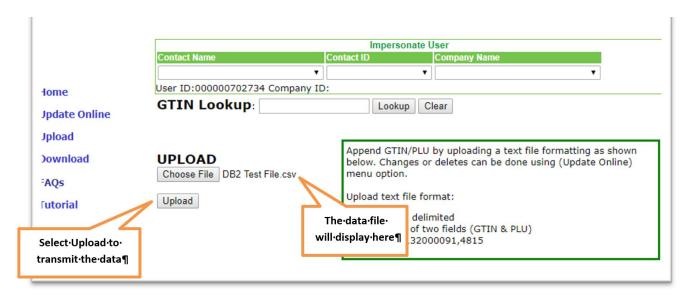


4. Locate the file on your computer. Verify that it is the CSV file.

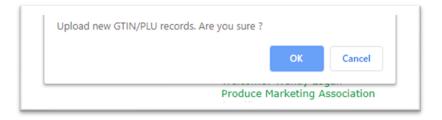


5. After locating your file, select **Open.**

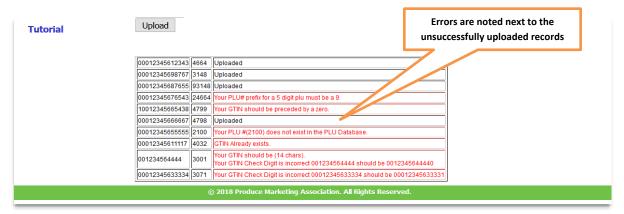
6. You will be returned to the Upload screen and your file name will be displayed next to the **Choose File** button. Select **Upload** to process your data.



7. A message will display confirming your request to upload the GTINS and PLUs. Select OK.



8. The Export Results screen displays, confirming which records were successfully uploaded. Any errors in the upload will be displayed in red. The specific records affected will not be uploaded. Successfully uploaded records are displayed as *Uploaded*.



Note: If the GTIN is incomplete (i.e., does not contain 14 digits or does not begin with '0'), the record will not upload.

9. Correct any errors in your Excel data file, then either upload the entire data file again or follow the instructions below for revising your data file.

To verify that your data was successfully uploaded, follow the **Download** instructions in this tutorial (p. 25) to view your data.

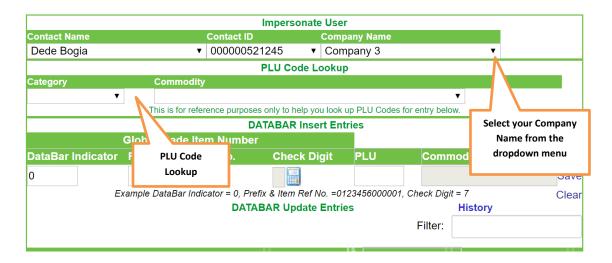
Important: New uploads will no longer overwrite existing files. All new files will be appended to the previously uploaded data.

REVISING THE DATA FILE

1. If you need to add, delete or change a record in your data file, select the **Update Online** menu option from the DataBar Online home page.



On the **Update Online** screen, you can add a record by simply selecting your company name from the dropdown menu and entering the GTIN data into the appropriate fields. The check digit field will populate by selecting the Calculator icon. Then enter the four- or five-digit PLU Code and select **Save**. If you do not know the PLU code, there is a PLU code lookup table directly above the **Insert Entries** section.



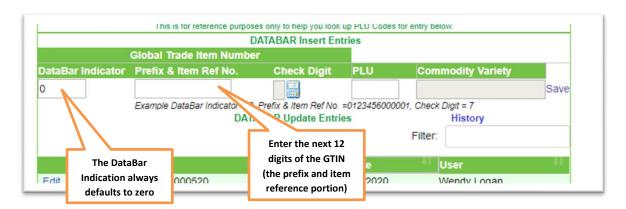
Reminder: DataBar GTINs must begin with a zero and contain 14 digits. If either situation is not true, an error will result and you will need to correct your data.

To verify that your data was successfully uploaded, follow the **Download** instructions in this tutorial (p. 23) to view your data.

