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FRESH DEL MONTE PRODUCE INC Form 6-K May 04, 2006

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549 FORM 6-K

REPORT OF FOREIGN PRIVATE ISSUER

Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 For the month of May 2006

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 908GT

George Town, Grand Cayman

(Address of Registrant s Principal Executive Office)

c/o Del Monte Fresh Produce Company

241 Sevilla Avenue 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 o

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 o No x

If Yes is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): 82-_____.

Fresh Del Monte Produce Inc. FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fresh Del Monte Produce Inc. Declares Fiscal 2005 Cash Dividend and Reduces Future Quarterly Dividend

CORAL GABLES, Fla. May 4, 2006 **Fresh Del Monte Produce Inc. (NYSE: FDP),** announced today that at the Company s Annual General Meeting the shareholders approved the board of directors recommendation that the Company s fourth quarter 2005 cash dividend of twenty cents (\$0.20) per share is declared and shall be paid on June 13, 2006, to shareholders of record on May 17, 2006.

The Company s board of directors today separately approved a reduction in the Company s future quarterly cash dividend from twenty cents (\$0.20) per share to five cents (\$0.05) per share expected to commence with the Company s first quarter 2006 cash dividend.

Fresh Del Monte Produce Inc. is one of the world s leading vertically integrated producers, marketers and distributors of high-quality fresh and fresh-cut fruit and vegetables, as well as a leading producer and distributor of prepared fruit and vegetables, juices, beverages, snacks and desserts in Europe, Africa and the Middle East. Fresh Del Monte markets its products worldwide under the Del Monte® brand, a symbol of product innovation, quality, freshness and reliability.

This press release contains certain forward-looking statements regarding the intents, beliefs or current expectations of the Company or its officers with respect to various matters. These forward-looking statements are based on information currently available to the Company and the Company assumes no obligation to update these statements. It is important to note that these forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and involve risks and uncertainties. The Company s actual results may differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements as a result of various important factors, including those described under the caption Key Information Risk Factors in Fresh Del Monte Produce Inc. s Form 20-F for the year ended December 30, 2005.

Note to the Editor: This release and other press releases are available on the Company s web site, www.freshdelmonte.com.

Contact: Christine Cannella

Assistant Vice President, Investor

Relations 305-520-8433

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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.

Date: May 4, 2006

By: /s/ Hani El-Naffy

Hani El-Naffy

President & Chief Operating Officer

By: /s/ John F. Inserra
John F. Inserra
Executive Vice President &
Chief Financial Officer

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