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FRESH DEL MONTE PRODUCE INC

Form 6-K January 08, 2002

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 6-K REPORT OF FOREIGN ISSUER Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

As of January 8, 2002

FRESH DEL MONTE PRODUCE INC. (Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

THE CAYMAN ISLANDS
(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organization)
WALKER HOUSE, MARY STREET
P.O. BOX 265

GEORGE TOWN, GRAND CAYMAN (Address of Registrant's Principal Executive Office)

C/O DEL MONTE FRESH PRODUCE COMPANY

800 DOUGLAS ROAD

NORTH TOWER, 12TH FLOOR

CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA 33134 (Address of Registrant's U.S. Executive Office)

[Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F.]

Form 20-F [X] Form 40-F []

[Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.]

Yes [] No [X]

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

FRESH DEL MONTE PRODUCE INC.

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By: /s/ Hani El-Naffy Date: January 8, 2002

Hani El-Naffy

President & Chief Operating Officer

By: /s/ John F. Inserra

John F. Inserra

Executive Vice President & Chief Financial Officer

[FRESH DEL MONTE PRODUCE INC. LOGO]

Fresh Del Monte Produce Inc.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FRESH DEL MONTE PRODUCE INC. DECLARES CASH DIVIDEND

CORAL GABLES, Fla., January 8, 2002 - FRESH DEL MONTE PRODUCE INC. (NYSE: FDP), today announced that the Board of Directors has determined to pay a regular quarterly cash dividend of \$0.05 per share.

The first quarterly dividend was declared today for payment on March 6, 2002 to shareholders of record as of February 11, 2002.

The Company's decision to pay a dividend is a result of the Company's earnings growth over the past quarters, strong cash flow, excellent performance in the fresh produce industry and the Company's commitment to enhance shareholder value. The Company expects to continue to take steps to implement plans and procedures to grow while increasing the visibility of its quality products and strong brand name.

Fresh Del Monte is a leading vertically-integrated producer and marketer of high quality fresh and packaged fresh-cut fruit and vegetables. Our products include bananas, pineapples, cantaloupe, honeydew, watermelons, grapes, non-tropical fruit (including citrus, apples, pears, peaches, plums, nectarines, apricots and kiwi), plantains, Vidalia(R) sweet onions and various greens. We market our products worldwide under the DEL MONTE(R) brand, a symbol of product quality and reliability since 1892.

Contact: Fresh Del Monte Produce Inc.

John F. Inserra, Executive Vice President Christine A. Cannella and Chief Financial Officer

Director, Investor Relations 305-520-8451

305-520-8065