

## SAVE THE DATE

The third annual  
CONNECTICUT SCHOOL  
BREAKFAST SUMMIT  
will be held on Tuesday,  
November 4, 2014  
Aqua Turf, Plantsville CT

**Director Update:** The beginning of this school year has been a challenge due to several cancellations of USDA Foods. We have cancelled and reduced quantities of several items including, turkey, beef, fruit, and just recently potatoes. Make sure to read any WBSCM emails you receive. The USDA Foods Show and Training will be held on, March 5, 2015 at the Aqua Turf in Plantsville, CT. Stay tuned for more information.

**High Protein Yogurt Pilot:** USDA approved CTs request to participate in the High Protein Yogurt pilot for SY 14/15. We have been working with a small group of SFAs to determine if this commodity is a good fit for CT SFAs due to the short shelf life. We will keep you posted on the progress.

**USDA Fresh Unprocessed Produce Pilot:** FDP is applying to participate in a pilot program that will enable Connecticut School Food Authorities to utilize some or all of the USDA Foods dollars to purchase unprocessed produce products. The goal of the pilot is to develop additional opportunities for schools to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables and supporting locally grown foods in school meals. Eight states will be selected for the pilot program nationwide with at least one from the northeast region. USDA will announce the approved states in mid November.

**USDA Foods Reimbursement Rate for SY 14/15:** You may have noticed in July, you received more entitlement for SY2014-2015 as a result of three actions. First, USDA released the new meal reimbursement rate to start the school year to .2925 up from .2775 last year. Second, we had to cancel orders for several USDA food items. Third, due to an increase in the dollars needed to meet the 12% provision .0119 cents per lunch has been added to entitlement to reach an unprecedented effective rate of .3044 cents!

**The Swap Post:** No more waiting until the Sysco Allocation Report to find out how many cases you requested were really transferred to your district!

There's a report on the Market Place entitled "Swap Post Redistribution Report"

This report will be updated by the 5th and 15th of every month with the items that were approved and transferred to all requesting districts.

We have several USDA Foods posted on the Swap Post for SY 13/14 and some are new USDA Foods that we've never offered before. Please go to the website to see what's available and follow the instructions for requesting Swap Post Items.

The Swap Post is on the Food Distribution Website: [http://das.ct.gov/FedFood/News/SwapPost/WECAFS\\_SwapPost.asp](http://das.ct.gov/FedFood/News/SwapPost/WECAFS_SwapPost.asp)

The Swap Post Rules: <http://das.ct.gov/FedFood/News/SwapPost/SwapPostRules.doc>

**Processing: The Summary End Product Data Schedules for SY 2014/15 are available! Check 'em out on the Marketplace under "Processing"**

In addition there is procurement guidance material, processors contact info and the value pass through they are approved for. If you need end product pricing information, you need to contact the processor or broker directly. In November 2004, the USDA eliminated pricing information on the End Product Data Schedules (EPDS), "Because the pricing information on EPDS is misleading. Many Recipients believe that the State has sought competitive pricing in compliance with procurement regulations, when in reality, the processing agreement and instructions state the pricing represents the maximum amount a processor could charge. Not understanding this, many recipients could determine that processing donated foods is prohibitively expensive." To read the USDA Policy Memo in it's entirety, click on [http://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/pmfd038\\_SP-EPDS-PricingInfo.pdf](http://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/pmfd038_SP-EPDS-PricingInfo.pdf)

**American Commodity Distribution Association (ACDA) Recipient Agency Processing Handbook:** The ACDA Processing Committee developed the handbook to be a “one-stop” commodity procurement resource for school districts and other recipient agencies. The handbook is updated annually to keep the information current: [http://das.ct.gov/images/1090/RA\\_Handbook2013.pdf](http://das.ct.gov/images/1090/RA_Handbook2013.pdf)

**Important Reminder regarding Net Off Invoice:** If you are participating in Net Off Invoice (NOI) please remember, sales verification is required by the federal government.

**Rebates:** Federal regulation 250.30 states, refund applications shall be submitted within 30 days from the end of the purchase month.

**Carryover Balances at the Processor:** On November 30th, carryover balances at the processors will be transferred from the schools’ accounts to the state’s name and the commodity will be made available to all schools. Schools should reference USDA policy (FD-040, January 12, 2005: Commodity Inventory Reduction at Further Processors: [http://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/pmf040\\_SP-FurtherProcessorsInventory.pdf](http://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/pmf040_SP-FurtherProcessorsInventory.pdf) for when inventory draw down occurs in relation to the different value pass through methods. Since there may be a delay in inventory draw down at the processor end, please keep this in mind when reviewing inventory balances.

**Department of Defense (DoD) Program:** \$3.2 million has been allocated to the DoD Program with 93 school districts participating for SY 15.

As a reminder, FDP will assess the monthly entitlement expenditures for all participating districts. For districts with little or no entitlement dollar expenditure, FDP will, without warning, re-allocate available entitlement dollars to other participating school districts.

AT Siravo is the DoD contracted vendor. Make sure to check shipments when they arrive, and always look for the country of origin on the cases. The produce you receive should be from America. The FFAVORS catalog has a new feature, “State of Origin” indicates the state the produce was grown and “Local” is identified in the description.

**ALL USDA FOODS SHOULD BE OUT OF SYSCO BY JUNE 30, 2014:** The FDP Office recommends school districts receive all USDA Foods in the school year they are ordered. USDA Foods left in the warehouse over the summer may be forfeited by the school district and will be subject to storage fees.

**Contracting with a Food Service Management Company (FSMC) - Crediting for the Value of Commodities Received:** Food Service Management Companies shall use the following when crediting school districts for the value of USDA Foods (formerly known as commodities). We have tried to make your jobs a little easier. The Shipping and Billing Reports on the Market Place website are now showing the Nov. 15th file price. No more additional calculations, just provide the Shipping and Billing Report to the district! School districts shall use this information to verify they are receiving the proper credits for the value of USDA Foods received.

Below are links to the USDA November 15th file. This shall be used when providing the district with the USDA Foods purchase prices for SY 14 for crediting for the value of USDA Foods received. The cheese pricing discounts for Rebates/Fee For Service or Net Off Invoice may be different than the USDA purchase price for the cheese. Both values shall be considered, the USDA purchase price, which you will find on the Nov 15th file, and the FNS Cheese Pricing for SY 14 for USDA Foods processing discounts for the value of USDA Foods.

**USDA Foods File Report for SY 15:** [http://das.ct.gov/images/1090/SY14\\_15\\_Novemeber\\_15\\_file.pdf](http://das.ct.gov/images/1090/SY14_15_Novemeber_15_file.pdf)

If a portion of the commodity dollars have been allocated to the DoD Program, the value of the produce at time of purchase by DoD is to be credited to the district.

**WBSCM Manual:** USDA has made some slight changes to the WBSCM login screen and the WBSCM website. You probably won’t need the new manual, but we have a revised version just in case you need it. The Web Supply Chain Management (WBSCM) Manual is available on-line: <http://das.ct.gov/FedFood/Home/FINAL%20WBSCM%20RA%20Manual%20Sept%2020%202012.ppt>