



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

**FV304-CS1**

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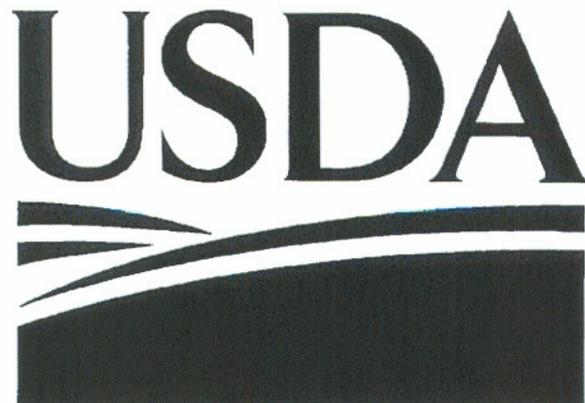
Marketing and  
Regulatory  
Programs

Agricultural  
Marketing  
Service

Washington, DC  
20250

# **Commodity Specification**

# **Canned Dried Beans**



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## I. General

### A. U.S. Standards

Canned dried beans (product/commodity) produced under this Commodity Specification must meet the requirements specified in the applicable United States Standards for Grades of Canned Dried Beans (U.S. Standards) effective on the date of the Invitation for Offers to Sell (Invitation). The U.S. Standards are published separately (7 C.F. R. part 52) and are incorporated herein and made a part of this Commodity Specification.

### B. Exceptions to U.S. Standards

Exceptions to the U.S. Standards for the Department of Agriculture (USDA) Canned Bean purchases are found in Section II, Individual Product Specifications, of this document. Additional exceptions may be specified in the applicable Invitation. Any exceptions contained in the applicable Invitation shall have precedence over the requirements contained herein, for that Invitation only.

### C. Product Origin

1. Commodities delivered pursuant to this Commodity Specification shall have originated from crops that have been 100% grown, processed, and packed in the United States, its territories or possessions, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands, (hereinafter referred to as the United States). See Section I.F. of Announcement FV-304.
2. If the contractor handles any commodity originating from sources other than the United States, the contractor must have a written plan to segregate the commodity. This segregation plan will include an identification and record system for all commodities to ensure they are completely segregated and cannot be used to fulfill contracts awarded by USDA. Such segregation plan must be made available to representatives of the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS).
3. The contractor must maintain positive written documentation records evidencing 100 percent domestic origin, to the grower level. Contractors must also ensure that the documentation provided by any sub-contractors demonstrates the same level of traceability. The burden of proof of compliance is on the contractor.  
  
Documentation may include load or warehouse storage receipts for raw product (i.e., bin tags), product blend (formulation) records, product coding explanations, finished product warehousing records, shipping or payment records, or other documentation or evidence that clearly establishes the product's domestic origin.
4. Contractors must provide the domestic origin certification and supporting documentation records to representatives of the AMS Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Processed Products Branch (USDA Grader). when requesting

inspection service. USDA graders will select and review at least one code for each contract to determine compliance with the Agency's domestic origin requirements.

5. Such records must be available for review by the Government in accordance with Article 76 of USDA-1. In the event of an audit, AMS auditors will examine as many codes as necessary to verify compliance.
6. Self-certifications by contractors and sub-contractors will not be accepted.
7. Failure to observe this requirement may lead to suspension or debarment, contract termination, and penalties at Title 18, Section 1001 of the US Code concerning falsification of information.

**D. Manufacturing Practices**

- 1) Good Manufacturing Practices

All canned dried beans must be produced in accordance with the Food and Drug Administration's Good Manufacturing Practices.

- 2) Plant Survey or Plant Systems Audit (PSA)

Successful bidders are required to undergo an annual plant survey or PSA.

The primary purpose of conducting a plant survey or PSA is to ensure that the contractor produces products in a clean, sanitary environment. Contractors are required to maintain process operations records that are sufficiently detailed as to allow AMS, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, PPB to determine past and current sanitation practices.

The AMS, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, PPB will conduct the plant surveys/PSA. PPB personnel will follow the procedures found in the most current version of PPB File Code 159-A-1, Plant Sanitation or the most current procedure for PSA. Contractors must provide the Contracting Officer with a copy of an acceptable completed plant survey/PSA. An acceptable plant survey/PSA will be valid for one year.