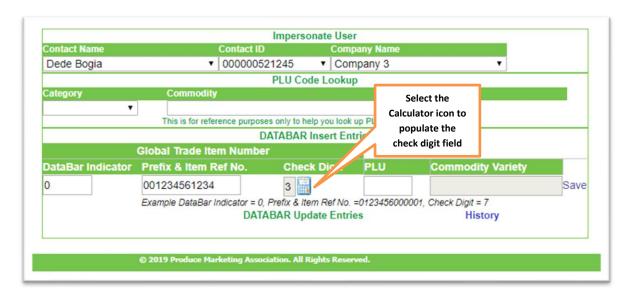
Adding a Record

To add individual entries:

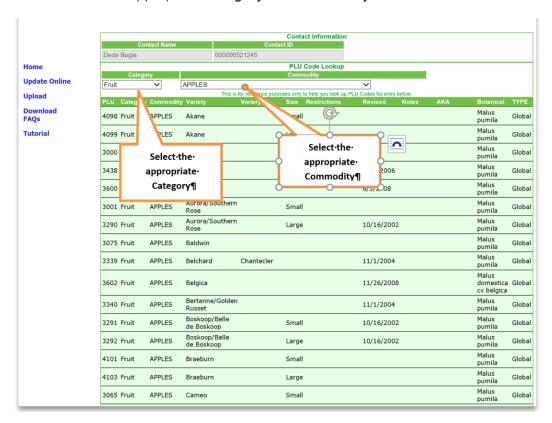
1. Enter the **GS1 Company Prefix** and **Item Reference Number** in the respective field under **Global Trade Item Number**. (The **DataBar Indicator** will always default to '0'.)

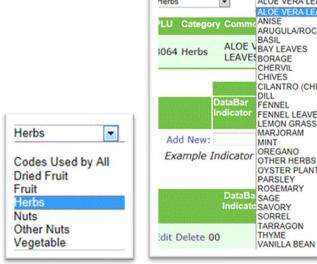


2. Then select the **Calculator Icon** to calculate the **Check Digit**.

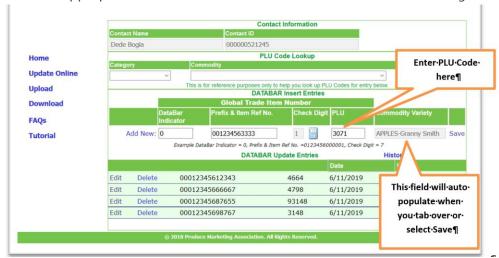


If you do not know the PLU code, there is a PLU code lookup table directly above the **Insert Entries** section. Select the appropriate **Category** and **Commodity**.



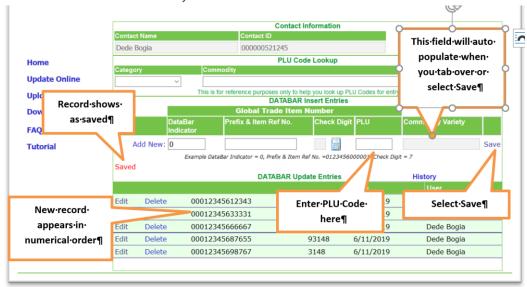


3. Enter the appropriate **PLU Code** in the PLU field. This should be a 4- or 5-digit number.



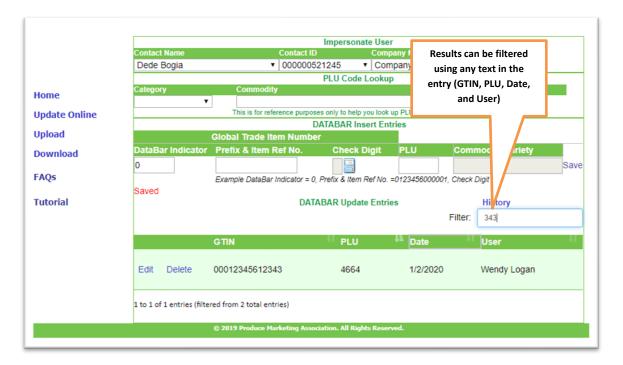
Remember: Retailer assigned codes cannot be entered in place of a valid PLU code because they could corrupt a retailer's database.

