

United States Department of Agriculture June 20, 2001

D&DOD-98

Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services

Farm Service Agency

Kansas City Commodity Office P.O. Box 419205 Kansas City, Missouri 64141-6205

NOTICE TO THE TRADE FOR CORN, PASTA PROCESSED CEREAL, RICE VEGETABLE OIL PRODUCTS SUPPLIERS

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Farm Service Agency, Kansas City Commodity Office (FSA/KCCO) purchases the above products for various domestic feeding programs for the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS). FNS program outlets may be schools/institutions or household programs, such as the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations, the Temporary Food Assistance Programs, or the Commodity Supplemental Food Program. USDA has been piloting the use of commercial labels in schools/institutions or household programs for several years. The program recipients have strongly favored receiving products with commercial labels versus USDA-labeled packages.

In order to proceed with providing a commercial-labeled package for school/institutions or household program recipients for the above products, beginning with invitations issued on or after August 1, 2001, FSA/KCCO will issue invitations for either:

- the option of a commercial-labeled package or a USDA-labeled package for all package sizes, or
- only commercial-labeled package products as specified in the applicable announcement.

Contractors supplying a commercial-labeled package shall certify as a part of the offer that the product being delivered has a history of successful distribution and use in the domestic commercial channels, and is sold on the commercial market with an established level of consumer acceptance. The product delivered shall comply with all applicable Federal and state mandatory requirements and regulations relating to the preparation, processing, packaging, labeling, storage, distribution, and sale within the commercial marketplace.

If you intend to offer a commercial-labeled package for USDA purchases, please provide a sample primary package to this office at the following address before the August 10, invitation issuance date:

U.S. Department of Agriculture/Farm Service Agency Dairy & Domestic Operations Division, Stop 8718 6501 Beacon Drive Kansas City, MO 64133-4676

Please contact the following Marketing Specialists, if you have any questions concerning this notice:

Corn Products, Ray Boyd, @ 816-926-2612
Pasta Products, Tom Denner, @ 816-926-6395
Processed Cereal Products, Kathy Smallwood, @ 816-926-2655
Rice Products, Mara Whitaker, @ 816-926-6063
Vegetable Oil Products, Barbara Williams, @ 816-926-3299

/s/ George W. Aldaya

George W. Aldaya Director