Contractors who have a PPB inspector in-plant through a contract service agreement will be considered to have met the plant survey/PSA requirement, since a plant survey/PSA is a prerequisite to a contract service agreement. Similarly, contractors who have completed an acceptable PPB plant survey/PSA for any other purpose within one year of the award will also be deemed to have satisfied this requirement.

Completion of the plant survey/PSA prior to the submission of a bid is suggested, but not required. If a firm submitting a bid receives an award, and has not had a plant survey/PSA within the past year, it must provide proof of an acceptable

plant survey/PSA not later than 10 business days from the date of the contract. Failure to provide this documentation within the proper time frame may result in the contract being terminated for cause.

**E. Packing Season**

All canned dried beans must be from the current packing season/crop year, unless otherwise specified in the applicable Invitation.

**F. Holding Period**

No shipment of canned dried beans may be made earlier than 14 days after packing.

**G. Grade of Canned Dried Beans:**

All canned beans must be U.S. Grade A (as defined in the U. S. Standard) and in accordance with the Commercial Item Description (CID) A-A-20134 in effect at the time of the invitation , unless otherwise specified in Section II, Individual Product Specifications, herein or the applicable Invitation.

**H. Fill of Container:**

1. Contractor must meet the washed drained weight for the product as specified in CID A-A-20134 unless otherwise indicated herein.
2. The average net weight must meet the net weight as printed on the label.

**I. Packing, Labels and Packaging**

Commercial labels and packaging will be acceptable on all canned dried beans to be purchased under this Announcement (FV304) as long as they meet the Food and Drug Administration requirement.

The product must be suitably code marked so that the product can be identified with related inspection certifies.

Intermingling of labeling methods will not be acceptable within a shipping unit (truckload).

Two or more different commercial labels are not allowed within a shipping unit (truckload).

The manufacturer must establish a product identification coding and record systems that clearly links product by place and date of manufacture to specific USDA contracts and destinations.

The required product identification and record systems, including codes, must be reviewed and approved by USDA, Processed Products Branch. The USDA grader will include the product identification codes on the Fruit and Vegetable Grading Certificate that will accompany the product to destination.

The product identification code used for traceability must be placed in a visible location on all primary containers in such a manner that it may not be removed.

**The following applies to USDA labels and packaging requirement:**

1. Can Labels

USDA can labels are shown in Exhibits 1-1 through 1-15. The wording and design of the labels is restricted to that shown in the exhibit. The labels must be printed in ink of the color specified, on commercially acceptable, white paper stock.

2. Secondary Container (case) Markings

The cans shall be further enclosed within new, corrugated fiberboard cartons (cases) acceptable by common or other carriers for safe transportation to destinations. Flaps, gaps and other openings may not exceed 1 inch and must be fully glued or sealed with tape. If tape is used in lieu of glue, it must be clear and of commercially acceptable width and strength. The tape must extend at least two inches down the sides or ends.

Cases must be marked in such a manner that they contain all of the symbols, statements and information contained in Exhibit 2, "Required Markings for Shipping Containers".

Cases may be marked by printing or stenciling or by preprinted, self-adhesive stickers.

Exact arrangement and adherence to font size is not required. The case markings must be clearly marked, easily read, and substantially the same as specified in Exhibit 2.

Exhibit 3 shows an alternative placard that may be applied to a new, corrugated fiberboard case acceptable by common or other carriers for safe transportation to destinations. Cases must have the recycling statement shown in Exhibit 6, "Please Recycle" Symbol and Statement or Exhibit 7, "Corrugated Recycles" Symbol and Statement.

**J. Universal Product Codes (UPC)**

**USDA labeled packaging and shipping containers:** Primary label and shipping container Universal Product Codes for USDA products are listed in Exhibit 5. The Contractor's UPC is not acceptable. The primary container UPC must be positioned on

the can label as shown in Exhibit 1. The shipping container UPC must be marked on the case as shown in Exhibit 2.

**K. Palletization Requirements**

## 1. Pallets

Product must be on 48 X 40 inch, non-reversible, flush stringer, and partial four-way entry. New pallets must be good quality wood. Used pallets must be No.1 hardwood or its equivalent in new softwood. If pallet exchange is desired, the contractor shall arrange for pallet exchange with consignees. USDA is in no way responsible for arrangement of pallet exchange.

## 2. Unitization

Each delivery unit of canned dried beans must be unitized. Shipping cases must be stacked and secured from top to bottom, so that each container and layer of containers becomes an integral part of the pallet. Either stretch wrapping with plastic film or “lock ‘n pop” is acceptable.