4. Select **Save** and the new entry will be added to the list of records.



Searching a Record

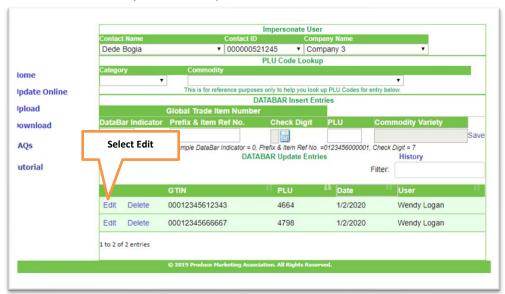
To search for a specific record, enter the filter data on which you wish to search.



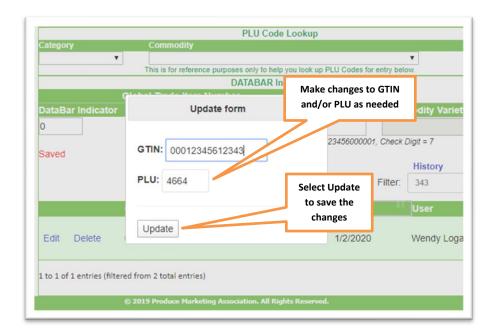
Editing a Record

To edit an existing record:

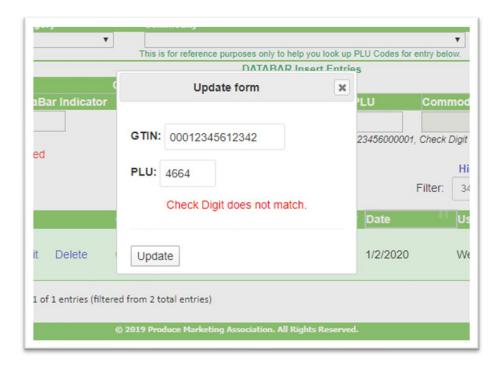
1. Select **Edit** next to the record you wish to update.



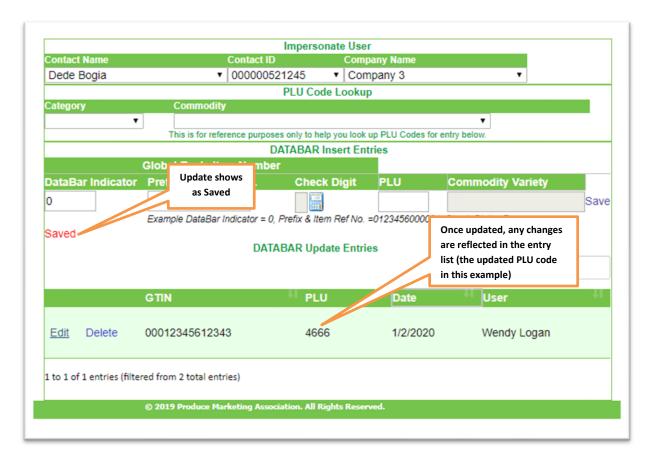
2. This will open a new **Update** window. Make the necessary changes and select **Update**.



Incorrect information will result in an error message (see example below).



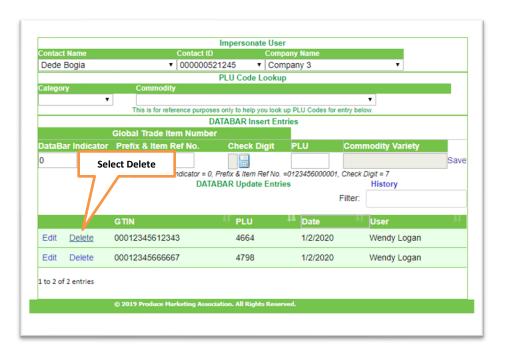
3. If all updated information is correct, the record will be updated and will show as Saved. The changes will then be reflected in the entry list.



