



FACT SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FARM SERVICE AGENCY

April 2009

Food Assistance through the Commodity Credit Corporation

Commodity Purchases and Donations

USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) administers farm commodity, farm credit, and resource conservation programs for farmers through a nationwide network of State and county offices. The Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) is a wholly-owned government corporation within USDA which provides funding for farm programs, and for the purchase, storage and disposal of surplus agricultural commodities owned by the federal government. FSA personnel act as administrative agents who manage CCC's inventory of bulk and processed commodities.

FSA purchases U.S. farm products and foods for domestic nutrition and food assistance programs that help individuals in need. In addition, FSA procures commodities for humanitarian aid efforts overseas. FSA's Kansas City, Missouri, office is responsible for the procurement, storage and transportation of food commodities to fulfill USDA program commitments. Private industry works in partnership with FSA and other government agencies to supply the various programs with high-quality, nutritious products that meet program requirements.

Export Programs

FSA purchases commodities for use in the P.L. 480 Title II and III "Food for Peace" program administered by the U.S. Agency for International Development, the "Food for Progress" program, the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition program and the Section 416 (b) program administered by the Foreign Agricultural Service. The purchased commodities provide nutritious foods for those people unable to provide for themselves. FSA purchases these commodities through competitive bids.

Commodities procured for use in these programs include processed grain products such as bulgur, wheat flour, and cornmeal; blended foods such as wheat-soy blend and corn-soy blend; and pulses such as peas, beans, and lentils.

Also included are milled rice; vegetable oil; whole-kernel grains, such as wheat, corn, and sorghum; dairy; and peanut products. Commodities may be provided directly from government-owned stocks when surplus commodities are available in inventory.

FSA's commodity managers, working with other federal agencies and international organizations, deliver more than 4 million metric tons

of grain and food products (valued at more than \$1 billion) each year to relief programs throughout the world.

EXPORT PROGRAMS Fiscal Year 2008		
Commodity	Quantity	Value
	(1,000 Metric Tons)	(million dollars)
Processed Commodities	970.8	\$750.6
Grain	1,878	\$797.3
Peas, Beans, Lentils	251,980	\$220.2
Vegetable Oil	178,920	\$285.3
TOTAL	433,748.8	\$2,053.4

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Domestic Food Assistance

FSA and other USDA agencies purchase and deliver foods for various domestic food distribution programs. These include national school lunch, school breakfast, child and adult food care, summer food service, elderly feeding, charitable institutions, Indian reservations, emergency food assistance, and special supplemental food for women, infants, and children. FSA is often called upon to quickly provide food aid for emergency situations such as hurricanes, floods, and other natural disasters, and to mitigate chronic food shortages overseas.

More Information

For information on FSA commodity operations, including purchase announcements and invitations to bid, contact either of the following offices:

Director, Commodity Operations
 USDA, Farm Service Agency
 Stop 0551
 P.O. Box 2415
 Washington, DC 20013
 (202) 720-2121

USDA, Farm Service Agency
 Director
 Kansas City Commodity Office
 P.O. Box 419205
 Kansas City, MO 64141-6205
 (816) 926-6301

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Commodity	Quantity	\$ Value
Bakery Flour	19,269,300	\$6,380,804
Bakery Mix	4,830,000	\$4,104,446
Corn Products	7,758,540	\$1,991,949
Crackers	517,320	\$553,090
Fortified Ready-to-Eat Cereal	16,158,565	\$24,613,325
Instant Rice Cereal	60,600	\$79,834
Processed Cereals	8,692,296	\$4,588,816
Macaroni & Cheese	743,850	\$745,263
Pasta Products	42,863,360	\$28,743,090
Wheat Flour	30,509,640	\$9,701,302
Peanut Products	21,731,508	\$21,892,937
Sunflower Seed Butter	443,520	\$736,894
Rice Products	38,818,272	\$18,316,501
Vegetable Oil Products	21,203,530	\$15,610,766
Bulk Cheddar Cheese	30,238,457	\$63,928,507
Mozzarella Cheese	71,326,080	\$148,278,174
Processed Cheese	45,460,800	\$92,752,073
Evaporated Milk	18,360,000	\$10,581,319
Infant Formula	186,624	\$1,850,680
Ultra High Temp Milk	3,559,843	\$1,396,644
Instant Milk	1,021,440	\$2,270,976
Totals	383,753,545	\$459,117,391

FSA supplied approximately 384 million pounds of commodities such as grain, dairy, peanut and cereal products worth more than \$459 million during fiscal year 2008.

Source: Processed Commodities Inventory Management System (PCIMS) – Deliver order and contract information