



United States Department of Agriculture

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**Agricultural Marketing Service  
Commodity Procurement Program**

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## **USDA COMMODITY REQUIREMENTS**

### **PC14 PROCESSED CEREALS FOR USE IN DOMESTIC PROGRAMS**

Effective Date: [September 14, 2018](#)

**USDA COMMODITY REQUIREMENTS  
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FOR USE IN DOMESTIC PROGRAMS**

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**Part 1 COMMODITY SPECIFICATIONS**

**Section 1.1 COMMODITIES**

The commodity delivered shall meet the requirements as specified in the Commercial Item Descriptions (CID) as follows:

- A. Cereals, Rolled Oats, Type II, Quick cooking, unflavored – CID A-A-20090F (April 1, 2014) at <https://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/CID%20Cereals%2C%20Rolled%20Oats.pdf>. Oats must conform to Section 6.1.2 of CID A-A-20090F, with the following exception:
  - A minimum of 50 percent by weight of the flakes must remain on a U.S. Standard No. 7 sieve and not more than 8 percent by weight of the flakes must pass through a U.S. Standard No. 25 sieve.
  
- B. Cereals, Wheat, Quick-Cooking and Instant, Type I (enriched farina) and Type III (rolled wheat) – CID A-A-20108C (April 16, 2008) at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/CID%20Cereals%2C%20Wheat%2C%20Quick-Cooking%20and%20Instant.pdf>, except as may be augmented as indicated below:

**Farina – Iron Enrichment Standards**

Item	Minimum Per Pound	Maximum Per Pound
Iron, in form of Ferric Phosphate 1/, 2/, mg	90	140
1/ Must conform to the requirements outlined in the Food Chemicals Codex. 2/ As an alternate, reduced iron in the form of electrolytic of hydrogen reduced iron may be used.		

- C. Bulgur may be of any of the classes of wheat as defined in the “Official United States Standards for Grain,” except mixtures of wheat of contrasting classes. The standard is available at: <http://www.gipsa.usda.gov/fgis/standards/810wheat.pdf>

The wheat shall not contain more than 4.0 percent damaged kernels and shall meet the requirements as set forth below:

**Chemical and Physical Requirements**

Item	Requirements <sup>1</sup>	
	Minimum	Maximum
Moisture	--	11.5%
Protein (N x 5.7) <sup>2</sup>	9.3%	--
Crude Fiber <sup>2</sup>	--	2.3%
Ash <sup>2</sup>	--	1.8%
Foreign Material: Total <sup>3</sup>	--	0.2%
Material Except Other Grains <sup>4</sup>	--	0.05%
Scorched particles (whole or pieces of kernels)	--	0.2%
Ungelatinized particles (whole or pieces of kernels)	--	1.0%
Whole processed kernels remaining on U.S. Standard No. 8 Woven-Wire-Cloth Sieve	--	4.0

<sup>1</sup> All percentages are on the basis of weight.

<sup>2</sup> These limiting values are on a moisture-free basis.

<sup>3</sup> All material other than wheat.

<sup>4</sup> Including grain hulls either attached or detached. Any hulls attached to product should be detached before inclusion in the hull fraction.

Material that will pass through U.S. Standard No. 8 Woven-Wire-Cloth Sieve	80.0	--
Material that will pass through U.S. Standard No. 14 Woven-Wire-Cloth Sieve	--	18.0
Material that will pass through U.S. Standard No. 30 Woven-Wire-Cloth Sieve	--	0.9

- D. All wheat shall be tested for vomitoxin in accordance with procedures approved by Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS). Any wheat testing higher than 2 parts per million (p.p.m.) shall not be used in production of the commodity. The final product shall not contain more than 1 p.p.m. of vomitoxin.

## Section 1.2 WARRANTY

The product shall have a shelf life of at least one year from date of manufacture. Product shall not be manufactured more than 30 days prior to shipping.