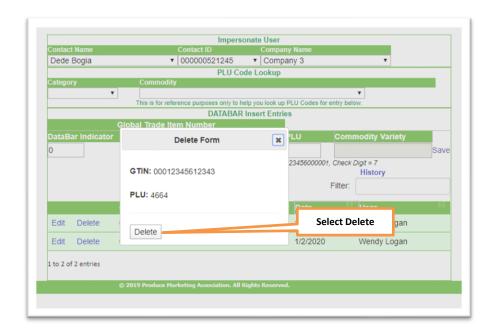
Deleting a Record

To Delete an existing record:

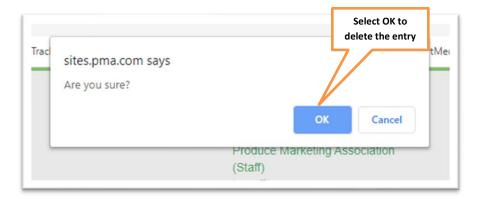
1. From the **Update Online** screen, select **Delete** next to the record you wish to delete.



2. This will open a new **Delete** window. Select **Delete** to delete the record completely.



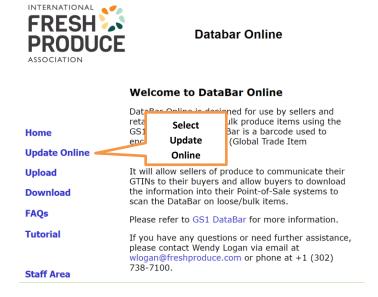
3. You will be prompted to confirm that you wish to delete the record. Select **OK** to confirm and the record will be deleted.



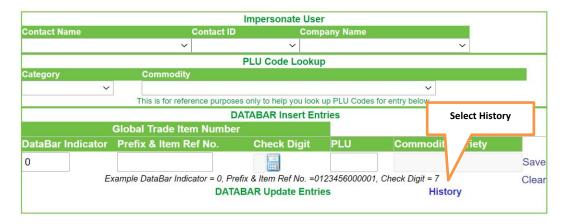
VIEWING DATA HISTORY

To look at the history of the data entries and changes:

1. Select **Update Online** from the DataBar Online home page.



2. Select **History**.



The screen will display the history of all data modifications including all uploads.



Databar Online

Welcome: Wendy Logan (Staff) Logoff

Home Update Online Upload Download FAQs Tutorial

Staff Area

Key	GTIN	PLU	User Modified	Date Modified	Status Code
53145	00022211100072	94220	Dede Bogia	5/11/2021 4:27:34 PM	Deleted
53145	00022211100072	94220	Dede Bogia	5/11/2021 4:25:37 PM	Being Deleted
53138	00012345611155	93296	Dede Bogia	5/11/2021 4:27:29 PM	Deleted
53138	00012345611155	93296	Dede Bogia	5/11/2021 4:25:37 PM	Being Deleted
53142	00022211100027	4523	Dede Bogia	5/11/2021 4:27:24 PM	Deleted
53142	00022211100027	4523	Dede Bogia	5/11/2021 4:25:37 PM	Being Deleted
53126	08580730050053	93061	Bob Whitman	5/11/2021 4:27:17 PM	Deleted
53126	08580730050053	93061	Bob Whitman	5/10/2021 5:20:20 PM	Being Deleted
53146	00022211100997	4299	Dede Bogia	5/11/2021 4:27:12 PM	Deleted
53146	00022211100997	4299	Dede Bogia	5/11/2021 4:25:37 PM	Being Deleted
53141	00022211100010	4220	Dede Bogia	5/11/2021 4:27:07 PM	Deleted
53141	00022211100010	4220	Dede Bogia	5/11/2021 4:25:37 PM	Being Deleted
53139	00012345611179	4122	Dede Bogia	5/11/2021 4:27:01 PM	Deleted
53139	00012345611179	4122	Dede Bogia	5/11/2021 4:25:37 PM	Being Deleted
53135	00012345611117	4032	Dede Bogia	5/11/2021 4:26:56 PM	Deleted
53135	00012345611117	4032	Dede Bogia	5/11/2021 4:25:37 PM	Being Deleted
53147	00123456000018	4011	Dede Bogia	5/11/2021 4:26:51 PM	Deleted

