

NSLP News by Sam Carr

It is an exciting time in the National School Lunch Program! The Food Service Directors are doing a great job adjusting to the new ordering system. This month I will address the most asked question:

Question: Why do I not receive the items I order? I thought this new ordering process would assure I get the items I want, when I want them?

Answer: The Commodity Office (CDO) has ordered commodities based on the Projected Annual Usage totals of all schools. This means you are guaranteed to receive these products this school year, unless USDA cancels a shipment. USDA then ships commodities to the states based on several factors; season of the year, availability of product from the vendor, and the scheduling of deliveries by the transportation company.

CDO Solution: I have pulled the expected shipments from USDA for the next 2 months. These are the commodity items expected to be delivered to the Performance Foodservice Warehouse and will be available to fill orders. It is my goal to communicate as much information as possible, in turn to help you know when we expect items so that you can better prepare your menus.

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Commodity Express

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USDA Shipments Expected in Warehouse 11/30/09	USDA Shipments Expected in Warehouse 12/15/09
A470 - MIXED FRUIT	A130 - CORN FRZ
A204 - POTATO ROUNDS	
A061 - BEANS GREEN 10	A239 - TOMATO SAUCE 10
A110 - CORN LQD 10	A241 - TOMATOES DICED
A345 - APPLE SLICES	A243 - SPAGHETTI SAUCE
A350 - APPLESAUCE 10	A252 - TOMATO PASTE 6/10
A433 - PEARS SLC	A380 - STRAWBERRIES SLC
B233 - FLOUR B 40	A408 - PEACHES CLING SLC
A515 - CHIX CUT UP	A409 - PEACHES CLING DICE
A517 - CHIX DICED	A416 - PEACHES CUP 4.4
A549 - TURKEY BREAST DELI	A434 - PEARS DICE
B670 - VEG OIL	A942 - BEANS PINTO 25
A079 - BEANS PINTO CND	B031 - CHEDDAR SHRED Y 6/5
A100 - CARROTS 10	B065 CHEESE 30 LVS
A129 - CORN COB	
A431 - PEARS HALVES	B351 - FLOUR WW 40
B027 - CHED RD FT SHD Y 6/5	B445 - OATS 3
B119 - CHS RDU SKIM SLC Y	B664 - LSF SOYBEAN OIL
B142-CORNMEAL 40 DEG	
B183-FLOUR AP 40	B473 - PB SMOOTH 5

TEFAP TALK by Jim Ponzini

A lot of our food losses occur during storms and especially power outages. You have your coolers and freezers full of food. You don't know when the electricity will return, what do you do? In our series of articles on Emergency Preparedness, having a plan in place will eliminate the "what to do" and replace it with "we're covered". There are several things you can do depending on your situation and needs. For

instance you may decide to have generators installed, or an alternate storage facility that will agree to help, or possibly one of your food distribution companies can bring a trailer to keep your food frozen. Whatever your plan, have one in place. For those of you who have had food losses due to a power outage, you know the nightmare and the value of food you've lost.

What if your water supply becomes unsafe? Do you have a back-up plan to take care of bringing in clean water? What if your gas goes out and that's your only supply of fuel to use for cooking? Do you have meal plans ready for substitution? Don't wait until it's too late to have a good plan in place should an emergency occur.



PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING, 22 JANUARY 2009, 10am-2pm
PERFORMANCE FOODSERVICE-LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE ROOM
4901 ASHER AVENUE, LITTLE ROCK, AR 72204

The Importance of Eating Healthy by Marilyn Credit

Proper nutrition begins at home with the foods you buy and prepare. Giving your child a healthy start with good eating habits is worth the effort. A nutritionally well balanced diet promotes growth and well being. It also reduces the risk of developing diseases such as heart disease and some types of cancer. Good nutrition and healthy eating practices are very important in shaping lifelong behaviors.

So, along with providing a loving environment, preparing the right food and teaching good food habits should be a priority in healthy meals. It is during our early years we are told that attitudes towards food are established. These attitudes will change with age and new experiences, but will impact those of the family in which a child grows up.

I'm sure you have asked the question what to prepare and what is healthy to eat? Is there a nutrition guide that I would need to follow? No one food group is more important than another, all is vitally important. It is always best to check with trained, certified and license dieticians .

