



May 13, 2004

**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

**Food and
Nutrition
Service**

**3101 Park
Center Drive**

**Alexandria, VA
22302-1500**

The National Processing Pilot Program has been extended for School year 2004-2005. Under this pilot program, processors are permitted to sell approved end products to eligible recipient agencies nationwide under a single national processing agreement. State agencies are encouraged to take advantage of the benefits of national processing which establish the contractual requirements for processing donated foods.

USDA will sign letters of extension with processors extending the national processing agreements currently in force.

Processors Selling Fruit Products

ConAgra Foods Lamb-Weston Hand Held Food Group
Horizon Snack Foods
Wawona Frozen Foods

Processors Selling Egg Products

Michael Foods
Sunny Fresh Foods

Processors Selling Nonfat Dry Milk Products

General Mills Bakeries and Food Service
Upstate Farms Cooperatives, Inc.

Attached is a description of the participant responsibilities describing how the program functions. The companies involved with national processing and the ACDA Processing Committee have developed prototype forms to facilitate the national processing program. USDA has reviewed the prototype State Participation Agreement and Summary End Product Schedule and finds these acceptable and appropriate to facilitate communications between states and processors.

We are committed to working with states and processors to remove barriers that prevent NPA from being the contract of choice. For more information about this pilot program and how it works, please contact David Brothers at (703) 305 – 2668 or e-mail him at: David.Brothers@fns.usda.gov.

Cathie McCullough
Director
Food Distribution Division

Attachment