

Appendix

Producers/Vendors of Local Foods

Below is a list of farmers, ranchers, processors, bakers and other food producers who are participants in the Idaho Department of Agriculture's Idaho Preferred® program and may be interested in working with schools to make local products available. This list is not all-inclusive and there may well be many more companies in Idaho who have products that meet school foodservice needs.

Some of these companies are large and distribute through traditional foodservice or produce distributors, while others are small and may self-distribute or partner with other smaller producers on distribution. An attempt has been made to identify distribution methods, but this information may change frequently. It is recommended that schools interested in these products contact the company directly to discuss availability and distribution options.

Breads and Tortillas:

Alpicella Bakery

Dan Perata
2903 W. Idaho
Boise, ID 83702
208-387-0020

djperata@alpicellabakery.com
www.alpicellabakery.com

IdahoPreferred® Products:
Authentic sourdough family style
white, and whole wheat sliced
breads

Distribution: Self delivered,
delivered by Oroweat,
sold at many retail grocers and
Costco

Casa Valdez, Inc.

Linda or Joe Romero
502 E. Chicago St.
Caldwell, ID 83605
208-459-6461

Linda@casavaldez.com
www.casavaldez.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Variety
of tortilla products including corn,
flour, whole wheat tortillas and
chips

Distribution: Sold at most retail
grocery stores throughout southern
Idaho

Fresca Mexican Foods LLC

Richard A. Kay
11193 Emerald
Boise, ID 83713

frescamexfoods@qwest.net

Idaho Preferred® Products: Whole
Wheat and other flavored flour and
corn tortillas and chips

Distribution: Food Services of
America; Sysco Idaho

Harvest Classic Bakery

Steve or Mary Ann Adamson
914 Park Centre Lane
Nampa, ID 83521
208-467-9900

sadamson@classicbread.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Whole
wheat hamburger and hot dog
buns, whole wheat breads and
many varieties of gourmet breads
and rolls

Distribution: Direct delivery in
southern Idaho and available at
select local retail grocery stores

Zeppole Baking Co.

Charles Alpers
983 E. Parkcenter Blvd.
Boise, ID 83706
208-338-1499

charles@zeppolebakery.com;
www.zeppolebakingco.com

Idaho Preferred® Products:
Pumpkin bread, banana bread, 983
coffee cake, specialty breads

Distribution: Sysco Idaho, Direct
delivery in limited southwestern
Idaho

Powers, Inc.

ra Powers
810 Ball Ave.
Parma, ID 83660
208-722-7472

powers@widaho.com

Idaho Preferred® Products:
Homemade bread and honey

Distribution: Sold at Farmers'
Markets

Dairy Products:

Ballard Family Dairy & Cheese

Stacie or Steve Ballard
1764 South 2100
Gooding, ID 83330
208-934-4972

ballardcheese4u@yahoo.com
www.ballardcheese.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Cheese curds, cheddar cheese varieties

Distribution: Call for details

Cloverleaf Creamery

Donna or Bill Stoltzfus
205 Broadway S.
Buhl, ID 83316
208-543-4272

Idaho Preferred® Products: 2% and skim glass bottled milk, ice cream

Distribution: Call for details

Meadow Gold Dairies

Craig Lund
1301 W. Bannock St
Boise, ID 83702
208-343-3671

clund@meadowgold.com
www.meadowgold.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Milk, chocolate milk, ice cream mix, sour/whipping cream, cottage cheese

Distribution: Direct delivery – call for details

Organic Acres

Don or Renae Halverson
25 W. 325 Ln. N
Rupert, ID 83350
208-436-3496

donandrenae@gmail.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Organic milk (whole, 2%, 1%, and skim)

Distribution: Call for details

Reed's Dairy

Alan Reed
2660 West Broadway
Idaho Falls, ID 83402
208-522-0123

www.reedsdairy.com
areed@ida.net

Idaho Preferred® Products: Milk, chocolate milk, ice cream, cheese curds

Distribution: Call for details

Stoker Wholesale

Kelly Stoker
P.O. Box 1076
Burley, ID 83318
208-654-9831

stokersmilk@hotmail.com
www.stokersmilk.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Dairy Products

Distribution: Call for details

Fresh Fruits and Vegetables:

