



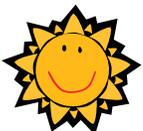
In Good Taste



UPDATE FROM NCDA&CS FOOD DISTRIBUTION DIVISION
SUMMER 2010

THIS ISSUE INCLUDES:

- ❖ [DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE](#)
- ❖ [BONUS COMMODITIES](#)
- ❖ [NC FARM TO SCHOOL NEWS](#)
 - [FTS Update](#)
 - [FTS Totals](#)
 - [FTS 2010-2011 CALENDAR](#)
- ❖ [USDA COMMODITY FOODS NEWS](#)
 - [The 12% Factor](#)
 - [USDA Foods Communication Initiative](#)
 - [AMS ground Beef Purchasing Program Changes](#)
 - [Oven Roasted Chicken](#)
- ❖ [NCDA&CS FOOD DISTRIBUTION NEWS](#)
- ❖ [2010 MARCH ACROSS CAROLINA](#)
- ❖ [SNA ANNUAL CONFERENCE](#)
- ❖ [NEW CHILD NUTRITION ADMINISTRATORS](#)
- ❖ [ACRONYM LIST](#)



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Gary Gay

I know you have all heard the story of the boy who cried wolf, it sounds like USDA is re-telling that story and the subject is Web Based Supply Chain Management (WBSCM). We have been relaying the message that USDA was going to roll out a new computer system WBSCM and ECOS would be phased out. Well, deadlines have come and gone and we are no closer to



knowing when WBSCM will go live than we did two years ago, so ECOS will live on a little longer. I would be truthful in saying that USDA has encountered some major problems in developing WBSCM. It was a major task that covered many branches of USDA. Our plans are when WBSCM does go live and ECOS is shut down, we will turn on NC ECOS for you to use to order your USDA foods. We have completed work on NC ECOS and it is ready to go. We have already put it into production with CND's ordering Farm-to-School orders and we will continue using NC ECOS to order Farm-to-School.

I don't believe you will have any problem navigating through NC ECOS as it is very similar to ECOS.

You should be receiving this newsletter as school is coming to a close for the year. I hope you had a good year, I know you faced many challenges this year as we all have. I hope you can find some time to take off, catch your breath and enjoy the summer.



Bonus Commodities Received During the 2009-10 School Year

Frozen Apricots	Frozen Apricot Cups	Turkey Roasts
Dried Cherries	Can Sliced Apples	Applesauce
Turkey Breast Deli	Apricots	Diced Apricots
Pork Roast	Great Northern Beans	Walnuts
Frozen Cherries IQF	Frozen Blueberries	UHT Milk
Cheddar RDU Fat Shred	Mozzarella Lt Shred Frz	Cheese RDU Skim
Turkey Bulk	Non Fat Dry Milk	

Total \$6,000,000.00

Bonus Commodities Ordered for the 2009-10 School Year

Russet Potatoes	Mixed Fruit	Dried Blueberries
Dried Cherries	Frozen Blueberries	Pear Halves
Sliced Pears	Cheddar RDU Fat Shred	Bulk Potatoes
Cheese RDU Skim Slc	Dehy Bulk Potatoes	Barrel Cheddar

