



Buy American Product Availability - 26/27 School Year

The National School Lunch Program has a Buy American Provision, regulated under 7 CFR Part 210.21(d). There are two provisions that school food authorities (SFAs) must follow when purchasing commercial food products for their school meal programs.

1. The agricultural commodity must be **produced in the United States**.
2. The food product is processed in the United States using substantial agricultural commodities that are produced in the United States. Substantial means that **over 51%** of the final processed product consists of agricultural commodities grown domestically in the United States.

This statement certifies that the following products, distributed by Country Pure Foods, comply with 7 CFR Part 210.21(d).

Product Description	SKUs	Pack Size
Ardmore Farms Apple 4 oz Carton – Frozen	42260	70/4
Ardmore Farms Grape 4 oz Carton – Frozen	42262	70/4
Ardmore Farms Fruit Punch 4 oz Carton – Frozen	42261	70/4
Ardmore Farms Orange Citrus Blend 4 oz Carton – Frozen	42264	70/4
Ardmore Farms Orange Citrus Blend 4 oz Carton – Chilled	42205	70/4
Ardmore Farms Apple 4.23 Juice Box - Ambient	62036	44/4.23
Ardmore Farms Fruit Punch 4.23 Juice Box - Ambient	62037	44/4.23
Ardmore Farms Orange Tangerine 4.23 Juice Box - Ambient	62038	44/4.23
Ardmore Farms Apple 4 oz Cup – Frozen	41361	96/4
Ardmore Farms Grape 4 oz Cup – Frozen	41362	96/4
Ardmore Farms Fruit Punch 4 oz Cup – Frozen	41363	96/4
Ardmore Farms Orange Citrus Blend 4 oz Cup – Frozen	41360	96/4
SideKicks Celebrations Stars & Stripes – Frozen Novelty	2027	84/4.4
SideKicks Celebrations Be Mine – Frozen Novelty	2013	84/4.4
SideKicks Celebrations Eeek – Frozen Novelty	2022	84/4.4
SideKicks Celebrations Jolly – Frozen Novelty	2008	84/4.4
SideKicks Celebrations Hooray – Frozen Novelty	2010	84/4.4
SideKicks Celebrations Bloom – Frozen Novelty	2019	84/4.4
SideKicks Sour Cherry Lemon – Frozen Novelty	2016	84/4.4
SideKicks Orange Cream – Frozen Novelty	2023	84/4.4
SideKicks Strawberry Cream – Frozen Novelty	2024	84/4.4
SideKicks Blue Raspberry Lemon – Frozen Novelty	2009	84/4.4
SideKicks Kiwi Strawberry – Frozen Novelty	2014	84/4.4
SideKicks Strawberry Mango – Frozen Novelty	2015	84/4.4



Q&A

Q: Why does the Country of Origin on 100% apple and 100% grape juice list countries outside of the United States if you're stating it is a domestic product?

A: Great question! While our product is considered *compliant* with the **Buy American Provision**, the **Country of Origin Labeling (COOL)** regulation (7 CFR Part 65) requires us to list all countries of origin for **100% single-variety juices** used to make the product. Juice blends are not required to list all countries of origin.

To meet Buy American standards, at least **51% of the juice content must come from the United States**—and ours does. The remaining juice **comes from other countries listed** on the label. This is why you'll see both U.S. and non-U.S. countries identified, even though the product still qualifies as a Buy American product.

Q: How do I know if I'm getting the domestic (Buy American) product if the packaging looks the same?

A: To ensure you're receiving the domestic version that qualifies under the **Buy American Provision**, it's essential to order the specific SKU number listed on the front page of this letter. That SKU is unique to the Buy American-compliant product.

For our **SideKicks products**, **no new SKU is required, as these have already been converted to meet the Buy American standard, thereby fulfilling the** Buy American requirements.

Additionally, the **outside shipper** for all Buy American products will be labeled **"Buy American"** for easy identification.

Buy American Compliance Statement

Country Pure Foods – 100% Juice Beverages & Frozen Juice Novelties

January 1, 2026

The William F. Goodling Child Nutrition Reauthorization Act of 1998 includes a Buy American provision requiring all school food authorities to purchase to the maximum extent practicable domestic agricultural commodities and products made from domestic agricultural commodities. For finished products such as 100% juice from concentrate, the 100% juice must:

- 1) Be processed in the US, and
- 2) Contain at least 51% domestic agricultural commodities by volume for juice products; or qualify for an exception to the domestic content requirement. It is important to note that USDA FNS does not consider water a domestic agricultural commodity; therefore, water must be excluded from the 51% domestic content calculation. Exceptions to the 51% domestic content threshold require that:
 - a. The agricultural commodity product (juice concentrate) is not produced or manufactured in the US in sufficient and reasonably available quantities of satisfactory quality or
 - b. Competitive bids reveal that the cost of a finished product that contains at least 51% domestic agricultural commodities is significantly higher than products that contain less than 51% domestic agricultural commodities.

To assist school food authorities in complying with the Buy American provision, Country Pure Foods certifies that:

- ✓ All Country Pure Foods' juice beverages and frozen juice novelties are processed in the US. Our facilities are in Deland, FL, Akron, OH, and Ellington, CT.
- ✓ All other Country Pure Foods' juice beverages are made from agricultural commodities that are not always practicable to source domestically due to quality and supply constraints. Therefore, our juices are eligible to qualify for an exception.
- ✓ This includes the following Country Pure Foods brands of products:
 - Ardmore Farms 100% Juice
 - SideKicks VBlends 100% Juice
 - VitaMost 100% Juice
 - VBlend 100% Juice
 - Fun 100% Juice

To assist school food authorities in understanding and qualifying for an exception to the 51% domestic agricultural requirement, we offer the following cost comparison information predicated on the availability and ample supply of quality domestic agricultural commodities (juice concentrates):

- Domestic Apple juice products would cost approximately 40% more than non-domestic
- Domestic Orange juice products would cost approximately 32% more than non-domestic
- Domestic 100% Fruit Punch products would cost approximately 36% more than non-domestic
- Domestic Grape juice products would cost approximately 37% more than non-domestic
- Pineapple juice products are not domestically available
- Domestic Vegetable juice products would cost approximately 20% more than non-domestic

If you have any questions regarding our juice beverages and Buy American compliance, please feel free to contact your local sales representative or Country Pure Foods' Customer Service Department at info@countrypure.com. We thank you for trusting us with your business and for all you do to feed hungry children.

Jason Russo
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Country Pure Foods

Reference: USDA FNS Policy Memo SP38-2017



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