BeeHaven Farm

Paula Rice
2431 Moon Shadow Rd.
Bonners Ferry, ID 83805
208-267-3579

beehavenflowers@gmail.com
www.behavenflowers.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Specialty cut flowers, various vegetables

Distribution: On farm and select farmers' markets

Cabalo's Orchard and Gardens

Chan or Cathy Cabalo
2087 W. King Rd.
Kuna, ID 83634
208-922-2083

Nahc49@yahoo.com
www.cabalosorchard.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Apples, pears, prunes, peaches, lettuces, and other fresh produce available

Distribution: U-Pick and farm stand at location

Cherrystone Orchard

Allan Dimmick
1411 W. South Slope Rd
Emmett, ID 83617
208-376-2344

cherrystone@fmtd.com
www.applesandcherries.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Bing, Queen Ann and Lambert Cherries

Distribution: On-Farm, select farmers' markets and limited retail grocers

Clearwater Country Foods

Douglas & Judy Moser
1020 Berger Road
Genesee, ID 83832
208-285-1692

tdm@idahovandals.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Fresh frozen garbanzo beans

Distribution: Direct shipment, Costco

Fort Boise Produce

Tiffany Cruickshank
28519 Hwy 20-26
Parma, ID 83660
208-674-3200

tiffany@fortboise.com
www.fortboise.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Medium and jumbo yellow onions

Distribution: Retail Grocery, call for more details/options

Garrett Ranches Packing

Gary Garrett
23935 Homedale Rd.
Wilder, ID 83676
208-337-3133

garrettranches@heritagewifi.com
www.applestogo.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Apples, cherries, apricots, peaches, plums

Distribution: Grasmick Produce, limited direct delivery

H & H Farms

Timm and Janell Hathaway
4995 Brookside Ln
Boise, ID 83714
208-939-8397

hhfarm@uswest.net

Idaho Preferred® Products:
Greenhouse tomatoes, cucumbers
and peppers

Distribution: Select retail grocers
and direct delivery in limited area –
call for details

Henggeler Packing Company

Kelly Henggeler
6730 Elmore Rd.
Fruitland, ID 83619
208-452-4212

Idaho Preferred® Products: Apples,
peaches, apricots, cherries

Distribution: Grasmick Produce,
some direct delivery – call for
details

J.C. Watson Company

Nancy Carter
PO Box 300
Parma, ID 83660
208-722-5141

nancyc@soobrand.com
www.soobrand.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Yellow,
white and red onions

Distribution: Call for details

Kauffman Farm

Clark Kauffman
3791 N 2100 E
Filer, ID 83328
208-326-4131

www.kauffmanfarm.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Sweet
Corn, squash, tomatoes, pumpkins,
barley, barley soup

Distribution: Direct, Sheppard
Produce

Kelley Orchard

1903 River Road
Filer, ID 83328
208-734-8518

canyonorchards@gmail.com

Idaho Preferred® Products:
Cherries, pears, plums, peaches,
apples, melons

Distribution: Farmers' Market, Farm
Stand, Sheppard Produce

Lakeview Vineyard LLC

Dave & Lesley Crawford
14377 Lewis Lane
Nampa, ID 83686
208-463-8352

Idaho Preferred® Products: Red
and green seedless table grapes.

Distribution: Call for details

Legacy Farms

Karen Forsythe
315 Saint Clair
Sandpoint, ID 83864
208-263-5145

legacy.farm@hotmail.com

Idaho Preferred® Products:
Blackberries, squash, beans,
melons, chutneys, pepper jellies.

Distribution: Call for details

Leon & Sally Overton

706 Northview Dr.
Twin Falls, ID 83301
208-734-4082

Idaho Preferred® Products:
Sweet corn, cucumbers, zucchini,
summer squash, tomatoes, green
beans, peppers, potatoes, carrots,
beets, lettuce. Vegetables grown
chemical-free.