Total \$1,400,000.00

~~~~~

## NORTH CAROLINA FARM TO SCHOOL PROGRAM

### NC Farm to School Update

The 2009-10 school year was another record setting year in the Farm-to-School program. School districts purchased almost \$800,000 in fresh fruits and vegetables. We currently have one more week of delivering fresh NC strawberries in which 13,547 flats were purchased totaling \$186,271. I want to give a special thanks to our NC Farm-to-School Advisory Committee: Jan Holt (Camp Lejeune), Jama Stallings (Franklin County), Marilyn Moody (Wake County), Cynthia Sevier (Guilford County), and Cindy Marion (Stokes County). These CND's take time out of their busy schedules to help our Food Distribution team do a better job in operating this program to better serve your needs.

Food Distribution also rolled out the new NC-ECOS web based ordering system. This will be the new way of ordering all Farm-to-School products in the future. If you have not signed up for a user ID and password please contact [john.hearn@ncagr.gov](mailto:john.hearn@ncagr.gov). The next Farm-to-School order alert will come out in late July to order seedless watermelons, cantaloupes, sliced tomatoes, and grape tomatoes. You do not have to order all items for the entire year. Order alerts for different produce products will be sent from our office 4 -5 weeks before the actual delivery.

Thank you to all who participate in the Farm-to-School Program; without your support the program would not exist. Please call Ted Fogleman if you are interested in the benefits this program can bring to your nutrition program.

Thanks!

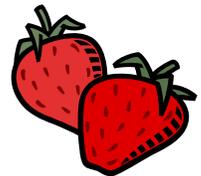
### NCDA NC Farm to School totals for SY 2009-2010

| <u>DELIVERY DATE</u> | <u>PRODUCE</u>       | <u>CASES ORDERED BY BUTNER WHSE</u> | <u>CASES ORDERED BY SALISBURY WHSE</u> | <u>TOTAL CASES ORDERED</u> | <u>PRICE PER CASE</u> | <u>TOTAL DOLLAR AMOUNT</u> |
|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| 8/31/09              | Seedless Watermelons | 1783                                | 887                                    | 2670                       | \$8.50                | \$22,695.00                |
|                      | Cantaloupes          | 588                                 | 276                                    | 864                        | \$13.00               | \$11,232.00                |
|                      | Slicing Tomatoes     | 248                                 | 120                                    | 368                        | \$10.50               | \$3,864.00                 |
|                      | Grape Tomatoes       | 509                                 | 92                                     | 601                        | \$12.50               | \$7,512.50                 |
|                      | Cucumbers            | Orders Cancelled                    | 0                                      | 0                          | \$0.00                | \$0.00                     |
| 9/14/09              | Grape Tomatoes       | 407                                 | 78                                     | 485                        | \$12.50               | \$6,062.50                 |
|                      | Slicing Tomatoes     | 523                                 | 96                                     | 619                        | \$10.50               | \$6,499.50                 |

|          |                         |                  |      |      |                      |                     |
|----------|-------------------------|------------------|------|------|----------------------|---------------------|
|          | Cantaloupes             | Orders Cancelled | 0    | 0    | \$0.00               | \$0.00              |
|          | Cucumbers               | 367              | 45   | 412  | \$18.00              | \$7,416.00          |
|          | Gala Apples             | 830              | 346  | 1176 | \$26.50              | \$31,164.00         |
|          | Golden Delicious Apples | 584              | 241  | 825  | \$26.50              | \$21,862.50         |
|          |                         |                  |      |      |                      |                     |
| 9/28/09  | Fuji Apples             | 1517             | 209  | 1726 | \$26.50              | \$45,739.00         |
|          | Red Delicious Apples    | 618              | 128  | 746  | \$26.50              | \$19,769.00         |
|          |                         |                  |      |      |                      |                     |
| 10/12/09 | Red Rome Apples         | 678              | 275  | 953  | \$24.50              | \$23,348.50         |
|          | Kennebec Potatoes       | 791              | 161  | 952  | \$12.50              | \$11,900.00         |
|          |                         |                  |      |      |                      |                     |
| 11/2/09  | Broccoli Crowns         | 707              | 71   | 778  | \$20.00              | \$15,560.00         |
|          | Sweet Potatoes          | 1331             | 128  | 1459 | \$8.50               | \$12,401.50         |
|          | Red Cabbage             | 75               | 19   | 94   | \$5.50               | \$517.00            |