The CDO Receives a Gold Star

The Arkansas Human Services Employees' (AHSEA) Association was established in 1944 and each year the association provides an annual training conference. During the conference the Department of Human Services employees are recognized for years of service; provided division/office recognition awards; employee of the year awards and scholarships for employees/spouse/ and children. This year the Division of County Operations (DCO) sponsored a Day Out at the

AHSEA Conference in order to recognize the hard work of their employees. On Thursday, October 8, 2009 a small group of Commodity Distribution members traveled to Hot Springs Arkansas to attend the AHSEA Conference to represent the Commodity Distribution Office which is responsible the distribution of more than one million pounds of food to Food Banks and Food Pantries throughout the State of Arkansas providing a safety net to thousands of Arkansans. During their

time at the conference the group was presented with a Gold Star for the wonderful job done with the Emergency Food Stimulus (TEFAP) Program. Mr. Jim Ponzini was present to accept the award.



Thanks from Jim Ponzini

We would like to thank everyone for your efforts in distributing the ARRA Stimulus commodities. It was an amazing accomplishment and we received all reports within the allowable timeframe. Please thank all of your agencies. I was able to view at least 25% of all your agencies distribution practices throughout the year and they should be congratulated for the fine job they do.

Now that all the numbers are in, I would like to share with you how the ARRA Stimulus Funds impacted our State.

The USDA allocated \$1,091,708 to purchase commodities of which \$1,053,469 was used with a remaining balance of \$38,239 (USDA cancelled one truck of mixed fruit). USDA is allowing us to carry forward the balance of \$38,239 to

purchase commodities in 2010. Total pounds of ARRA Stimulus commodities distributed—1,047,040. Typically, the TEFAP program has been serving around 25% of those individuals within the poverty level. Total individuals within the poverty level in Arkansas is 461,759. With the additional food from the ARRA Stimulus program, your agencies served 204,995 individuals or 44.3%. We received \$273.611 in Administrative funds which were used to reimburse our agencies and cover delivery cost. We utilized 100% of those funds.

We have finalized our reports to USDA as well as State and Federal Government. This was completed on Friday, October 9, 2009.

Again I appreciate all of your hard work,

and working within our short deadlines. It isn't often we see how our efforts impact the communities we serve and I appreciate being allowed to be part of it.

Thanks for everything you do!



Inside Story Headline

As you know school has started again and I have gone to several areas to do the Commodity Reviews. Several schools have asked about the Local Inventory. The local inventory is important because if for any reason you have a natural disaster, such as the ice storm, and the governor declares your county a disaster we can replace the commodities you lost by

pulling up your local inventory. In the old days when you were going to be out of school for more than three days you would have to fax your inventory to the Commodity office before you left (that killed lots of trees). With the new technology all you have to do is go on to the ACDS System and keep the local inventory up dated. The Local inventory is a

very important tool and should be up dated monthly, I would suggest more often, so please keep it updated.



Commodity Processing Value & Regulations by Rosalind Reams

In order to participate in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) Processing is not required; however the Commodity Office encourages each school district to take the opportunity to do the research to see if it would be beneficial for your district to participate. If your school district choose to participate in processing, it is very important that you understand the guidelines set forth. Commodity Processing is governed by regulations contained in the Code of Federal Regulations @ 7 CFR Part 250.30. The regulations may be found on the Food Distribution website at: www.fns.usda.gov/fdd/regs/fd_regulations.htm.

As with any contractual arrangement, the processing agreement is designed to protect the interests of all parties involved—i.e., the distributing agency, the recipient agency and the processor. Under this agreement, the processor agrees to protect and account for all USDA donated foods delivered to them for further processing. Processors also agree to produce the end products in the specific form requested by the State distributing agency or school. Processors entering into these types of agreements must ensure that the full value of the donated food contained in the finished products is returned to the recipient agency. This value can be returned to the recipient agency by:

(a) Discounting the normal commercial price

of a product; or

(b) Paying a refund to the school,

(c) Charging a fee for service for converting the donated food.

End products made from meat or poultry are usually produced under fee-for-service agreements. Under this arrangement the end products are sold at a processing fee, which represents the processor's costs for labor, packaging, other ingredients, and administrative overhead. With a fee for service, the value of the donated commodities in the end products is not included in the price of the product.



From the Desk of The Administrator

Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Ordering and Receipting System (FFAVORS)

Department of Defense wants us to remind participating schools that passwords may have expired over the summer, and to contact your Customer Representative, Samuel Turner, for password issues or for any questions about the system. They also want to remind schools to remember to go back into FFAVORS after your delivery has arrived and enter a "receipt"

for that order. The few minutes that it takes to go into "Edit Receipts", will ensure correct billing and funds tracking. Please check the weekly "News Flash" in FFAVORS and Market Reports for vital information.