Distribution: Farmers' Market, Farm
Stand - call for details

Liberty Tomato Company

Karen & Randy Reed
1462 West 200 South
Pingree, ID 83262
208-684-3702

libertytomato@gmail.com

Idaho Preferred® Products:
Tomatoes, fresh herbs

Distribution: Select retail – call for
details

M & M Heath Farms

Mike Heath
1008 E. 4100 N.
Buhl, ID 83316
208-543-4107

mmheath@organic.myrf.net

Idaho Preferred® Products:
Organic potatoes, organic winter
squash, organic dry beans

Distribution: Idaho's Bounty, select
retailers – call for details

Morning Owl Farm

7020 Pet Haven Ln.
Boise, ID 83716
208-850-6798

morningowl@cableone.net
www.morningowlfarm.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Free
range duck eggs, produce, turkeys

Distribution: CSA, Farm Stand,
Farmers' Market

Moyle Farms

480 N. Plummer Rd.
Star, ID 83669
208-286-7842

Mmoyle10@msn.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Sweet
corn, table grapes

Distribution: Grasmick Produce

Ontario Produce Company

Bob Komoto
PO Box 880
Ontario, OR 97914
541-889-6485

onions@fmtc.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Yellow,
white and red onions

Distribution: Call for details

Pierce Produce

5201 Stinger
Boise, ID 83703
208-367-1081

Idaho Preferred® Products:
Summer squash, winter squash,
melons, pumpkins

Distribution: Call for details

Preston Berry Farms

Annette Carpenter
660 South State St.
Preston, ID 83263
801-372-6878

prestonberryfarms@live.com
www.prestonberryfarms.com

Idaho Preferred® Products:
Raspberries

Distribution: On farm -call for details

Purple Sage Farms

Tim Sommer
11741 Bullock Lane
Middleton, ID 83644
208-585-6140

tsommer@mindspring.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Fresh herbs, edible flowers, specialty produce

Distribution: Direct to limited area, Foodservices of America

Rice Family Farms

Lee Rice
8830 South Meridian Rd.
Meridian, ID 83642
208-887-5685

masonck@msn.com
www.ricefamilyfarms.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Onions, tomatoes, squash, melons, sweet corn, lettuces, greens, potatoes, green beans, eggplant, peppers, cucumbers

Distribution: On-farm stand, Idaho's Bounty

Riley Creek Blueberry Farm

PO Box 162
Laclede, ID 83841
208-682-2258

urmann@wildblue.net
www.rileycreekblueberryfarm.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Fresh and frozen blueberries

Distribution: Call for details

Rocky Fence Vineyard, Inc.

Mike Medes
3770 Fuller Road
Emmett, ID 83617
208-365-1617

mmedes@rockyfence.com
www.rockyfence.com

Idaho Preferred® Products:
Organic seedless, red and green table grapes

Distribution: Limited direct delivery, call for details

Scott's Berry Farm

12750 Walker Lake Rd.
Caldwell, ID 83607
208- 278-3330

jdavis@heritagewifi.com
www.scottsberrymfarm.com

Idaho Preferred® Products:
Strawberries, raspberries, table grapes

Distribution: Call for details

Snake River Table Grape Association

John Davis
P.O. Box 190566
Boise, ID 83719
208-250-1336

jdavis@srtgga.org
www.srtgga.org

Idaho Preferred® Products: Many varieties of Idaho grown table grapes

Distribution: Call for details – may be available through Food Services of America

Star Vineyard

Bill or Annie Sargent
10287 West State Street
Star, ID 83669
208-286-7827

Idaho Preferred® Products: Red and green table grapes

Distribution: Call for details

Symms Fruit Ranch

Jim Mertz
14068 Sunny Slope Rd
Caldwell, ID 83607
208-459-4821

sfr@symmsfruit.com
www.symmsfruit.com

Idaho Preferred® Products:
Asparagus, Cherries, Apricots, Peaches, Nectarines, Plums, Pluots, Prunes, Pears, Grapes, Apples and Onions

Distribution: Grasmick Produce, Sheppard Produce, Sysco Idaho, Food Services of America

The Berry Ranch

7998 Highway 20-26
Nampa, ID 83687
208-365-6160

berries@theberryranch.com
www.theberryranch.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Wide variety of vegetables and berries, pumpkins

Distribution: On-Farm stand, limited direct delivery, Food Services of America

Vogel Farms

Debi Engelhardt-Vogel
9501 Robinson
Kuna, ID 83634
208-466-6928

vogelhogfarms@msn.com
www.vogelfarmscountrymarket.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Grass and grain fed pork, beef, chicken, turkey, eggs, seasonal veggies, bedding plants

Distribution: On-Farm stand - call for details

Wada Farms

Kevin Stanger
2155 Providence Way
Idaho Falls, ID 83404
208-542-2898

kevins@wadafarms.com
www.wadafarms.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Idaho Russet potatoes

Distribution: Grasmick Produce, retail outlets, call for additional options

Webster Ranch Natural Farms

Jennifer Swenson
50 Webster Ln.
Horseshoe Bend, ID 83629
208-793-3770

tjswenson@hughes.net

Idaho Preferred Products: Naturally grown vegetable starts and perennial bedding crops, poultry, salad greens, vegetables

Distribution: Call for details

Wissel Farms Inc.

