

FD-101

Food Distribution 101

USDA United States Department of Agriculture
Food and Nutrition Service



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FOOD DISTRIBUTION DIVISION**

Alexandria, VA May 6-8, 2008

Our Purpose...



To provide high
quality food to school
kids and needy
families



- ✓ **Over \$1 billion in commodity foods provided through our programs each year**

Who Are Our Recipients?

- ❖ **School kids**
- ❖ **Food banks**
- ❖ **Soup kitchens**
- ❖ **The elderly**
- ❖ **Indian reservations**

Participating in the:

- **National School Lunch Prgm.**
- **The Emergency Food Assistance Prgm.**
- **The Commodity Supplemental Food Prgm.**
- **Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations**



We have image issues...



- ✘ Commodities are perceived by some as a dumping ground for agricultural surpluses**
- ✘ Some blame commodities for contributing to the obesity epidemic**



Its time to fight back!

Commercial Labels



- **Improve the perception of quality**
- **Responds to customer preferences**
- **Commodities are all commercial label except for:**
 - **Dried egg mix**
 - **Canned beef & pork**
 - **Most fruits and vegetables**



New Commodity Labels for F&Vs



- ✓ Commercial-like
- ✓ Photographs
- ✓ 4 Color

- ✓ Glossy Paper
- ✓ “America’s Finest” Branding

Healthy Improvements



Products are continually reviewed to ensure each supports “*Dietary Guidelines...*”

- ✓ **Increasing whole grains**
- ✓ **Reducing fat, sugar, sodium**





USDA COMMODITIES

HEALTHY CHOICES • AMERICAN GROWN

THE COMMODITY CONNECTION



- Food And Nutrition Service (FNS)
- Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS)
- Farm Service Agency (FSA)
- Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS)

AGENCY FUNCTIONS



- FNS/FDD administers USDA's commodity programs
- FDD works with AMS/FSA to plan annual commodity purchases based on:
 - Amount of \$\$ available by program
 - Market conditions
- FSIS protects consumers:
 - meat, poultry, and egg products
 - safe, wholesome, accurately labeled





Organization

**Secretary of
USDA**

FNS

AMS

FSA

FSIS



THE PROCESS



- FNS works directly with State/local agencies to obtain & place food orders in accordance with authorized spending levels;
- Coordinates efforts with AMS/FSA, who handle:
 - Competitive vendor bids
 - Contract awards
 - Ensure delivery of purchases
- Food Safety Inspection Service ensures meat and poultry product safety.



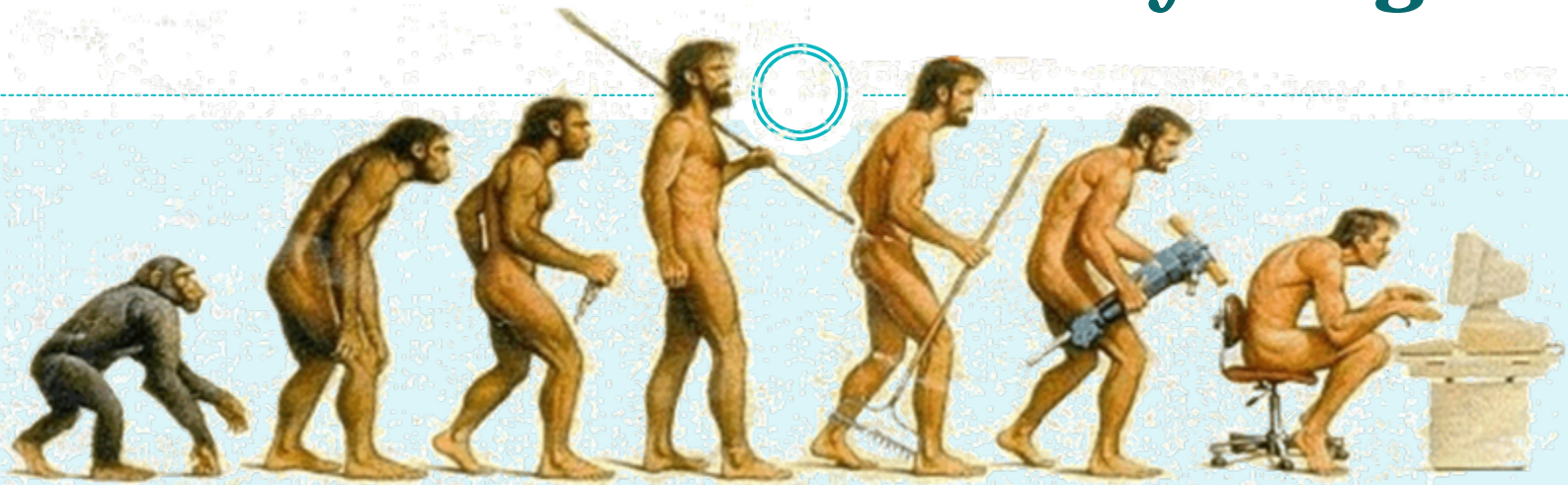
PURCHASES



- Over 180 commodity foods
- Many foods are purchased in ready-to-use form, but some are purchased in bulk quantities and further processed
- All products are not available in all programs



The Evolution of Commodity Programs



- From “dumping” to demand driven
- From paper and redundant layers to centralized and automated (ECOS)
- From USDA labels and spec’s to commercial
- From storage to just-in-time delivery



FOOD DISTRIBUTION VISION

USDA Commodity Programs that are successful in supporting U.S. Agriculture and efficiently providing high quality nutritious food to school kids and families in need.

Food Distribution Goals

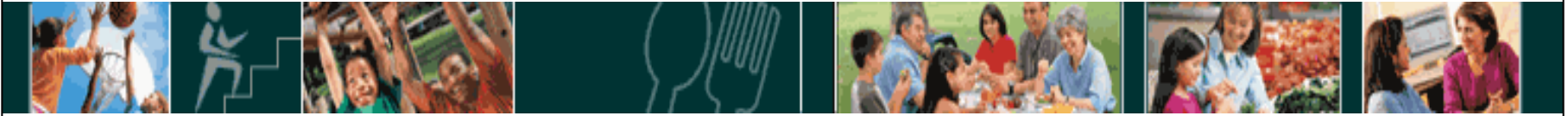


- Standardize, automate, and streamline
- Align USDA foods with Dietary Guidelines
- Enhance food safety controls (FSU) and communications (FDD)
- Update Reg's
- Improve accountability for commodity processing & NPA

Food Distribution Goals



- Promote best practices & efficiencies in ordering, administration, distribution and delivery
- Maximize training/info sharing opportunities
- Improve the image of USDA foods



Thank you
for all you do!