



State of Arizona
Department of Education

HNS# 57-2013

MEMORANDUM

TO: Sponsors Participating in the Department of Defense Fresh Produce Program

FROM: Mary Szafranski, Associate Superintendent
Arizona Department of Education, Health and Nutrition Services

Ellen Pimental, Director
Arizona Department of Education, School Food Programs

DATE: November 11, 2013

SUBJECT: Department of Defense Fresh Produce Program Project with Duncan Family Farms

The Arizona Department of Education (ADE) Health and Nutrition Services (HNS) is pleased to announce a pilot project with Duncan Family Farms through the Department of Defense Fresh Produce Program (DoD Program).

This pilot project will work to evaluate the challenges and opportunities of purchasing locally grown produce through the DoD Program. Tempe Elementary School District and Litchfield Elementary School District have been selected to test key elements of implementing a farm to school program through the use of this funding source. Those on the DoD Program for School Year 2014 (SY14) will notice a product code in the FFAVORS catalog referring to this pilot project. Please refrain from ordering this item. It is reserved for our DoD Pilot with Duncan Family Farms. We anticipate opening this product to all schools participating in the DoD Program in School Year 2015.

Several criteria must be met in order for this pilot project to be successful:

- This is not a bonus item; funds allocated to both Pilot School Districts will be used from their USDA Foods entitlement pool.
- The product under evaluation is a heritage salad mix from Duncan Family Farms.



- School districts on this pilot project will be expected to accompany their service of this product with nutrition education materials indicating its production by Duncan Family Farms, (Maricopa County).
- Deliveries will be made on Mondays by Stern Produce, the contracted vendor for the DoD Program for SY14.
- This pilot project will begin on November 11, 2013 and continue through the end of the farm's growing season (approximately the beginning of March 2014).
- Pilot School Districts must be able to incorporate this product into the lunch menu within its shelf life period (about 7-10 days).
- Product shall be maintained between 35° – 42° F during transportation, storage, and service.
- At the end of the pilot project, Pilot School Districts will need to complete an evaluation that will be sent at the end of SY14.

Thank you for your cooperation and participation in DoD Fresh Produce Program. If you have questions regarding this memorandum, please contact your School Food Programs Team at (602)542-8729 or email us at FDP@azed.gov

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