## II. Individual Commodity Specifications

### A. Vegetarian

1. Grade - U.S. Grade A.
2. Color - No Artificial Color, No Starches, No Artificial Color.
3. Style - Canned.
4. Type of Pack - White Beans shall be practically similar in varietal characteristics and packed in meatless tomato sauce. The white beans shall consist of pea beans (also known as Navy beans), or small white beans. Only Tomato Sauce with Natural Spices shall to be used for Vegetarian Beans.
5. Net Weight (6/10) – The average net weight of all containers shall be not less than 108.0 ounces and no individual container shall have a net weight of less than 106.0 ounces.
6. Net Weight (24/300) – The average net weight of all containers shall be not less than 15.0 ounces and no individual container shall have a net weight of less than 14.7 ounces.

### B. Beans in Brine

1. Grade - U.S. Grade A, except pigeon peas which must meet requirement for U.S. Grade B.
2. Color - No Artificial Color, No Starches, No Artificial Additives.
3. Style - Canned.
4. Type of Pack - Pinto Beans, Red Beans (small red type only), Blackeye Beans, Light Red Kidney, Dark Red Kidney Beans, Baby Lima, Pink Beans, Great Northern Beans, Garbanzo Beans, Pigeon Peas, and Black Turtle Beans shall be packed in brine and any other safe and suitable ingredient(s).
5. Net Weight (6/10) – The average net weight of all containers shall be not less than 108.0 ounces and no individual container shall have a net weight of less than 106.0 ounces.
6. Net Weight (24/300) – The average net weight of all containers shall be not less than 15.0 ounces and no individual container shall have a net weight of less than 14.7 ounces.

**NOTE:** Pigeon Peas are botanically known as *Cajanus Cajun* from the family leguminosae, which are known to be grown in the Puerto Rico region, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

### C. Refried

1. Grade - U.S. No. 2.
1. Type of Pack - Canned.
2. Style – Smooth pinto beans, without oil(s) or lard, Optional: onion and/or garlic flavoring (this is optional, not a requirement.)

Notes:

Production of the product shall include complete cooking to the final stages of desired texture by the “**open kettle**” method. No abbreviated cooking procedures are permitted.

The refried beans shall have a typical mashed bean texture, free from dryness, and practically free from lumps. The product shall contain a noticeable amount of whole beans and portions of beans.

The product shall contain not less than 10 percent nor more than 33-1/3 percent of the pink beans class. The refried beans shall have pinto bean flavor, shall have less than 0.5 percent salt added and shall be free from objectionable flavors such as rancidity and/or excessive scorching.

The product shall be free from foreign material. Also, the product shall be practically free from defects such as discolored beans and any other defects that materially detract from the appearance, except that the product can be fairly free of loose skins.

Final determination of the acceptability of product flavor and texture shall be made by the USDA Grader.

The average net weight per container shall be 112.0 ounces. No individual container shall be less than 110.5 ounces.

## III. Inspection and Checkloading

### A. Requirements

Representatives of the AMS, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Processed Products Branch (USDA Grader) must perform the inspection and checkloading required by Articles 54 and 55 of USDA-1. **The cost of inspection, samples taken for inspection, mailing of review samples submitted for evaluation, and any chemical analysis required for testing shall be for the account of the contractor.**

Inspection of canned products must be performed not more than 90 days prior to shipment. Whether each lot offered meets the product and container requirements of the

contract must be determined on the basis of representative sample units. Representative sample units will be graded according to the Regulations Governing Inspection and Certification of Canned Fruits and Vegetables and Related Products (7 C.F.R. part 52), and United States Standards for Condition of Food Containers (7 C.F.R. part 42.140), effective on the date of the Invitation.

**B. Certification**

Subject to Articles 54 and 55 of USDA-1, the acceptability of the quality, weight, packaging, and checkloading of the product must be evidenced by certificates issued by the USDA Grader.

No product shall be shipped unless the USDA Grader informs the Contractor that a designated lot is acceptable. Notice by the USDA Grader that a designated lot scheduled for shipment does not meet requirements of the contract shall constitute rejection of such lot.

**C. Procedures**

The Contractor must give the USDA Grader at least 7 days advance notice when scheduling inspection service. Prior to sampling, the Contractor must furnish the USDA Grader with a list of codes and the approximate number of cases per code.