DOWNLOADING DATA

Download Instructions (For Retailers or Individual Supplier Upload Verification)

1. If you are a retailer and need to download GTINs and their associated PLU codes from suppliers or are a supplier and want to verify your data was successfully uploaded, select the **Download** link from the home page menu.

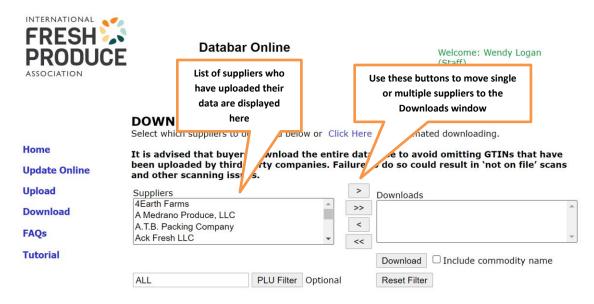


Databar Online

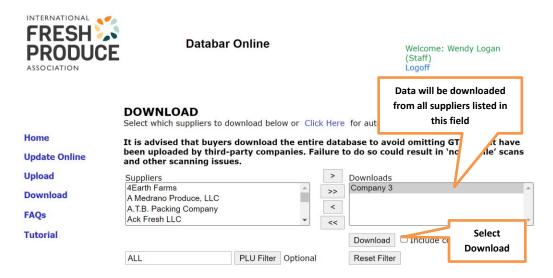
	Welcome to DataBar Online					
Home	DataBar Online is designed for use by sellers and retail buyers of loose/bulk produce items using the GS1 DataBar. The DataBar is a barcode used to encode a 14-digit GTIN (Global Trade Item					
Update Online	Number).					
Upload	It will allow sellers of produce to communicate their					
Download	Select Download	r Point-of-Sale systems to se/bulk items.				
FAQs	Please refer to GS1 DataBar for more information.					
Tutorial	If you have any questions or need further assistance, please contact Wendy Logan via email at wlogan@freshproduce.com or phone at +1 (302) 738-7100.					

- 2. Choose any or all of the trading partners from whom you want to receive information. If you are a supplier, you will only see your own company in this list. Using the arrows in the middle of the two windows, highlight your selected suppliers on the left and use the arrow(s) to move them to the **Downloads** box on the right.
 - To select more than one supplier at a time, hold the Ctrl key down and select the desired suppliers. Then use the single arrow to move them to the **Downloads** box.
 - Use the double arrows to add or remove all companies.

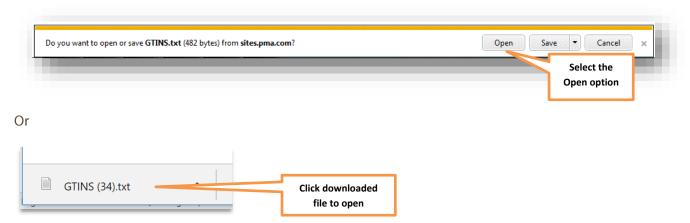
Important Note to Buyers: It is advised that buyers download the entire database to avoid omitting GTINs that have been uploaded by third-party companies. Failure to do so could result in 'not on file' scans and other scanning issues.



3. Once your selected companies are in the Downloads box, select the **Download** button.



4. You will either be prompted to **Open** or **Save** your text file **or** the download file will show automatically in the bottom lefthand corner of your computer screen (depending on which version of Windows you have and which browser you are using).