Matthew Wissel
11085 Lake Lowell Ave
Nampa, ID 83686
208-467-1880

mawissel@msn.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Sweet corn, green beans, watermelon, pumpkins, winter squash

Distribution: FoodServices of America, direct delivery, on-farm stand

Meats:**A+ Ranch**

Mitch Lucero
1231 E. 1420 N.
Richfield, ID 83349
208-721-8034

mitchlucero@hotmail.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Certified organic farm-raised turkeys

Distribution: Call for details

Big Lost River Meats

410 Pine Street
Mackay, ID 83251
208-588-3085

Linhintze8@cs.com
www.blrmsausage.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Pork sausage, chicken sausage, beef dogs and salami, buffalo salami, bratwurst sausage

Distribution: Call for details

Black Canyon Elk Ranch

8611 Dewey Rd.
Emmett, ID 83617
208-365-5432

blackcanyonelk@msn.com
blackcanyonelk.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Elk sausage, burger, jerky, smoked roast

Distribution: Call for details

Blue Sage Farm

796 W. 520 N.
Shoshone, ID 83352
208-481-0590

sales@bluesagefarm.com
www.bluesagefarm.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Various cuts of lamb meat

Distribution: Call for details

CA Bull Elk Ranch

L. Gail Ansley
577 S. 2100 E.
Hazelton, ID 83335
208-404-9632

cabullelkranch.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Elk meat, pheasant meat

Distribution: Call for details

Clear Springs Foods

1500 East 4424 North
Buhl, ID 83316
800-635-8211

driffle@clearsprings.com
www.clearsprings.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Fresh dressed and boneless trout filets, breaded trout products

Distribution: Sysco of Idaho, limited direct deliver - call for more options

Fish Processors, Inc.

Leo Ray or Betty Clemmons
18374 Hwy. 30
Hagerman, ID 83332
208-837-6114

fpi@qwestoffice.net

Idaho Preferred® Products: Farm raised alligator, catfish, tilapia, caviar, and rainbow trout

Distribution: Call for details

Gem Meat Packing Company

Tyler Compton
515 East 45th St.
Boise, ID 83714
208-375-9424

@qwestoffice.net

Idaho Preferred® Products: Pork Tenders, Boneless Pork Loins, Gem Basque Brand Chorizo, Gem Old Fashioned Franks, Gem Salami, Gem Bologna, Boneless Hams, Basque Salami

Distribution: Limited direct delivery, Sysco of Idaho, retail grocers

Hardball Farms

PO Box 3093
Nampa, ID 83653
208-249-6439

Tom.goodwin@hardballfarms.com
www.hardballfarms.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: pork products including ribs, hams, country bacon

Distribution: Call for details

Homegrown Poultry

9904 Southside
Nampa, ID 83686
208-356-7676

homegrownpoultry@sitestar.net
www.homegrownpoultry.net

Idaho Preferred® Products: Poultry

Distribution: Call for details

Idaho Trout Company

Kay Hardy
1301 Vista Ave.
Boise, ID 83705
208-342-0090

gkaslo@rmci.net www.idahotrout.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Fresh and frozen Idaho farm raised Rainbow Trout

Distribution: Call for details

Independent Meat Co.

Dane Bourquin
 P.O. Box EE
 Twin Falls, ID 83303
 208-629-8604

daneb@fallsbrand.com
 www.fallsbrand.com
 www.salmoncreekfarms.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Fresh pork products, bacon, ham, sausages, smoked sausage, hot dogs

Distribution: Food Services of America, limited direct delivery, most retail grocers, Costco

Lava Lake & Livestock, LLC

215 N. Main St. Suite 204
 Hailey, ID 83333
 888-528-5253

Cheryl@lavalake.net
 www.lavalakelamb.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Gourmet and organic lamb, organic sausage

Distribution: Call for details

Meadowlark Farm

9904 Southside Blvd.
 Nampa, ID 83686
 208-376-2610

medowlrk@velocity.net
 www.meadowgold.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Natural lamb

Distribution: Call for details

Morning Owl Farm

7020 Pet Haven Ln.
 Boise, ID 83716
 208-850-6798

morningowl@cableone.net
 www.morningowlfarm.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Free range duck eggs, turkeys

Distribution: On-Farm stand, Farmers' Market, CSA

SeaPac of Idaho, Inc.