**IV. Failure to Meet Specifications**

Any lot which fails applicable specifications prescribed herein will be rejected as not acceptable for delivery. If any lot of canned beans fails to meet the product or packaging requirement, the Contractor may request in writing that USDA accept delivery of the lot. USDA may, at its option, accept delivery, provided that the purchase price is the contract price less discount, to be determined by the Contracting Officer.

  
Stephanie Wells  
Contracting Officer  
Commodity Procurement Branch  
Fruit and Vegetable Programs  
Agricultural Marketing Service

**V. Exhibits**

Exhibit 1-1  
Can Label for Canned Vegetarian Beans, No. 300 size

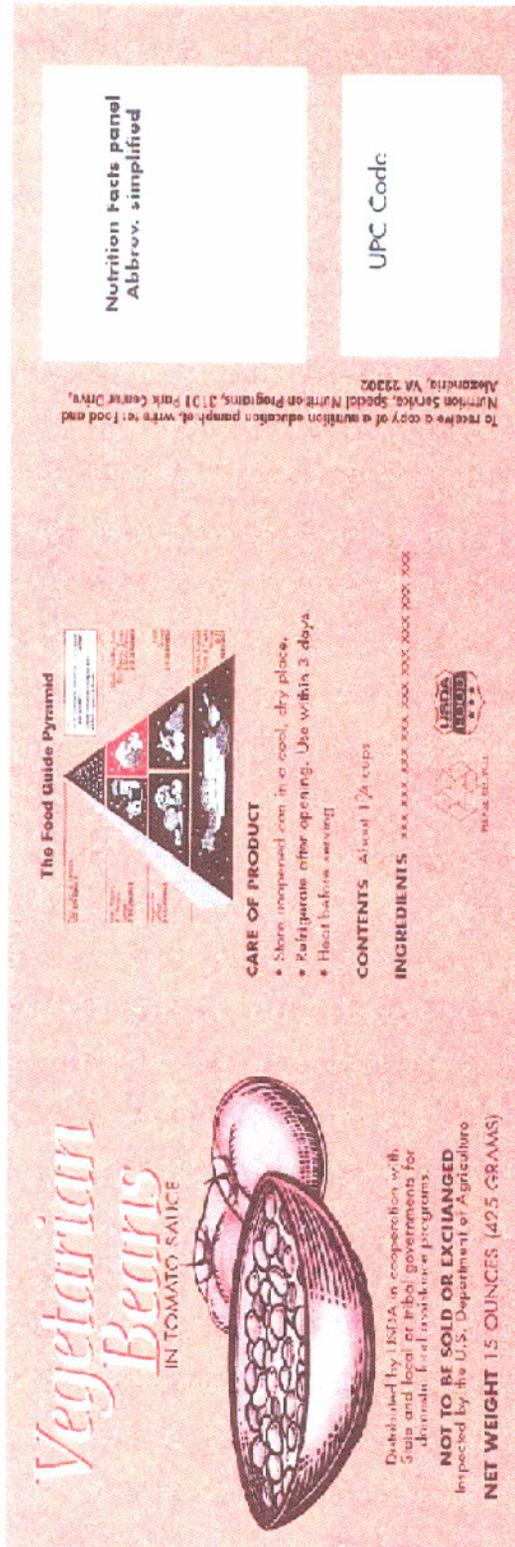


Exhibit 1-2  
Can Label for Canned Vegetarian Beans, No. 6/10 size



Exhibit 1-3  
Can Label for Canned Baby Lima Beans, No. 10 size

**The Food Guide Pyramid**

**CARE OF PRODUCT**

- Store unopened can in cool, dry place.
- Refrigerate after opening. Use within 3 days.
- Heat before serving.

**CONTENTS** About 12 cups

**INGREDIENTS** xxx xxx

*Baby Lima Beans*  
XXXXX

Distilled by USDA in cooperation with State and local or  
Federal government for alternate food assistance programs.  
**NOT TO BE SOLD OR EXCHANGED**  
Inspected by the U.S. Department of Agriculture  
**NET WEIGHT 6 LBS 10 OUNCES**

To receive a copy of a nutrition education pamphlet, write  
to Food and Consumer Service, Special Nutrition Programs,  
3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302

**Nutrition Facts**  
Amount Per Serving  
Calories 0% Total Fat 0% Sodium 0% Total Carbohydrate 0% Protein 0%

Nutrition Facts		% Daily Value*
Total Fat	0g	0%
Sodium	0g	0%
Total Carbohydrate	0g	0%
Protein	0g	0%

\*Percent Daily Values are based on a diet of other people's secrets.