5. The data file you download will create the Notepad file shown below.

```
GTINS.txt - Notepad

File Edit Format View Help

"Company", "GTIN", "PLU", "DateAdded", "DateModified"

"Company 3", "00123456000018", "4011", "6/11/2019 11:35:41 AM", "6/11/2019 11:35:41 AM"

"Company 3", "00123456000025", "3111", "6/11/2019 11:35:41 AM", "6/11/2019 11:35:41 AM"

"Company 3", "00606105412344", "94759", "6/11/2019 11:35:41 AM", "6/11/2019 11:35:41 AM"

"Company 3", "01234550505237", "3001", "6/11/2019 11:35:41 AM", "6/11/2019 11:35:41 AM"

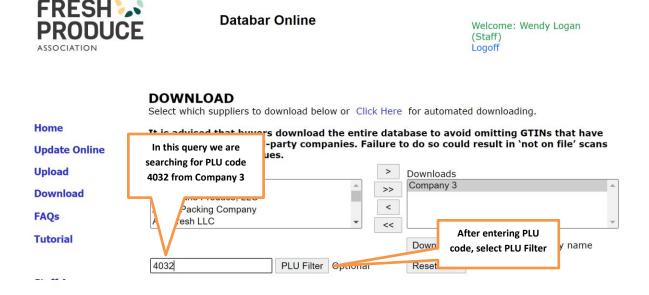
"Company 3", "01234567890005", "4032", "6/11/2019 11:35:41 AM", "6/11/2019 11:35:41 AM"
```

Specific PLU Code Search

INTERNATIONAL ___

To download suppliers who offer a particular single produce item, there is an option to select a single PLU code and obtain that information.

1. Select all the suppliers you wish to query, using the single arrow to transfer suppliers over singly or the double arrows to transfer the entire list to the Downloads box. You can also select more than one supplier at a time by holding the Ctrl key down and selecting the desired suppliers. Then use the single arrow to move them to the **Downloads** box.



2. Enter the PLU code that you want to search in the box next to PLU Filter button. Select the **PLU Filter** button.

3. You will receive a message stating the filtered PLU code for which the search is being conducted. Select **Download** to display the results.

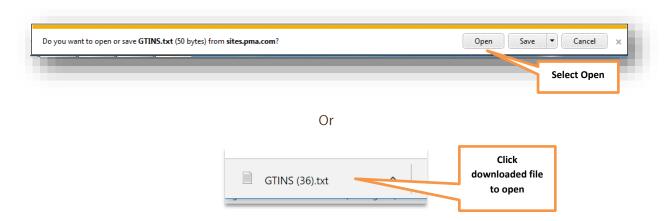


Databar Online

Welcome: Wendy Logan (Staff) Logoff

	DOWNLOAD Select which suppliers to download below or Click Here								
Home	It is advised that buyers download the entire database to avoid omitting GTINs that have been uploaded by third-party companies. Failure to do so could result in 'not on file' scans								
Update Online	and other scanning issues.	pailles. Fai	iiuie	to do so cou	id result iii flot on the scans				
Upload	Suppliers BK Farms LLC	A	>	Downloads Company 3	A				
Download	Browning & Sons Confirmation of		<						
FAQs	Ciruli Brothers PLU search	-	<<		▼				
Tutorial	4032 PLU Filter	Optional		Download Reset Filter	Select Download				

4. After selecting Download, you will be prompted to **Open** or **Save** your text file with the results of your search or the file will show automatically in the bottom lefthand corner of your computer screen depending on what version of Windows you have or what browser you're using.



5. The results of the single PLU code query are in the image below.

```
GTINS.txt-1 - Notepad

File Edit Format View Help

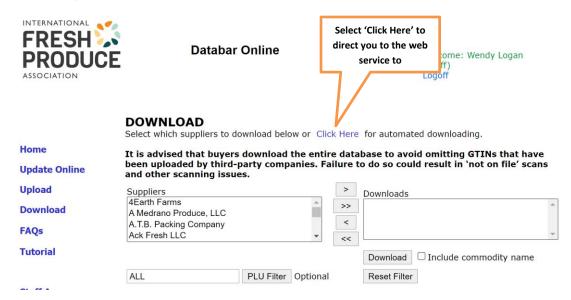
"Company","GTIN","PLU","DateAdded","DateModified"

"Company 3","01234567890005","4032","6/11/2019 11:35:41 AM","6/11/2019 11:35:41 AM"
```