## Section 1.3 “KOSHER ONLY” PRODUCTS

“Kosher Only” products will be identified in the solicitation. Kosher only products shall comply with applicable dietary (kosher) laws as established by the “613 Council of Kashruth.” Manufacturing plants shall be certified for compliance with the aforementioned requirement by contacting the Board of Jewish Education of Greater New York (BJENY) at 646-472-5365. A rabbinic supervisor will be sent to certify compliance of the manufacturing plant with the dietary (kosher) laws.

Offeror shall certify that their manufacturing plant is capable of meeting applicable dietary (kosher) laws as established by the “613 Council of Kashruth” and certification by BJENY.

## Section 1.4 QUALITY ASSURANCE

- A. The contractor shall perform the product testing and quality analysis to ensure that the product meets the commodity specifications **on a quarterly basis. Testing must follow the requirements listed in Section 7.1 of CID A-A-20090E, with the following exception:**

- **Analytical testing of sodium will not be required.**

The results shall be evidenced by a Certificate of Analysis (COA). **The COA shall be maintained by the contractor.**

- B. Contractors shall notify the Government immediately of lots that fail to meet contract requirements.

## Part 2 CONTAINER AND PACKAGING REQUIREMENTS

### Section 2.1 GENERAL

This part provides the container specifications and packaging materials requirements used under this contract.

## **Section 2.2 COMMERCIAL PACKAGING**

- A. Contractors shall supply commercial brand products only and shall certify at the time of submission of an offer that the commercial product being delivered has a history of successful distribution and use in domestic commercial channels and is sold on the commercial market with an established level of consumer acceptance.
- B. Container and packaging requirements are those used in the current commercial shipping practices and shall comply with:
  - (1) Unitization requirements in Section 2.4
  - (2) At contractor's option, a statement such as "Not for Retail Sale" may be printed on the principal display panel of the food label.
  - (3) The manufacturer's lot code/ lot identification number shall be shown on the commercial bill of lading.
  - (4) Shipping containers shall be marked to show the maximum safe stacking height. It is the responsibility of the contractor in cooperation with the shipping container manufacturers to determine the safe stacking height.
  - (5) For identification upon receipt at delivery warehouses, all commercial labeled product shipping documents shall specify "FOR USDA FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAMS."

## **Section 2.3 CONTAINERS AND MATERIALS**

- A. All containers and packaging shall be constructed to meet the requirements of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for safe contact with the packaged product. The contractor shall obtain and maintain documentation from the container or packaging material manufacturer to verify that the containers and packaging materials used in this contract were in compliance with the Government's regulatory requirements for safe contact with food products as required in the Master Solicitation, Part 3, Section A, Number 3.
- B. Questions concerning the containers and materials should be directed to the specialist identified as responsible for this product. A list of AMS Commodity Procurement Staff assignments and contact info can be found at:  
<https://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/AMSCommodityProcurementStaffContactList.pdf>
- C. If the contractor purchases packaging and container ingredients from a foreign country and/or the package and container is manufactured in a foreign country, the package and container SHALL NOT display country of origin labeling. Phrases similar to but not inclusive of, "Made in [Name of Foreign Country.]" or "Product of [Name of Foreign Country.]" are strictly prohibited.

## **Section 2.4 UNITIZATION**

Shipments shall comply with the following unitization requirements:

- A. Unless otherwise specified by the Government, all shipments of packaged products shall be unitized (palletized and stretch wrapped).
- B. Pallets shall be:
  - (1) Constructed to facilitate the safe handling and transportation of the packaged product, as a

unit, without loss or damage.

- (2) A Number 2, four-way, reversible flush stringer with no broken runners or slats.
  - (3) Suitable for use in the shipment of food products.
- C. Plastic stretch wrap shall be:
- (1) Constructed of a plastic film which is to be stretched a minimum of 50 percent beyond its original length when stretched around the pallet load.
  - (2) Applied as tightly as possible around all tiers of the palletized shipping containers. The shipping containers shall be held firmly in place by the stretch wrap.
- D. Pallet loads shall be:
- (1) Stacked in such a way as to minimize the amount that shipping containers overhang the edges of pallets.
  - (2) Blocked and braced or otherwise loaded into the conveyance in a manner that prevents shifting during transit.
- E. USDA does not participate in pallet exchange.