



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

December 27, 2001

EOD-103

Farm and Foreign  
Agricultural Services

Farm Service  
Agency

Kansas City  
Commodity Office  
P.O. Box 419205  
Kansas City,  
Missouri  
64141-6205

## NOTICE TO THE TRADE

### **TO: All Suppliers of Vegetable Oil for Use in Export Programs**

This notification rescinds "Notice To The Trade" EOD-97 dated November 1, 2001. Until further notice, either a No. 610 or No. 603 4-liter capacity can may be used to satisfy purchase contracts for vegetable oil under foreign food assistance programs administered by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). However, only one can size may be used per contract.

It has been determined that additional information and review are needed before a decision is made regarding vegetable oil containers to be used in foreign feeding programs. Program recipients have indicated that our current practice of having two can sizes and thus two box sizes creates problems with stacking and storage in the host countries. This is one of several problems our customers have experienced with the 4-liter vegetable oil tins. Therefore, we are looking for possible solutions.

We recognize that moving to one can size could have an economic impact on vendors as well as can manufacturers and we are soliciting comments and/or any available data from all interested parties on the following issues:

- I. Advantages or disadvantages of the 603 and 610 can.
- II. Economic impact to vendors and suppliers of mandating one or the other can size.
- III. Possible alternatives to mandating one can size.
- IV. Any other issues or information which vendors, can manufacturers, suppliers or other interested parties want to provide.

We ask that you submit comments or information on the above issues no later than January 10, 2002, to:

Office of the Director  
Kansas City Commodity Office  
P.O. Box 419205  
Kansas City, MO 64141-6205

In the meantime, we will work with program recipients to determine the extent of the problems that arise due to the use of two can sizes so that we can ensure that any action taken will alleviate problems in-country.

After soliciting comments and information from program recipients, we plan to schedule a meeting in late January so additional discussion can take place regarding the above issues as well as any other issues that are raised. Please advise if you wish to be notified of this meeting time and date. If further information is needed, you may contact me at 816-926-6301 or email [gwaldaya@kcc.usda.gov](mailto:gwaldaya@kcc.usda.gov).

George W. Aldaya  
Director