

Working Together to Deliver Whole Grain Foods to Schools and Foodservice Customers

Whole Grains Summit- Wednesday, June 24, 2015

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- 1. History of USDA NSLP Whole Grain Regulations
- 2. HHFK Act Industry Impact & Challenges
- 3. Creditable Whole Grains Solutions for Schools
- 4. Next Frontier of Whole Grains in the NSLP



USDA School Lunch Program Whole Grain Regulations

2012- Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act Implemented in Schools

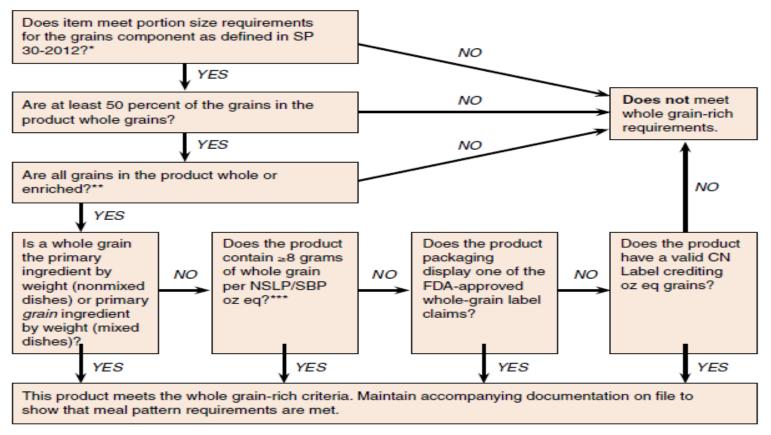
- Ounce Equivalent Standards for Crediting Grain Products:
 - Baked Goods: 16 gm of Creditable Grain Ingredients = 1 oz EQ Credit
 - > Cereal Grains: 28 gm (1 oz by weight) dry or ½ C Cooked Cereal, Pasta, Rice = 1 oz EQ Credit
 - Ready to Eat Cereal: 28 GM or 1.0 oz Product = 1 oz EQ Credit
- Whole Grain Rich Criteria:
 - > Food must meet the oz EQ requirements for a grain component AND
 - Must have a flour content that is at least 50% Whole Grain (51% is the rule of thumb)
- In School Years 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 50% of the Grain EQ offer had to be whole grain rich.
- In School Year 2014-2015 the requirement increased to 100% of the Grain EQ offer.
- In School Year 2014-2015, all a la carte grain based items had to be whole grain rich.



Determining if a Grain Product is Whole Grain Rich

There are many foods labeled as whole grain, such as pizza crusts, buns, breads, tortillas, and other products. The chart below will assist you in determining if your whole-grain product meets the criteria.

Does My Product Meet the Whole Grain-Rich Criteria?

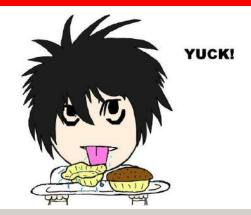


Source: fns.usda.gov; Whole Grain Resource



Unintended Consequences

- Rush to Market without proper time for culinary development & sensory testing.
 - Items with the greatest pushback are pasta, biscuits, and tortillas.
 - 10% decrease in school meal participation in 'SY 2012-2013
- Some companies did not convert until much later in 2 year conversion process and lost market share.
- Massive shortages in SY'14-15 school opening because of shrinking pool of products.
- Waiver process introduced in SY'14-15 and new proposed legislation did not define a solution.



"I'd rather eat cardboard."

-Anonymous Overly Dramatic Six Year Old



Solutions Through Industry Partnership- Rich Foods





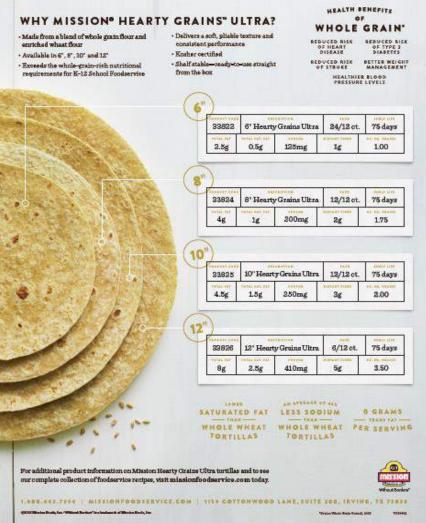






Solutions Through Industry Partnership- Mission Foods







Solutions Through Industry Partnership- ConAgra





The Next Frontier- Indian Harvest & Intact Whole Grains







