

Buy American Compliance Statement

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

January 1, 2024

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, Ellington, CT, and Houston, TX.
- ✓ 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 100% Juice
 - SideKicks Celebrations 100% Juice
 - VBlend 100% Juice
 - Fun 100% Juice
 - VitaMost 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
Senior Director of Marketing
Country Pure Foods

Reference: USDA FNS Policy Memo SP38-2017