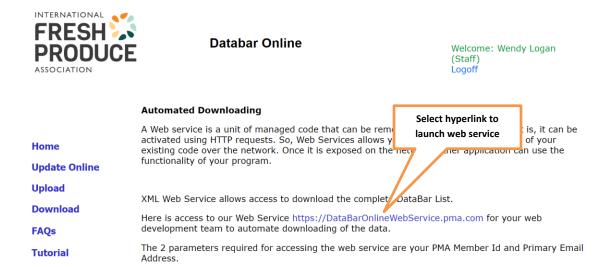
Automated Downloading

In order to automatically download the supplier data, a web service has been created to allow retailers' web development team to access this data.

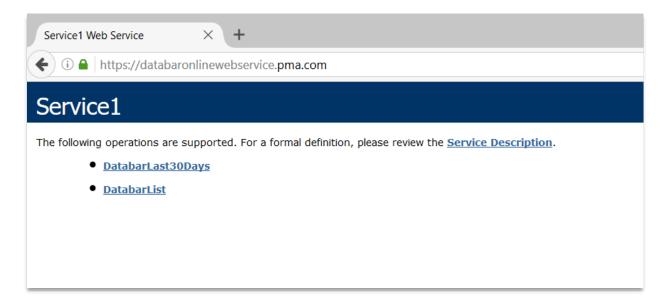
1. To set up automated downloading, go to the Download screen and select the **Click Here** hyperlink.



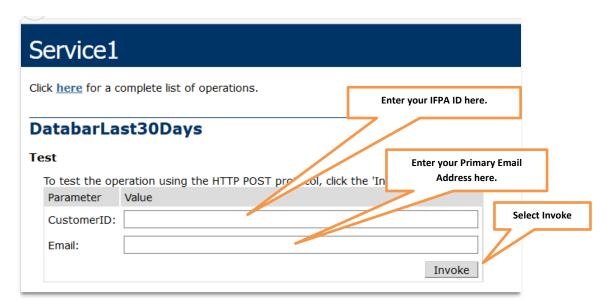
2. The following screen opens with instructions on how to set up the automated download using a web service. Select the **Web Service** hyperlink.



3. You will have two options for download. Select the file you would like to download.



4. Enter your IFPA Customer ID and your email address to invoke the operation. Select **Invoke**.



The web service returns all the data in an XML format.

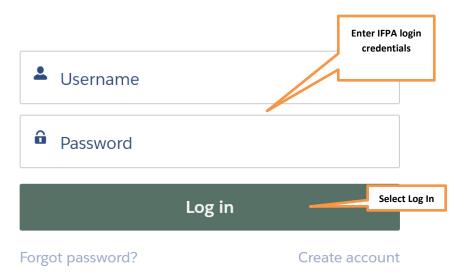
This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