PO Box 546
 Buhl, ID 83316
 seapac@seapacofidaho.com
 208-456-0154

Idaho Preferred® Products: Trout jerky, salmon jerky, gift boxes, canned salmon and trout, fresh Cryovac

Distribution: Call for details

Simon Boers Chevron, LLC

Evelyn Simon
 882 East 2830 South
 Hagerman, ID 83332
 208-837-6523

simon_boers@q.com
 www.idahoboergoats.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: goat meat, USDA inspected; fresh or frozen, various cuts

Distribution: Call for details

Snake River Farms (AB Foods)

1555 Shoreline Dr.
 Boise, ID 83702
 208-338-2500

Terry.Reynolds@abfoodsusa.com
 www.snakeriverfarms.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: American Kobe beef, conventional beef, hot dogs, sausage

Distribution: Sysco of Idaho, some direct shipment – call for details

Vogel Farms

Debi Engelhardt-Vogel
 9501 Robinson
 Kuna, ID 83634
 208-466-6928

vogelhogfarms@msn.com
 www.vogelfarmscountrymarket.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Grass and grain fed pork, beef, chicken, turkey, eggs

Distribution: On-Farm stand - call for details

Webster Ranch Natural Farms

Jennifer Swenson
 50 Webster Ln.
 Horseshoe Bend, ID 83629
 208-793-3770

Idaho Preferred® Products: Poultry, salad greens, vegetables

Distribution: Call for details

Weiser River Signature Beef, LLC

Victor Ward
 P.O. Box 77
 Indian Valley, ID 83632
 208-256-4496

vlward@ctcweb.net

Idaho Preferred® Products: Fresh and frozen beef

Distribution: Direct Delivery – call for details

Winchester Land & Cattle Co, Inc.

29900 Hexon Rd.
 Parma, ID 83660
 208-462-3846

jack@winchesterbeef.com
 winchesterbeef.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Natural beef, all cuts

Distribution: Call for details

Wood River Natural Foods, LLC

Melinda Springs
 121 Punkin Center Rd.
 Bellevue, ID 83313
 208-788-8508

wrnfn@earthlink.net
 wrnaturalfoods.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Pork, lamb, beef, chicken, chicken eggs

Distribution: Idaho's Bounty, call for details

Miscellaneous Products:

Gorder Honey Company

Edward Gorder Jr.
7 North 580 West
Blackfoot, ID 83221
208-684-3896

gorderhoney@aol.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Honey
(clover, alfalfa, wildflower varieties)

Distribution: Retail store in
Blackfoot – call for details

Great American Appetizers

Kala Thompson
216 8th Street North
Nampa, ID 83687
208-465-5111

kala@appetizer.com
www.appetizer.com

Idaho Preferred® Products:
Quesadillas, breaded and battered
vegetables

Distribution: Call for details

LiteHouse, Inc.

Paul Kusche
1109 NO. Ella
Sandpoint, ID 83864
208-263-7469

pkusche@lighthouseinc.com
www.lighthousefoods.com

Idaho Preferred® Products: Salad
dressings and dip products

Distribution: Sysco of Idaho, most
major retail grocery stores

Pepper Fusion Products

Anna Baumhoff
5200 Sorrento Dr.
Boise, ID 83704
208-375-3720

www.peppersoyfusion.com
annabaumhoff@cableone.net

Idaho Preferred® Products: Red
Pepper Soy Sauce; Wasabi Ginger
Pepper Soy Sauce, Sweet-n-Sour
Pepper Soy Sauce

Distribution: Call for details

Rock's Natural Idaho Spring Water

Scott and Angie West
2608 Hwy. 21
Boise, ID 83716
208-343-3801

west@rockslodge.com
www.rockswater.net

Idaho Preferred® Products: 1 L,
.5 L, 1 gallon and 5 gallon jugs of
natural Idaho spring water bottled
at source

Distribution: Limited direct delivery,
Tri-City Meats

Snake River Seed, Inc.