Exhibit 1-4  
Can Label for Canned Black Turtle Beans, No. 10 size

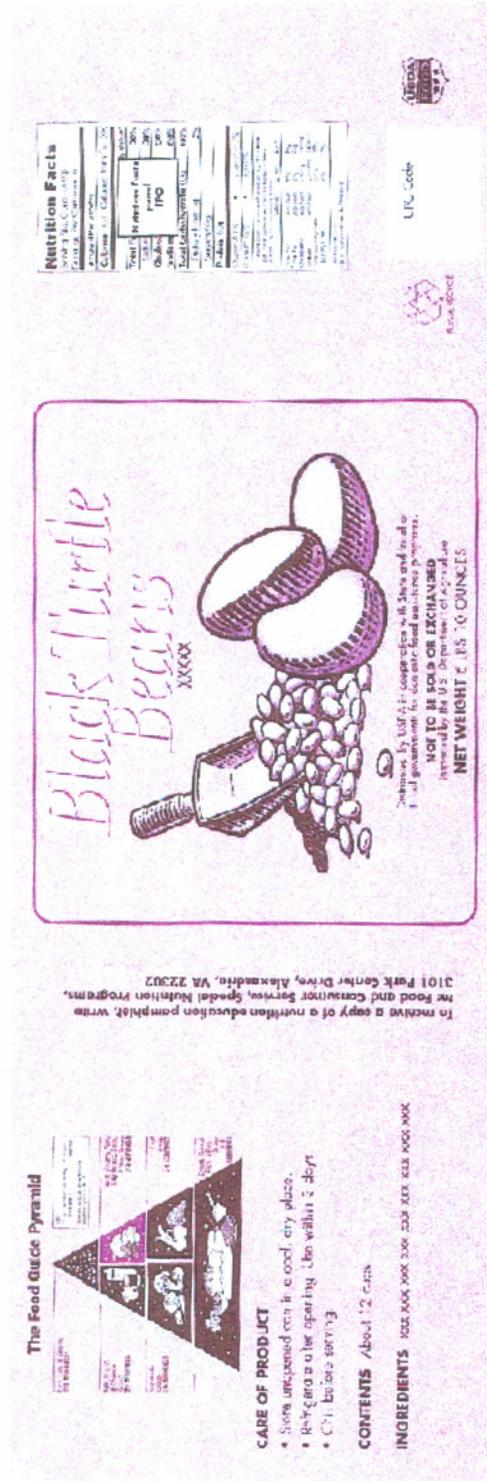




Exhibit 1-6  
Can Label for Canned Pinto Beans, No. 10 size

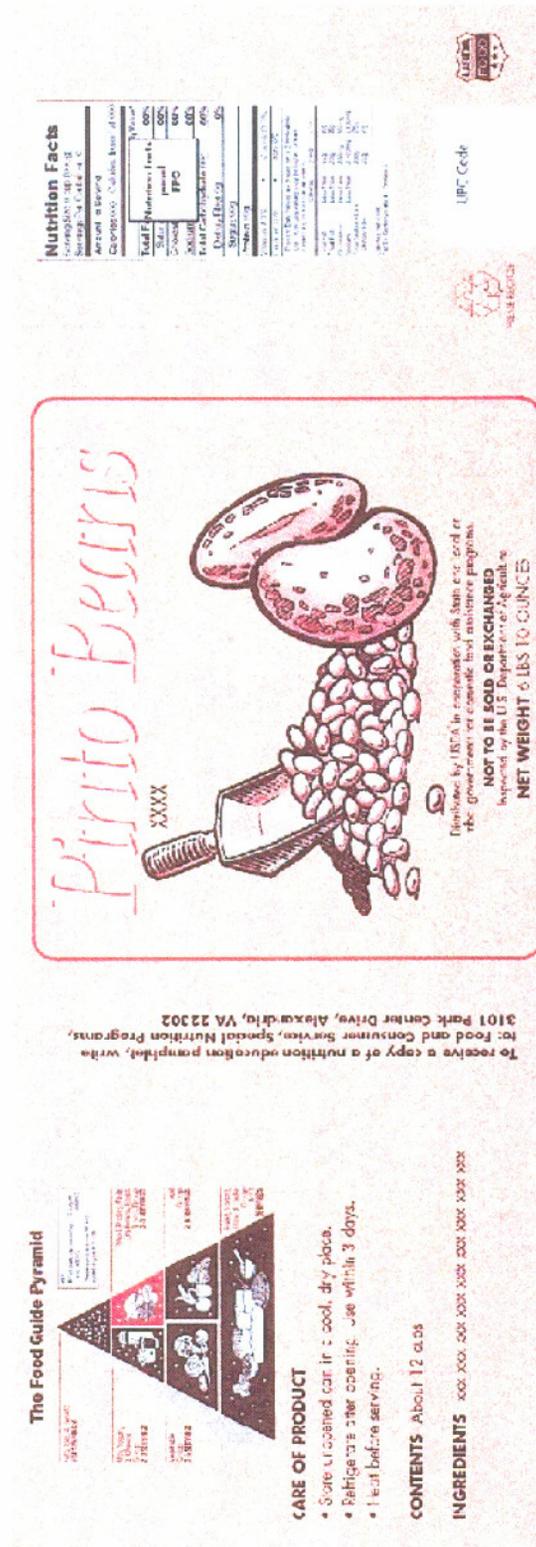




Exhibit 1-8  
Can Label for Canned Great Northern Beans, No. 10 size

**The Food Guide Pyramid**

4-6 cups  
Bread, Pasta, Rice, and Other Grains

2-3 cups  
Meat, Poultry, Fish, Dry Beans, Eggs, and Other Protein Foods

2-3 cups  
Milk, Yogurt, and Cheese

5-6 servings  
Fats, Oils, and Nuts

**CARE OF PRODUCT**

- Store unopened can in a cool, dry place.
- Refrigerate after opening. Use within 3 days.
- Chill before serving.

**CONTENTS** About 1 1/2 cups

**INGREDIENTS** 30% WHOLE BEAN GREAT NORTHERN BEANS, 70% WATER

*Great Northern Beans*  
XXXXX

Optimum for LIMA in comparison with other and food or  
if all government for use with food and use in regions.  
**NOT TO BE SOLD OR EXCHANGED**  
backed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture  
**NET WEIGHT 6 LBS 10 OUNCES**

To receive a copy of a nutrition education pamphlet, write  
for Food and Consumer Service, Special Nutrition Program,  
3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302

**Nutrition Facts**

Serving Size 1/2 cup (125g)  
Amount Per Serving  
Calories 200  
Total Fat 1g 2%  
Sodium 10mg 20%  
Total Carbohydrate 40g 80%  
Dietary Fiber 10g 20%  
Protein 10g 20%

**% Daily Value\***

\*Percent Daily Values are based on a diet of other people's misdeeds.

