COMMERCIAL ITEM DESCRIPTION

WILD RICE

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has authorized the use of this Commercial Item Description (CID).

1. SCOPE. This CID covers wild rice packed in commercially acceptable containers, suitable for use by Federal, State, local governments, and other interested parties. Please note: This document does not guarantee purchase of this item by USDA.¹

2. PURCHASER NOTES.

2.1 Purchasers must specify the following:

- Type(s), agricultural practice(s), growing condition(s), harvesting, and processing of wild rice required (Sec. 3).
- When the age requirement is different than specified (Sec. 5.4).
- When analytical requirements are different than specified (Sec. 7.1).
- Manufacturer’s/distributor’s certification (Sec. 10.3) or USDA certification (Sec. 10.4).

2.2 Purchasers may specify the following:

- Food Defense (Sec. 10.1) and Manufacturer’s Quality Assurance (Sec. 10.2). Purchaser may specify one of the following combinations: Sec. 10.1.1 with 10.2.1 or 10.1.2 with 10.2.2.
- Packaging requirements other than commercial (Sec. 11).

3. CLASSIFICATION. The wild rice must conform to the following list which must be specified in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order.

Types, agricultural practices, growing conditions, harvesting, and processing.²

Type I  - Wild rice (*Zizania palustris* L.)
Type II  - Wild rice (*Zizania aquatica*)
Type III - Other (as specified by purchaser)

¹ USDA purchase specifications are available at: https://www.ams.usda.gov/selling-food/product-specs.
² Not all options are available from every manufacturer. Check with the manufacturer/distributor for availability.
Agricultural practice A - Conventional
Agricultural practice B - Organic

Growing condition 1 - Lake and/or river grown
Growing condition 2 - Cultivated or paddy grown

Harvesting a - Hand harvested
Harvesting b - Mechanically harvested

Processing 1) - Wood (hand) parched
Processing 2) - Mechanically parched
Processing 3) - Parboiled

4. MANUFACTURER’S/DISTRIBUTOR’S NOTES. Manufacturer’s/distributor’s products must meet the requirements of the:

- Processing guidelines (Sec. 5).
- Salient characteristics (Sec. 6).
- Analytical requirements: as specified by the purchaser (Sec. 7).
- Manufacturer’s/distributor’s product assurance (Sec. 8).
- Regulatory requirements (Sec. 9).
- Quality assurance provisions: as specified by the purchaser (Sec. 10).
- Packaging requirements other than commercial: as specified by the purchaser (Sec. 11).

5. PROCESSING GUIDELINES.


5.2 Food defense. The wild rice must be processed and transported in accordance with the Food and Drug Administration’s (FDA’s) Guidance for Industry: Food Producers, Processors, and Transporters: Food Security Preventive Measures Guidance. This guidance identifies the kinds of preventive measures food manufacturers, processors, or handlers may take to minimize the risk that food under their control will be subject to tampering or other malicious, criminal, or terrorist actions. The implementation of enhanced food defense preventive measures provides for the security of the processor’s operations and includes the storage and transportation of pre-production raw materials, other ingredients, and post-production finished product.

5.3 Organic wild rice. When organic wild rice is specified in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order, the wild rice must be produced, handled, and labeled in accordance with the

USDA organic regulations by an operation that is certified organic in accordance with the requirements of the National Organic Program (7 CFR Part 205). A Certificate of Organic Production or Handling must be provided to verify that the product was processed and handled in accordance with the USDA Organic regulations.

5.4 **Age requirement.** Unless otherwise specified in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order, the wild rice must be processed and packaged from the latest year’s crop and must be less than 12 months old prior to delivery to the purchaser.

6. **SALIENT CHARACTERISTICS.**

6.1 **Definitions.**

6.1.1 **Lake and/or river grown.** Lake and/or river grown wild rice is a self-seeding grass that is seeded in the fall when the seed is shattered during the slightest wind, falls, and sinks to the bottom of the lake and/or river.

6.1.2 **Cultivated or paddy grown.** Cultivated or paddy grown wild rice is grown in fields that have permanent field dikes that allow the wild rice to be grown in shallow water conditions required for growth and allow for water drainage to facilitate harvest by combines.

6.1.3 **Hand harvested.** Hand harvested wild rice must be harvested from a canoe following traditional methods used by Native Americans, such as utilizing only a pole for power and two rice beater sticks as flails to knock the mature seeds into the bottom of the canoe.

6.1.4 **Wood (hand) parched.** Wood (hand) parched wild rice is rice roasted following traditional methods used by Native Americans, such as in a cast-iron kettle over a fire and stirred with a wood paddle to reduce the moisture in the kernels.

6.1.5 **Mechanically parched.** Wild rice is processed following commercial processing in rotating drums to reduce the moisture in kernels.