|          | Green Cabbage           | 636              | 142  | 778  | \$5.00               | \$3,890.00          |
|          | Red Del Apples          | 1622             | 350  | 1972 | \$26.50              | \$52,258.00         |
|          |                         |                  |      |      |                      |                     |
| 12/7/09  | Broccoli Crowns         | 757              | 96   | 853  | \$20.00              | \$17,060.00         |
|          | Sweet Potatoes          | 989              | 116  | 1105 | \$8.50               | \$9,392.50          |
|          | Red Cabbage             | 42               | 36   | 78   | \$5.50               | \$429.00            |
|          | Green Cabbage           | 393              | 105  | 498  | \$5.00               | \$2,490.00          |
|          | Red Del Apples          | 1330             | 252  | 1582 | \$26.50              | \$41,923.00         |
|          |                         |                  |      |      |                      |                     |
| 1/11/10  | Apple Slices            | 2187             | 417  | 2604 | \$21.75              | \$56,637.00         |
|          | Jumbo Sweet Potatoes    | 405              | 80   | 485  | 8.5                  | \$4,122.50          |
|          |                         |                  |      |      |                      |                     |
| 2/8/10   | Apple Slices            | 1978             | 497  | 2475 | 21.75                | \$53,831.25         |
|          | Jumbo Sweet Potatoes    | 827              | 186  | 1013 | 8.5                  | \$8,610.50          |
|          |                         |                  |      |      |                      |                     |
| 3/8/10   | Apple Slices            | 2381             | 493  | 2874 | 21.75                | \$62,509.50         |
|          | Jumbo Sweet Potatoes    | 458              | 165  | 623  | 8.5                  | \$5,295.50          |
|          |                         |                  |      |      |                      |                     |
| 4/26/10  | Strawberries            | 2585             | 757  | 3342 | 13.75                | \$45,952.50         |
| 5/3/10   | Strawberries            | 3059             | 861  | 3920 | 13.75                | \$53,900.00         |
| 5/17/10  | Strawberries            | 2060             | 1236 | 3296 | 13.75                | \$45,320.00         |
|          |                         |                  |      |      |                      |                     |
| 5/24/10  | Strawberries            | 2569             | 420  | 2989 | 13.75                | \$41,098.75         |
|          | Blueberries             | 1258             | 365  | 1623 | \$25.00              | \$40,575.00         |
|          |                         |                  |      |      |                      |                     |
| 6/21/10  | Blueberries             | 84               | 0    | 84   | \$25.00              | \$2,100.00          |
|          |                         |                  |      |      | <b>Total \$ Amt:</b> | <b>\$794,938.00</b> |

## NC Farm to School Calendar School Year 2010-2011

|                                    |                                                                                          |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Week of August 29, 2010:</i>    | <b>FTS:</b> Watermelons, cantaloupes, tomatoes, grape tomatoes                           |
| <i>Week of September 12, 2010:</i> | <b>FTS:</b> Tomatoes, grape tomatoes, cantaloupes, cucumbers, apples (Ginger Gold, Gala) |
| <i>Week of September 26, 2010:</i> | <b>FTS:</b> Apples (Fuji, Jonathan, Red delicious)                                       |
| <i>Week of October 10, 2010:</i>   | <b>FTS:</b> Apples (Rome, Golden delicious,) Kennebec potatoes, romaine lettuce          |
| <i>Week of October 31, 2010:</i>   | <b>FTS:</b> Broccoli crowns, sweet potatoes, cabbage (red, green), Rome apples           |
| <i>Week of November 14, 2010:</i>  | <b>FTS:</b> Apples (Pink Lady, Jonagold)                                                 |
| <i>Week of December 5, 2010:</i>   | <b>FTS:</b> Broccoli, sweet potatoes, cabbage (red & green) and apple (pink ladies)      |
| <i>Week of January 9, 2011:</i>    | <b>FTS:</b> Apple slices, sweet potatoes                                                 |
| <i>Week of February 6, 2011:</i>   | <b>FTS:</b> Apple slices, sweet potatoes                                                 |
| <i>Week of March 6, 2011:</i>      | <b>FTS:</b> Apple slices, sweet potatoes                                                 |
| <i>Week of April 3, 2011:</i>      | <b>FTS:</b> Sweet Potato Chunks                                                          |
| <i>Week of May 1, 2011:</i>        | <b>FTS:</b> Strawberries, Romaine lettuce                                                |
| <i>Week of May 15, 2011:</i>       | <b>FTS:</b> Strawberries, squash, zucchini                                               |
| <i>Week of May 22, 2011:</i>       | <b>FTS:</b> Strawberries, blueberries                                                    |