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▼<GTIN>
   <PrimaryKey>38518</PrimaryKey>
   <CompanyName>Produce Marketing Association
   <GTIN>00012345611131</GTIN>
   <PLU>3001</PLU>
   <AddDate>2019-05-20 14:57:00.727</AddDate>
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   <StatusCode>A</StatusCode>
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   <ModDate>2019-05-20 14:57:00.820</ModDate>
```

APPENDIX A

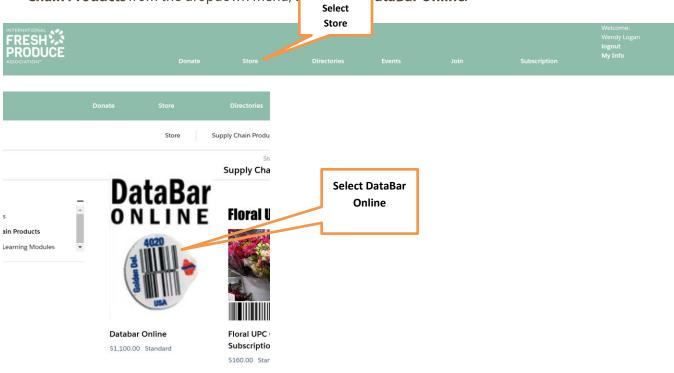
Electronic Order Process

- 1. In order to access DataBar Online, suppliers must complete the electronic order process which is done through the <u>e-store</u>.
- 2. A login screen opens with options to sign in.
- 3. Enter your user ID and password and select **Log In**. This brings you to the <u>e-store</u> home page. (There are additional prompts if you do not know your IFPA login credentials or have not yet created an account.)

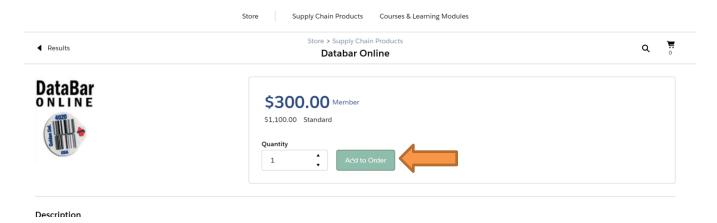


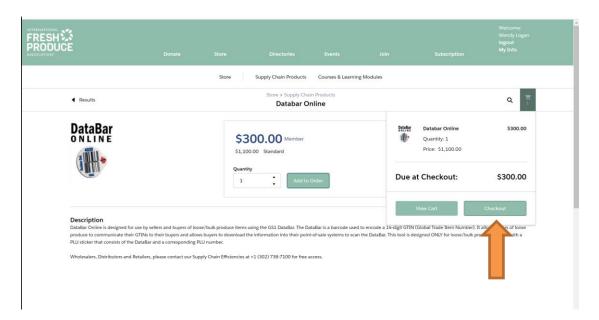
Welcome. To become a member, first log in or create an account.

4. Select **Store** from the menu bar at the top of the page. All products display on this page. Select **Supply Chain Products** from the dropdown menu, the manufacture at a page. The page of the page of the page. All products display on this page. Select **Supply**



5. Select **Add to Order**. Go to **Cart**, then **Checkout**. Proceed through checkout as instructed.





- 6. Proceed through checkout as instructed.
- 7. Review your order and enter billing address and payment information as required. Select **Process**Payment. Important: Be sure to review your order carefully before submitting your payment.
- 8. **Important:** Be sure to save your Order Confirmation to your files.

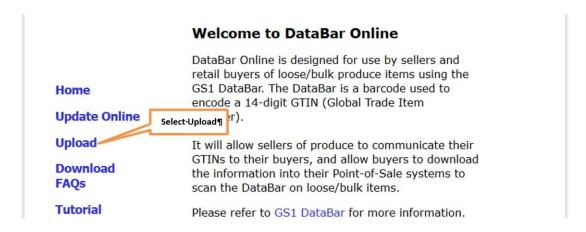
APPENDIX B

Validating a GTIN

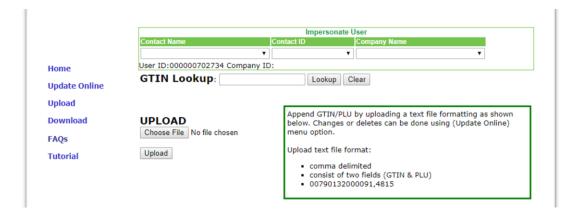
You can validate if a GTIN has already been registered in the database by using the GTIN Validation. **Note:** Suppliers can **only** view their own company data. Retailers can view **all** data uploaded in the DataBar Online tool.

Distributors and wholesalers who are also registered to upload will need to contact the <u>Supply Chain Efficiencies</u> <u>team</u> for a complete download supplier list.

1. Go to the DataBar Online Home page. Select **Upload**.



2. Enter the 14-digit GTIN in the GTIN Lookup field. Select **Lookup**.



3. If the 14-digit GTIN is already in the system, you will receive the following message.

