



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

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Farm and Foreign  
Agricultural  
Services

Farm Service  
Agency

Kansas City  
Commodity Office  
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Kansas City,  
Missouri  
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## NOTICE TO THE TRADE

### PURCHASE OF VEGETABLE OIL PRODUCTS FOR USE IN EXPORT PROGRAMS ALTERNATIVE PACKAGING PILOT PROGRAM

The Farm Service Agency (FSA), Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC), will implement an Alternative Packaging Pilot Program for 6/4 liter units of vegetable oil beginning May 2001.

The pilot program will require the purchase of a specified quantity of vegetable oil packed in the 6/4-liter cans as follows:

1. the current 4-liter can, using a non-removable permanent "plug" designed to contain the oil and provide tamper-evidence, and
2. the current 4-liter can, doubled seamed with a solid lid.

The 6/4-liter can specifications, as stated in Section 3.2 "4-Liter Cylindrical-Style Cans" of Announcement VO7, will apply to this pilot program. Section 3.3 "Flexible Spout Closures" of Announcement VO7 will apply only to a portion of the program. Shipping containers must meet specifications as stated in Section 3.5 (A) and (B) "Shipping Containers for Oblong and Cylindrical-Style Cans" of Announcement VO7. Additionally, the shipping containers must be oil resistant and assembled in a manner preventing failure of the fiberboard or closure due to multiple handlings or contact with vegetable oil.

In order to participate in the pilot program, interested parties must submit a detailed description of their alternative packaging systems, including costs, to FSA in Washington, DC for approval. The alternative packaging information should be submitted no later than one week after the release date of this notice to James Riva, FSA, PDD, CMB, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Stop 0551, Room 5754 S, Washington, D.C. 20250-0551, Phone (202) 720-3774, Fax (202) 690-1809.

Upon completion of the Pilot Program, FSA will prepare a detailed post-production report. This report will include, but is not limited to, product performance, damage assessments, feedback from private voluntary organizations, alternative packaging specifications, total cost of the project, cost comparisons of current and alternative packaging, and a completed project analysis. Recommendations concerning the future use of alternative packaging for vegetable oil will also be provided in the report.

George Aldaya  
Director

