



State of Arizona  
Department of Education

**Tom Horne**  
Superintendent of  
Public Instruction

FD 24-08

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Food Distribution Program Participants  
**FROM:** Tina Herzog, Food Distribution Program Director  
Arizona Department of Education, Food Distribution Program  
**DATE:** March 10, 2008  
**SUBJECT:** Frozen Fruit Cups (A416, A417 & A449) – Pack Date

*Original Signed*

Vendors providing frozen fruit cups are required to have an identifiable code on each of the primary containers reflecting the date of pack. To meet this requirement, the majority of the vendors are using the actual date of pack on the primary containers i.e. individual cups. This date is not a best-if-used-by or an expiration date. USDA has informed us that the fruit cups will keep for 12-18 months (from the pack date) as long as they stay FROZEN. Once thawed, they must be consumed within 24 hours. This info should be on the external cases.

Based on the number of questions and concerns received in School Year 2007/2008, USDA has requested that all vendors immediately change to a Julian date on the containers. Unfortunately the majority of the product has already been packed, so USDA has changed their Commodity Specifications for next year and beyond by requiring only Julian dates on the primary containers.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact a member of the Food Distribution Team or e-mail us at [FDP@azed.gov](mailto:FDP@azed.gov).

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