PO Box 101
Rupert, ID 83350
208-245-2422

snakeriverseed@pmt.org

Idaho Preferred® Products: Golden
Flaxseed whole and ground

Distribution: Call for details

The Honey Store

Shilo Noyes
2330 Hwy 30 West
Fruitland, ID 83619
208-452-7035

honeystore@fmtc.com
www.thehoneystore.net

Idaho Preferred® Products: Honey

Distribution: On-Farm store

Zursun Idaho Heirloom Beans

James Soran
163 S. Park Ave. West
Twin Falls, ID 83301
208-877-2626

jimsoran@soranco.com
www.zursunbeans.com

Idaho Preferred® Products:
Heirloom beans and legumes

Distribution: Call for details

For the most recent information
on these companies and other
farmers and food producers who
may be interested in providing
local products to schools, go to
the Idaho State Department of
Agriculture's Idaho Preferred®
website at www.idahopreferred.com
and click on the "Find local
products" icon.



Idaho Product Ideas

- Tortillas (Fresca)
- Trout (Clear Springs)
- Potatoes
- Onions
- Milk
- Apples
- Fresh Fruit in season
- Breads (Harvest Classic)
- Beans
- Hot Dogs (Falls Brand or Gem Pack)

Distributors of Local Products

Southwest Idaho and Magic Valley Areas:

Grasmick Produce

Ray Dean Mount
Boise, ID
208-376-3981

FSA/Food Services of America

Les Jenkins and Kim Coey
Boise, ID
884-8438

S&G Produce

Keith DePew
Twin Falls, ID
208-733-3405

Sysco of Idaho

Keith Hahn
Boise, ID
345-9500

Central and Eastern Idaho

Sheppard Produce

Keith DePew
Twin Falls, ID
208-733-3405

FSA/Food Services of America - Idaho

Les Jenkins and Kim Coey
Boise, ID
884-8438

Sysco of Idaho

Keith Hahn
Boise, ID
345-9500

North Idaho*

Charlie's Produce

Larrie Gilbert
Spokane, WA
509-232-7129

Wenig Foods - Spokane

FSA Spokane

Sysco Spokane

*Limited offering



BID LOCAL

Local Farm Products Allowed in School Bids

Background

Since the 2002 Farm Bill, the Secretary of Agriculture has been required to encourage schools to purchase from local farmers. However, while schools could purchase from local producers, they could not specify "local", or a geographic preference, in their bid. For example, the bid could not specify "apples grown in New York."

With the passage of the 2008 Farm Bill, schools can now use a local preference in the bid language.

Specifically, "The Secretary shall allow schools to use a geographic preference for the procurement of unprocessed agricultural products, both locally grown and locally raised."

The 2008 Farm Bill also requires the Secretary to encourage schools to purchase unprocessed agricultural products "to the maximum extent practicable and appropriate."

What are the "unprocessed agricultural products"?

In the conference report, where legislators write the explanation of the bill, it states: "unprocessed" items **include**: items requiring some handling and preparation, such as, washed vegetables, bagged greens, butchered livestock and poultry, pasteurized milk, and eggs. **These items may be included in the bid.** Items that are sliced or chopped may be included at the discretion of the food service director.

What legislators intend to **exclude** are agricultural products that include additional non-local items. Only preservatives may be added to the local product. The Farm Bill language also allows for states to pass legislation encouraging the purchase of local products. States cannot mandate local purchasing.

The National Farm to School Network is a collaborative program of Center for Food & Justice (CFJ), a division of the Urban & Environmental Policy Institute at Occidental College and the Community Food Security Coalition (CFSC).

www.farmtoschool.org

For more information, or a copy of bill language, please contact Marion Kalb at marion@foodsecurity.org, or 505-474-5782.



