



FACT SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FARM SERVICE AGENCY

June 2011

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 and international food assistance programs that help individuals in need. FSA's Kansas City Commodity Office (KCCO) is responsible for the procurement, storage and transportation of products 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, and 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 in need. FSA acquires these commodities through competitive bids and barters.

Commodities procured for use in these programs include processed grain products such as bulgur, wheat flour and corn-meal; 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.

FSA's commodity managers, working with other federal agencies and international organizations, deliver about 2.3 million metric tons of grain and food products (valued at nearly \$1 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 is often called upon to quickly provide food aid for emergency situations caused by hurricanes, floods and other natural disasters.

FSA supplied approximately 501 million pounds of commodities such as grain, dairy, peanut and cereal products worth more than \$500 million during fiscal year 2010.

Additional Information

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

Director, Commodity Operations
Division
USDA, Farm Service Agency
Stop 0553
P.O. Box 2415
Washington, DC 20013
(202) 720-2121

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