**UPC Code**

RECYCLE

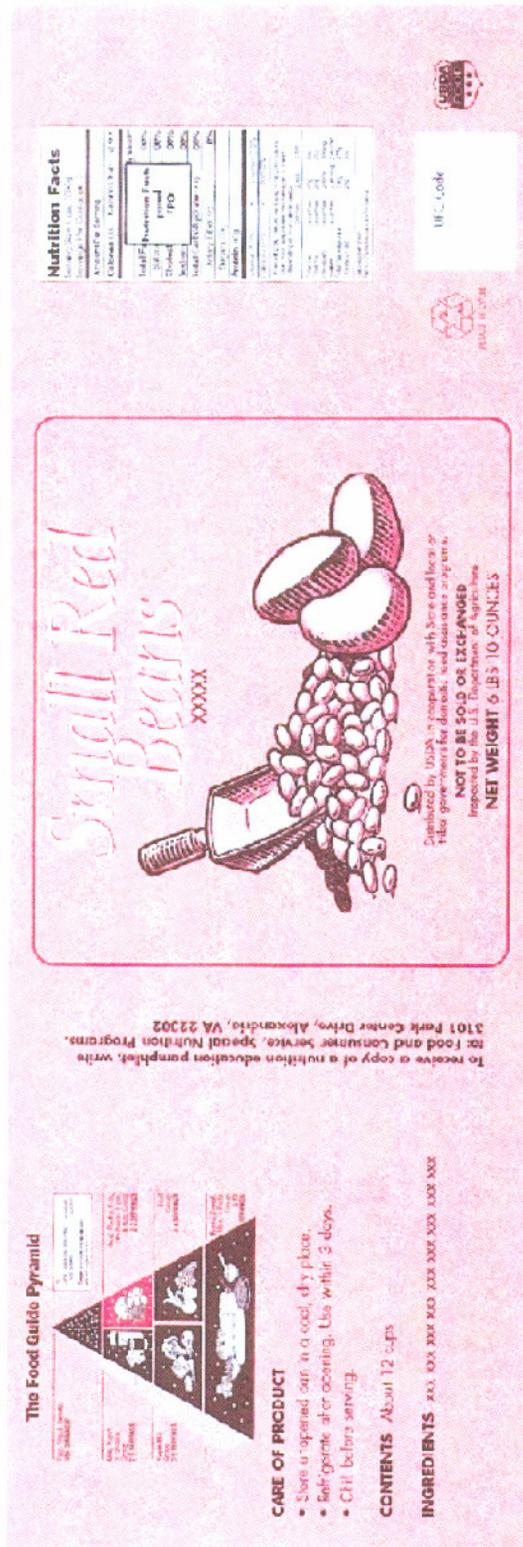


Exhibit 1-10  
Can Label for Canned Navy Beans, No. 10 size





Exhibit 1-12  
Can Label for Canned Small Red Beans, No. 10 size









**Exhibit 2**  
**Required Markings for Shipping Containers**  
**ALL PRINTING TO BE IN BLACK INK**

BOTH SIDE PANELS	BOTH END PANELS
PRODUCT NAME 1/ 2/	PRODUCT NAME CONTRACT NO. 3/ PACKED IN 4/ BY 5/ 7/
USDA SYMBOL                      6/	
DISTRIBUTED BY USDA IN COOPERATION WITH STATE AND LOCAL OR TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS FOR DOMESTIC FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS	
NOT TO BE SOLD OR EXCHANGED STORE IN COOL, DRY PLACE	

Product name must be printed or stenciled on a separate line in letters at least three-fourths inch high, and all other information must be in letters less than three-fourths inch but clearly legible. The USDA Food Symbol must be printed, stamped, or labeled and be of sufficient size to stand out prominently. Case markings must be limited to case codes and those contained in this Exhibit.

- 1/ Insert any additional product style, pack, packing media, or further definition as applicable; (i.e. Canned Beans etc.).
- 2/ Insert the size and number of packages per case, i.e. 6 /No. 10 cans, 6/5 pound bags, 12/46 ounce cans, 1/25 pound bag.
- 3/ Insert the last five digits of contract number.
- 4/ Insert month and year packed (The first month of packing season is acceptable).
- 5/ Insert name of Packer and Packer's Address - City, State, and Zip Code. This information can be placed on the end panels or the side panels.
- 6/ Insert Universal Product Code (see Exhibit "5").
- 7/ Vendors who have proper certification are encouraged to place the universally recognized Kosher symbol here.

Exhibit 3

Alternative Label Information for Shipping Containers

(Includes all Required Information)



**Product Name**

**Style**

**Packing Media**

**Size/Number per case**

**Contract Number xxxxx**

**Packed in: Month Year**

**Packed by: ABC Growers**

**Any Town, CA 99999**

**DISTRIBUTED BY USDA IN COOPERATION  
WITH STATE AND LOCAL OR TRIBAL  
GOVERNMENTS FOR DOMESTIC FOOD  
ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS**

**NOT TO BE SOLD OR EXCHANGED**

**STORE IN A COOL DRY PLACE**



1234567891012345678910

Exhibit 4  
Sample Alternative Label for Shipping Containers



# Vegetarian Beans

Packed in Tomato Sauce

6/No. 10 cans

Contract Number 92000

Packed in: November 1999

Packed by: ABC Growers

Any Town, CA 99999

**DISTRIBUTED BY USDA IN COOPERATION  
WITH STATE AND LOCAL OR TRIBAL  
GOVERNMENTS FOR DOMESTIC FOOD  
ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS**