10 Reasons to Eat Local Food

- 1 Eating local means more for the local economy.** According to a study by the New Economics Foundation in London, a dollar spent locally generates twice as much income for the local economy. When businesses are not owned locally, money leaves the community at every transaction.
- 2 Locally grown produce is fresher.** While produce that is purchased in a traditional supermarket or a big-box store has been in transit or cold-stored for days or weeks, produce that you purchase at your farmer's market or local grocery store has often been picked within 24 hours of your purchase. This freshness not only affects the taste of your food, but maximizes the nutritional value which declines with time.
- 3 Local food just plain tastes better.** Ever tried a red ripe tomato or fresh juicy peach that was picked within 24 hours? Enough said.
- 4 Locally grown fruits and vegetables have longer to ripen.** Because the produce will be handled less, locally grown fruit does not have to be harvested early to stand up to the rigors of shipping. This means that you will get peaches so ripe that they fall off the pit as you eat them and melons that are allowed to ripen on the vine until the last possible minute.
- 5 Eating local is better for air quality and pollution than eating organic.** In a March 2005 study by the journal Food Policy, it was found that the miles that organic food often travels to our plate uses more fossil fuel and creates a larger carbon footprint, outweighing the benefit of buying organic.
- 6 Buying local food keeps us in touch with the seasons.** By eating seasonal foods, we are enjoying foods when they are at their peak of flavor, are the most abundant, and often the least expensive.
- 7 Buying locally grown food is a wonderful story in your life.** Whether it's the farmer who brings local apples to market or the baker who makes local bread, knowing part of the story about your food is a powerful part of enjoying a meal.
- 8 Eating local minimizes bio-terrorism threats.** Food with less distance to travel from farm to plate has less susceptibility to harmful contamination.
- 9 Local food translates to more variety.** When a farmer is producing food that will not travel a long distance, will have a shorter shelf life, and does not have a high-yield demand, the farmer is free to try small crops of various fruits and vegetables that would probably never make it to a large supermarket. Supermarkets most often sell well-know varieties of fruits and vegetables such as: romaine lettuce, red delicious apples, russet potatoes. Local producers can experiment with new varieties, trying out Little Gem Lettuce, heirloom tomatoes, Senshu Apples, or Chieftain Potatoes.
- 10 Supporting local providers supports responsible land development.** When you buy local, you give those with local open space - farms and pastures - an economic reason to stay open and undeveloped.

Adapted from: www.eatlocalchallenge.com

Sample

Farm to School Farmer/Vendor Questionnaire and Agreement

Farmer/Vendor Name _____

Physical Address _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Delivery:

Are you willing to deliver to more than one location? Yes No.

If so, please describe the delivery area and locations you are willing to deliver to.

How often are you willing to deliver?

once per week twice per week as needed other (please explain)

Payment Terms:

Please describe payment terms and expectations _____

Do you offer discounts for volume, early payment, etc: Yes No. If so, please describe:

What is your credit/return policy for unacceptable quality?

Liability Policy:

Please list liability insurance policy company name and coverage amount. Attach copy of policy.

Production Practices/Inspections:

Please list all inspections your operation currently undergoes from local, state or federal agencies and the frequency of those inspections:

Do you have a HACCP or GAP Plan? Yes No. If yes, please attach a copy of the plan.

Please describe your pest/disease/weed management practices:

References:

Please list three current customers and their contact information:

Farm to School Education:

Would you be willing to visit school(s) to talk about farming, food production, agriculture etc?
If so, please briefly describe your message and when (time of year) you would be available.

Would you be willing to allow student field trips to your farm/facility? If so, briefly describe what students would see and what time of the year would be most educational.

Other Comments:

