

HDR1010500220000203001100KCCO EXPORT - NOTICE TO THE TRADE
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SUBJECT: Micronutrient Testing of Fortified Commodities

This is to advise that the new deadline for compliance with Vitamin A and iron requirements is February 8, 2000. All commodities procured on or after this date must meet the applicable micronutrient standards as outlined in the respective purchase announcement or Notice to the Trade. This applies to all fortified dry cereal commodities offered for export which have micronutrient testing requirements.

EXCEPTION: Bulgur products will need to ensure compliance by July 1, 2000.

REQUIREMENTS: The minimum analytical requirements have been amended as follows:

Commodity	Vitamin A (IU/lb)	Iron (mg/100g)
Corn-soy blend	8400	14.7
Wheat soy blend	8400	14.7
Wheat flour*	T..8800..T	not tested
Cornmeal*	T..8800..T	not tested
Bulgur*	T..8800..T	not tested
Sorghum Grits*	T..8800..T	not tested

*Includes all fortified commodities in this category.

This amendment reflects a lowering of the minimum requirement for all commodities except CSB and WSB. The new requirement is 80% of a target level of 11,000 IU/lb of Vitamin A.

BACKGROUND: Effective October 1, 1999, all cereal-based fortified commodities were to begin testing for Vitamin A; corn-soy blend and wheat-soy blend were to also begin testing for iron. January 1, 2000, was the deadline for full implementation of this requirement; however, after receiving information from the vendors indicating possible problems with meeting these requirements, this deadline was temporarily suspended to allow time for further discussion and compliance efforts. After evaluation of the problems and discussions with the Agency for International Development, the requirement is being reinstated effective February 8, 2000 (bulgur by July 1).

All vendors will be required to maintain records verifying each lot's compliance with the Vitamin A and iron requirements. Records must include analysis of the final product for Vitamin A and iron (as applicable). Laboratory testing must be conducted by an independent, private laboratory capable of performing the tests according to Association of Official Analytical Chemists approved methods. Records will be reviewed during Total Quality Systems Audits and may also be requested by the Kansas City Commodity Office contracting officer at any time. Commodity Credit Corporation reserves the right to conduct random sampling and testing of final product to ensure compliance with all product specifications.

Please direct questions or concerns to:

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