Reminder: FFV funds will be redistributed after December 15, 2009, therefore if you have not used at least 50% of your funds or need assistance to place an

order you should contact your FFV Customer Rep. Sam Turner at 205-966-0020 or Samuel.Turner@dla.mil. Sam will place your order for you if you're having difficulties ordering or getting into the FFAVORS website.



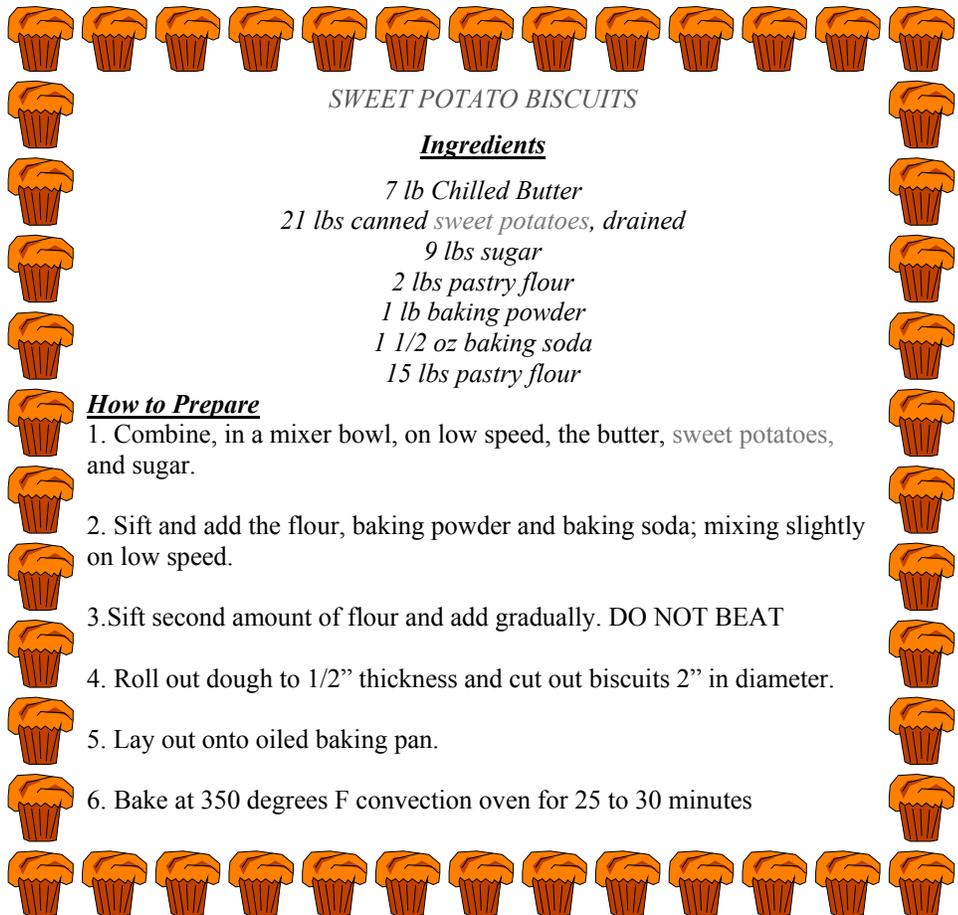
ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF
Human Services

**DHS/
COMMODITY DISTRIBUTION OFFICE**

Donaghey Plaza South
700 Main Street
PO BOX 1437, Slot S337
Little Rock, AR 72203-1437

Phone: 501-371-1400
Fax: 507-371-1410
E-Mail: christopher.dyer@arkansas.gov

[HTTPS://DHS.ARKANSAS.GOV/DCO/
ACDS](https://dhs.arkansas.gov/dco/acds)



SWEET POTATO BISCUITS

Ingredients

- 7 lb Chilled Butter
- 21 lbs canned sweet potatoes, drained
- 9 lbs sugar
- 2 lbs pastry flour
- 1 lb baking powder
- 1 1/2 oz baking soda
- 15 lbs pastry flour

How to Prepare

1. Combine, in a mixer bowl, on low speed, the butter, sweet potatoes, and sugar.
2. Sift and add the flour, baking powder and baking soda; mixing slightly on low speed.
3. Sift second amount of flour and add gradually. DO NOT BEAT
4. Roll out dough to 1/2" thickness and cut out biscuits 2" in diameter.
5. Lay out onto oiled baking pan.
6. Bake at 350 degrees F convection oven for 25 to 30 minutes

We would like to wish you and your families a Happy Thanksgiving Holiday. Be Safe, Have Fun, and always remember to do something special for someone else, it will make you feel better.



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