~~~~~

USDA COMMODITY FOODS NEWS

THE 12% FACTOR

Many CND's may have wondered why we notified you in April that you had been given more entitlement money for the 2010-11 year. I am sure you had thought you had spent all your money. Well due to Section 6 of the National School Lunch Act it requires that at least 12% of the total assistance provided through the NSLP be in the form of commodities. When commodity

purchases fall under the 12% requirement, USDA is required to purchase additional commodities to make up the difference. USDA is projected to miss the 12% mark by about \$150 million. So USDA has increased your per meal rate from .1950 to .2250 for the 2010 -11 school year. Please choose products wisely, and utilize products by incorporating into menus. Keep a close check on commodity inventory and pack dates. USDA Commodity products are “money in the bank” and off-set your food costs.

USDA COMMUNICATION INITIATIVE

USDA has worked incessantly to make improvements in its foods over the last two decades. Despite those efforts, many are still unaware of the changes and incorrectly believe that USDA Foods are inferior and unhealthy. FNS launched an initiative to improve the image of and increase the use of USDA Foods, especially in the school meals program. To intensify and expand upon these efforts, FNS contracted with a public relations firm to help reposition/rebrand the USDA Foods Program and promote public awareness of the contributions these foods provide, conduct focus testing to explore the public’s reaction to existing materials and messages, and develop a two-year communications plan to reach our target audiences. USDA will continue to offer healthful foods and remains committed to providing high-quality, safe, nutritious products manufactured to standards that are equal to, or better than, their commercial counterparts. The NSLP will serve as the platform from which to begin communicating these USDA values its partnership with school nutrition professionals. We encourage schools to share with others the improvements that have been made to USDA Foods, and how they contribute to school meal programs. This will help dispel myths and negative perceptions about USDA Foods. We will be developing some new Program materials and resources as a result of the research-based findings learned from the focus groups.

For more information go to: <http://www.commodityfoods.usda.gov>



AMS GROUND BEEF PURCHASING PROGRAM CHANGES

USDA’s AMS announced it will make a number of improvements to the food safety requirements of its ground beef purchase program. These changes are based on recommendations from the Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS) and the ARS.

AMS will implement the five changes below for purchases in the upcoming 2010-2011 SY:

- AMS will now begin to formally take into account the food safety record of vendors' commercial sales.
- AMS will tighten its microbiological testing protocols.
- AMS will tighten its microbiological criteria for USDA purchased ground beef.
- AMS will increase its microbiological sampling frequency to every 15 minutes of production.
- AMS will institute additional requirements for source product used to manufacture USDA purchased ground beef.

Together these five Program changes, as well as continuous reviews, will ensure that the vendors supplying USDA ground beef are not only outstanding firms, but that the product AMS is purchasing is as safe and high quality as any commercially available.

Additional information about these changes can be found at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSV1.0/CPFoodSafety>.

For more information go to: <http://www.commodityfoods.usda.gov>

COMING SOON! Oven Roasted Chicken

In December 2009, State Distributing Agencies (SDAs) were notified about our plans to offer schools a healthier alternative product to replace the batter breaded chicken (A526). Well, the wait is almost over. We have found an excellent replacement product which is oven roasted chicken. This fully cooked chicken product has half the fat of the batter breaded product. Oven roasted chicken is versatile, and it can be prepared in numerous ways to be acceptable to



children. In fact, oven roasted chicken is extremely tasty and crispy. Also, this product is more in line with the recommendations found in the DGA and most recently the report from the Institute of Medicine (IOM) on the National School Lunch Program (NSLP). Presently, the specification for the oven roasted chicken is being finalized. Our goal is to develop a product that students will like which offers lower amounts of fat and sodium in the diet. The target date for delivery is late in School Year (SY) 2011. In the meantime, States and/or School Districts may wish to consider ordering the small bulk birds (A521) for reprocessing into a bone-in cooked product. We hope the oven roasted chicken will help schools to improve the nutrition profile of their menus, while providing a food that will be well liked and highly accepted by schoolchildren. The oven roasted chicken will be available for sampling from poultry suppliers at this year's School Nutrition Association 2010 Annual Nutrition Conference (SNA ANC) in Dallas, Texas in July. Stay tuned! You will have the opportunity to see first-hand just how appealing and appetizing this product is for your students. Please let us know if you have comments about this Program improvement.

For more information go to: <http://www.commodityfoods.usda.gov>



NCDA&CS **FOOD DISTRIBUTION DIVISION NEWS**

Who is that new voice?

Beginning June 3, 2010, we say so long to Sylvia Roberson who has served as receptionist at Food Distribution Division for 5 years. She is retiring and is looking forward to traveling, and doing just what she wants to, when she wants to.

The new voice on the phone and receptionist is Beth Cox. Although, a new voice for many, Beth has been working with Bob and Allison in Field Services for eighteen months. She is looking forward to serving as receptionist for the division and continuing her duties with Field Services.

New Western Region Field Representative

We all look forward to the goal Gail Weams reached at the end of January. We certainly wish her, Steve and Spooner well in her retirement.

We are pleased to welcome Beth Frith to the Food Distribution Division team. Beth has hit the ground running as hard as any Florida Seminole can.

Mrs. Frith comes to the NCDA&CS with a Bachelor of Science degree from Florida State University in Human Sciences with specialization in nutrition. She has 19 years related experience, 7 in secondary education, and 12 in agriculture. She has served the agricultural community as a buyer and sales representative of fruit juice concentrates for Florida's Natural, as a trainer of foodservice professionals on behalf of Florida's dairy farmers, and as Director of Education and Promotion for the Florida tomato growers' trade association.