Vendor Signature

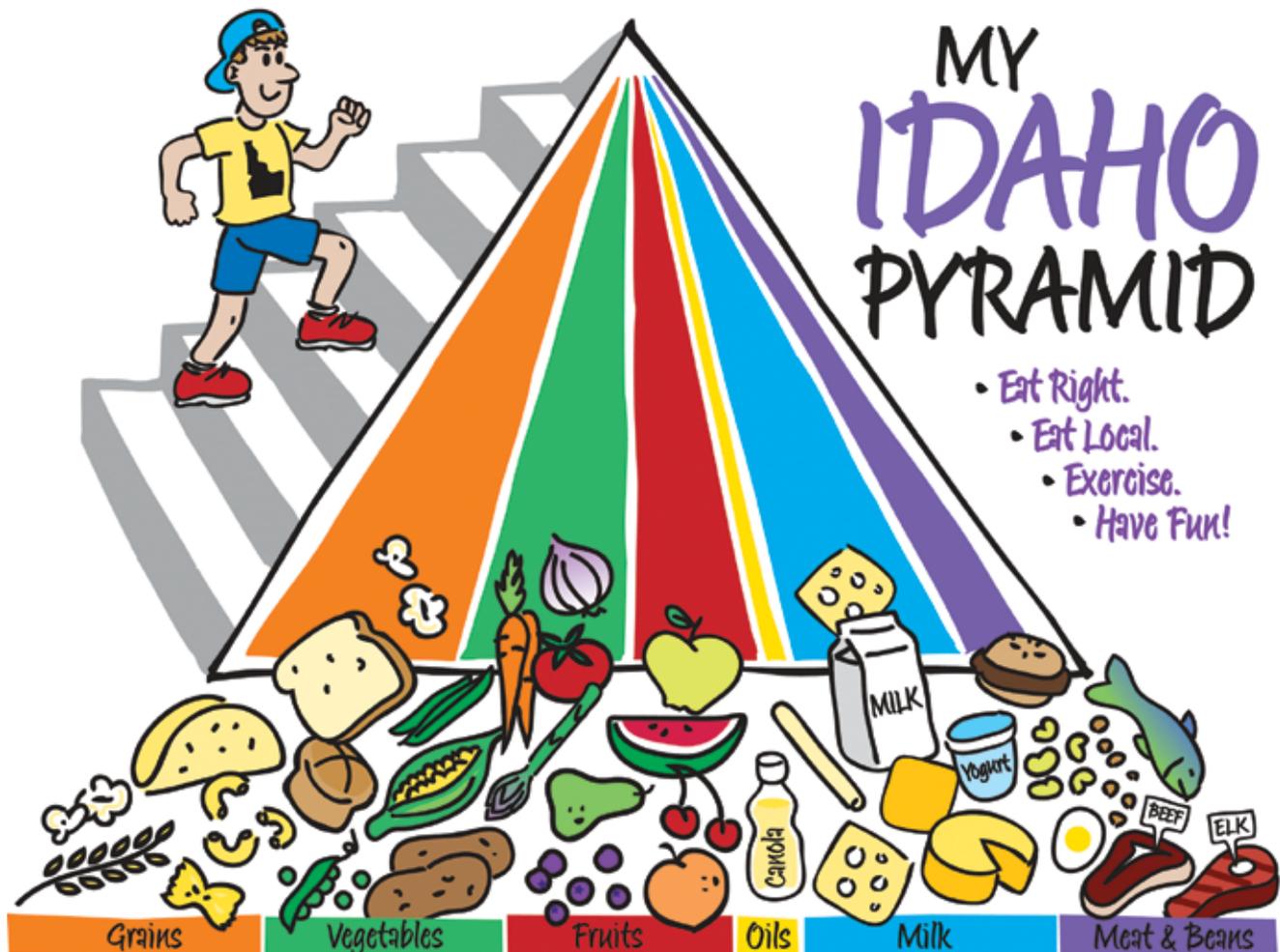
Date

School Foodservice Authority Signature

Date

Resources Used in the Development of this Manual :

1. The Farm to School Network, Western Region Meeting, Center for Food and Justice, 2007
2. "Bearing Fruit: Farm to School Program Evaluation Resources and Recommendations" by Joshi A and Azuma A M, National Farm to School Network, Center for Food & Justice, Occidental College, 2008.
3. The Food Trust, School Market Program End of the Year Evaluation Report 2003-04. Joshi A, Kalb M, Beery M, Going Local: Paths to success for farm to school programs. Case study "Oregon: Getting Farm to School Programs Started", December 2006.
4. USDA Memo: SP 28-2009 : Procurement Questions
5. Policy Memo SP-30-2008: Applying Geographic Preferences in Procurements for the Child Nutrition Programs
6. Policy Memo SP-08-2010: Geographic Preference for the Procurement of Unprocessed Agricultural Products in the Child Nutrition Programs
7. Eat Smart—Farm Fresh. A Guide to Buying and Serving Locally Grown Produce in School Meals. USDA Food and Nutrition Service December 2005
8. Nourishing the Nation One Tray at a Time. Farm to School Initiatives in the Child Nutrition Reauthorization. National Farm to School Network. Community Food Security Coalition.
9. Michigan Farm to School A Step By Step Guide. Michigan State University. SC Mott Group for Sustainable Food Systems. www.mifarmtoschool.msu.edu





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