**NOT TO BE SOLD OR EXCHANGED  
STORE IN A COOL DRY PLACE**



1 07 15001 01091 6

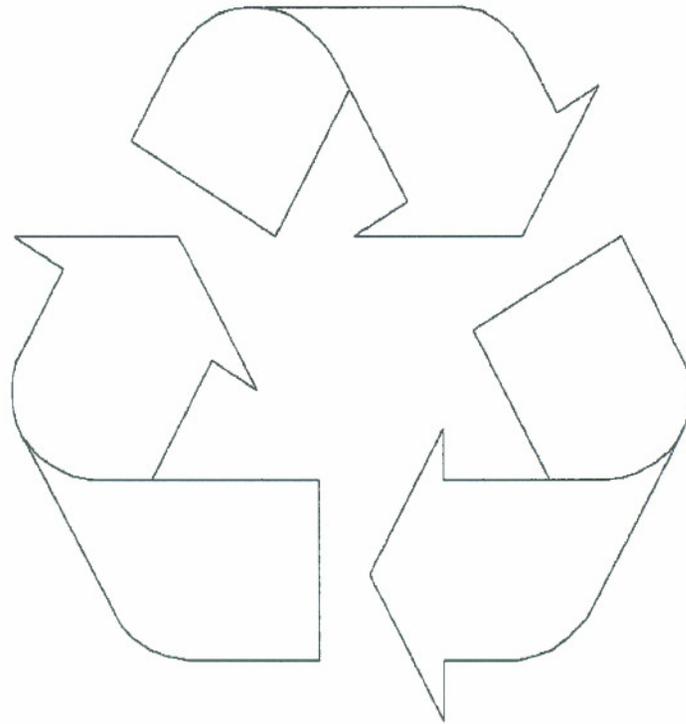
## Exhibit 5

## Universal Product Codes

<u>24/300 cans</u>	<u>Primary Container</u>	<u>Secondary Container</u>
Vegetarian Beans	7 1500101090 2	1 07 15001 01090 9
Refried Beans	7 1500101093 3	1 07 15001 01093 0
Pigeon Beans	7 1500101071 1	1 07 15001 01071 8
Blackeye Peas	7 1500101062 9	1 07 15001 01062 6
Light Red Kidney Beans	7 1500101076 6	1 07 15001 01076 3
<u>6/10 cans</u>		
Vegetarian Beans	7 1500101091 9	1 07 15001 01091 6
Refried Beans	7 1500101085 8	1 07 15001 01085 5
Garbanzo Beans	7 1500101089 6	1 07 15001 01089 3
Small Red Beans	7 1500101087 2	1 07 15001 01087 9
Pink Beans	7 1500101083 4	1 07 15001 01083 1
Baby Lima Beans	7 1500101082 7	1 07 15001 01082 4
Pigeon Peas Beans	7 1500101072 8	1 07 15001 01072 5
Pinto Beans	7 1500101079 7	1 07 15001 01079 4
Blackeye Beans	7 1500101084 1	1 07 15001 01084 8
Red Kidney Beans	7 1500101086 5	1 07 15001 01086 2
Great Northern Beans	7 1500101088 9	1 07 15001 01088 6
Black Turtle Beans	7 1500101908 5	1 07 15001 01908 7

Exhibit 6

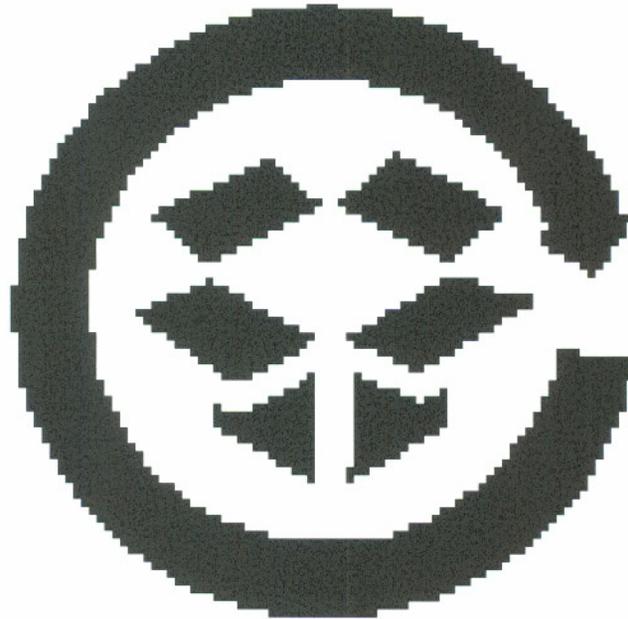
**“Please Recycle” Symbol and Statement**



**PLEASE  
RECYCLE**

Exhibit 7

**“Corrugated Recycles” Symbol and Statement**



**Corrugated  
Recycles**

Exhibit 8

USDA Symbol