She has begun administrative visits, administrative reviews, and technical assistance with recipient agencies in her territory. Should you need her assistance regarding USDA commodity foods (prior to her initial visit with your agency), her home office telephone number is: 828-768-1518, or you can email her at Beth.Frith@ncagr.gov.

Speaking of New



Congratulations go out to our Central Piedmont Field Representative Amie Shinn Aue and husband Rob on the birth of Roman-Julius Bertram Aue; born on January 25, 2010.

Amie has recently returned to work armed with cell phones and pacifiers

2010 Annual Got to Be NC Festival FDD Booth

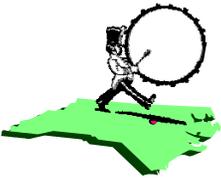
The Got to Be NC Festival was held May 21-23, 2010 at the State Fairgrounds in Raleigh. Food Distribution Division displayed along with the other fifteen divisions in Agriculture.

We proudly featured the SNA-NC trailer as the back-drop for our booth inside the Dorton Arena. We received many nice comments on the trailer from attendees. It was a great opportunity to promote the School Lunch & School Breakfast Programs as well as our Farm to School Program.



Year End 209 Report Reminder

Just a reminder to go to our website www.ncagr.gov/fooddist/ to print out your year end (June 30, 2010) 209 Report. This is the 209 Report you will need for your auditors as they prepare your A-133 audit for the 2009-2010 School Year.



2010 MARCH ACROSS CAROLINA

Note a location change for Raleigh

It is not too early to mark your calendars for the upcoming March Across Carolina. We will be marching from Raleigh to Hickory. Come hungry!
See schedule below:

Wednesday, November 3, 2010 –Location Raleigh Convention Center, Raleigh, NC
Thursday, November 4, 2010 - Hickory Metro Convention Center, Hickory, NC

Sign in at each location will be 8:30 – 9:00
USDA training 9:00 – 10:00
Processing food show 10:00-2:00

We hope to see you there!

Call Bob Sitton or Allison Medlin with questions.



SNA - NC ANNUAL CONFERENCE

I hope all of you will be able to attend the upcoming School Nutrition Association of North Carolina’s Annual Conference at the Sheraton Four Seasons in Greensboro on June 14 - 17, 2010. Our division will be participating in the New Horizons Trade Show. I would ask that you stop by and visit with us for a while as you visit with all the vendors and please take time to register at our booth for a few prizes. We will be giving away a basket of NC goodies and a replica of our Food Distribution trucks. The winners will be announced on Thursday at the Second General Session. Thursday morning we will have two mini sessions on Net Off Invoice. The first session starting at 8:30 a.m. will feature the K12 Group showing how their system works in helping track USDA foods that are processed using NOI. The 11:00 a.m. breakout slot we will have Processor Link showing

how their system tracks USDA foods processed using NOI. We have had a lot of questions about NOI and this would be a good time to attend these sessions and get your answers. We are very pleased to have NC Commissioner of Agriculture Steve Troxler speaking to us in the Second General Session. As always it will be a great conference. We look forward to seeing you there!



New Child Nutrition Administrators

Join us in welcoming these new CN Administrators to their new positions. We extend a warm welcome and look forward to working with them.

Kathy Oakley, Interim Child Nutrition Director, Alamance County Schools
Rachel Findley, Child Nutrition Director, Johnston County Schools
Tilwanda Lucas, Child Nutrition Director, Onslow County Schools



ACRONYM LIST

- ACDA - American Commodity Distribution Association
- AMS - Agricultural Marketing Service
- ARS - Agriculture Research Service
- CND - Child Nutrition Division
- DoD - Department of Defense
- ECOS - The Electronic Commodity Ordering System
- FDA - Food and Drug Administration
- FDD - Food Distribution Division
- FNS - Food and Nutrition Service
- FFAVORS - Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Ordering and Receipt System
- FSIS - Food Safety and Inspection Service
- NOI - Net Off Invoice
- SDA - State Distributing Agency
- SNA - School Nutrition Association
- SY - School Year
- USDA - United States Department of Agriculture



Steve Troxler Commissioner of Agriculture
Gary W. Gay Director of Food Distribution
Bob Sitton.....Editor/Administrator for Field Services
Allison MedlinPublisher

In Good Taste is published by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
Food Distribution Division, 2582 West Lyon Station Road, Creedmoor, NC 27522

Send any changes or comments to:
North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services – Food Distribution Division
P. O. Box 659, Butner, NC 27509-0659

Published 5/28/10

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age or disability.

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 or (202) 720-6382 (TTY). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

