



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 the CCC's inventory of bulk and processed commodities.

FSA personnel purchase U.S. farm products and foods for domestic nutrition and food assistance programs that help individuals in need. In addition, FSA personnel procure commodities from humanitarian aid efforts overseas. FSA's Kansas City, Missouri, office is responsible for the procurement and transportation of food commodities to fulfill USDA program commitments. Private industry works in partnership with Government and other agencies to supply the various programs with high-quality, nutritious products that meet the program requirements. Products purchased by FSA include reduced-fat Cheddar cheese, lite Mozzarella, low-fat

macaroni and cheese, reduced-fat peanut butter, reduced-fat bakery mix, and cereal products with reduced sodium.

Export Programs

FSA personnel buy American farm products for use in humanitarian aid programs around the world. These are administered by either the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) or USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service.

FSA provides commodities for use in the P.L. 480 "Food for Peace" program, "Food for Progress" program, and other foreign assistance food-aid programs to provide nutritious foods for those people unable to provide for themselves. FSA purchases these commodities through competitive bids.

FSA also purchases nutritional commodities for a specially funded USAID program that targets women and children at risk nutritionally in several countries of the former Soviet Union: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Tajikistan.

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; and dairy and peanut products. Commodities may be provided directly from Government-owned stocks when surplus commodities are available in inventory.

Export Programs FY 2003		
Commodity	Quantity	Value
	(1,000 metric tons)	(million dollars)
Processed Commodities	1190.8	406.6
Grain	2761.3	428.6
Peas, Beans, Lentils	204.6	97.7
Vegetable Oil	314.0	257.8
Miscellaneous	31.7	17.3
TOTAL	4,502.4	1,208.0

FSA's commodity managers, working with other Federal agencies and international organizations, deliver more than 3.5 million metric tons of grain and food products (valued at more than \$1.2 billion) each year to relief programs throughout the world.

Domestic Food Assistance

FSA and other USDA agencies purchase and deliver foods for various domestic food assistance 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 purchased, or shipped from its inventories, approximately 655.3 million pounds of commodities such as grain, dairy, peanut and cereal products, worth \$460.2 million during fiscal/school year 2003.

Domestic Programs SY/FY 2003		
Product Group	Quantity (million pounds)	Value (million dollars)
Dairy	353.5	352.7
Corn	8.9	2.2
Processed Cereal	8.9	2.5
Ready-to-eat Cereal	12.5	13.3
Flour	85.1	14.7
Pasta	44.3	12.4
Peanuts	36.5	28.1
Rice	43.9	8.1
Vegetable Oil	58.1	22.8
Rice Cereal and Formula	3.6	3.4
TOTAL	655.3	460.2

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. In 1995, after Hurricane Marilyn devastated the Virgin Islands, FSA coordinated the shipping of more than 2.4 million pounds of food to the disaster victims within a 5-day period.

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

Director,
 Procurement and Donations
 Division,
 Commodity Operations
 USDA-FSA-Stop 0551
 P.O. Box 2415
 Washington, DC 20013
 (202) 720-5074

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

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