



Bulletin

www.fns.usda.gov/fdd/focus/focus-bulletins.htm

October 15, 2004

VOL. 2004 NO. 416 ♦ USDA Food Ordering & Customer Service (FOCUS) Team Update

Commodity Updates for Schools

The following summarizes some of the recent events surrounding the National School Lunch Program commodities as of October 14, 2004:

Fruit and Vegetables: We have completed invitations for the last set of entitlement fruits and vegetables. Many are working on bonus orders for sweet potatoes. We currently have surveys out for fresh, canned, and frozen Sweet Potatoes with orders being due on October 22, 2004. We have been notified of delays in shipment and weather related problems for a number of sweet potatoes and tomato products delivery orders.

Livestock: Some of the pouch salmon lots did not meet USDA requirements and await a re-inspection. As soon as we get more information regarding delivery schedules, we will notify those states affected. We are experiencing a lack of adequate suppliers for all of the Cooked Pork commodities and the Catfish Strips but expect this to be resolved soon.

Poultry: We are still slightly behind on turkey roast and almost caught up with the Turkey Breast Deli and Smoked as well as the Turkey Hams. With the chicken products, we are still behind schedule with the bulk, both small and large. The Egg mix survey was re-opened to close 15 October in hopes of gaining more orders and increase chances of product getting awarded. The cut up chicken is still slightly behind schedule but the breaded chicken is just about on target.