6.1.6 **Parboiled.** Parboiled wild rice is processed following commercial processing in steam-jacketed kettles to reduce the moisture in the kernels of rice.

6.2 **Raw ingredients.** The wild rice will be made from clean, sound wild rice for the type of wild rice specified in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order.

6.3 **Finished product.**

6.3.1 **Aroma and flavor.** The wild rice must possess a natural wild rice nutty taste and aroma, and be free from rancid, bitter, musty, and other objectionable odors and flavors.
6.3.2 **Color.** The Processing 1) wild rice must have a blond tan to tan color. The Processing 2) wild rice must have a brownish tan color. The Processing 3) wild rice must have a shiny dark brown to black color.

6.3.3 **Defects.** The wild rice must be free from any defect that more than slightly affects the appearance or eating quality. The wild rice kernels must contain less than 20 percent broken wild rice kernels by weight.

6.3.4 **Foreign material.** The wild rice must be free from all extraneous plant material.

7. **ANALYTICAL REQUIREMENTS.**

7.1 **Analytical and microbiological requirements.** Unless otherwise specified in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order, the analytical requirements for the wild rice will meet the following requirements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test</th>
<th>Tolerance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Moisture</td>
<td>Less than 10.0 percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard Plate Count</td>
<td>Less than 500,000 Colony Forming Units (CFU) per gram (g)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mold and Yeast</td>
<td>Less than 100 CFU per g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coliform</td>
<td>Less than 10 CFU per g or Most Probable Number (MPN) per g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Escherichia coli</em> (E. coli)</td>
<td>Less than 10 CFU per g or MPN per g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aflatoxin</td>
<td>Less than 20 part per billion (ppb)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Salmonella</em></td>
<td>Negative</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7.2 **Analytical verification.** Purchaser must specify manufacturer’s/distributor’s certification (Sec. 10.3) or USDA certification (Sec. 10.4).

7.3 **Verification procedures.**

7.3.1 **USDA verification procedures.** When USDA certification (Sec. 10.4) is specified in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order, analytical testing will be performed as follows.

7.3.2 **Product verification sampling.** When USDA verification of analytical requirements is specified in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order, analytical testing must be performed on subsamples or retail packages randomly selected from the lot. The number of subsamples must be based on Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) Processed Commodities Handbook,
The contents of each sample will be used to create a composite sample that will be used in the analytical testing.

7.4 **Analytical testing.** When specified in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order, the analyses must be made in accordance with the following methods from the AOAC International Official Methods of Analysis (OMA) or an equivalent method with the American Association of Cereal Chemists (AACC) International.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test</th>
<th>Method</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Moisture</td>
<td>AOAC 925.09B, AACC 44-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard Plate Count</td>
<td>2008.10, 986.32, 988.18, or 990.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yeast and Mold</td>
<td>997.02, 2002.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coliform</td>
<td>991.14, 992.30, 990.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>E. coli</em></td>
<td>2009.02, 966.24, 991.14, or 992.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aflatoxin</td>
<td>991.31 A-G and 991.31 A-F followed by H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Salmonella</em></td>
<td>996.08, 2004.03, 2003.09, or 2001.08</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7.5 **Test results.** Test results for moisture must be reported to the nearest percent. The test results for standard plate count and yeast and mold must be reported to the nearest 10 CFU per g. The test results for *Coliform* and *E. coli* must be reported to the nearest CFU or MPN. The test results for aflatoxin must be reported to the nearest 1 ppb. The test results for *Salmonella* must be reported as positive or negative. Any result not conforming to the analytical requirements will be cause for rejection of the lot.

8. **MANUFACTURER’S/DISTRIBUTOR’S PRODUCT ASSURANCE.** The manufacturer/distributor must certify that the wild rice provided meets the salient characteristics of this CID, conform to their own specifications, standards, and quality assurance practices, and be the same wild rice offered for sale in the commercial market. The purchaser reserves the right to require proof of conformance.

9. **REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS.** The delivered wild rice must comply with all applicable Federal and State mandatory requirements and regulations relating to the preparation, packaging, labeling, storage, distribution, and sale of the wild rice in the commercial marketplace. Delivered wild rice must comply with all applicable provisions of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, the Fair Packaging and Labeling Act, and regulations promulgated thereunder.

10. **QUALITY ASSURANCE PROVISIONS.** *Purchaser must specify 10.3, or 10.4. Purchaser may specify one of the following combinations: 10.1.1 with 10.2.1, or 10.1.2 with 10.2.2.*
10.1 **Food defense.** When required in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order, a Food Defense System Survey (FDSS) must be conducted by USDA, AMS, Specialty Crops Program (SCP), Specialty Crops Inspection (SCI) Division. Food defense requirements include a documented and operational food defense plan that provides for the security of a plant’s production processes and includes the storage and transportation of pre-production raw materials and other ingredients and post-production finished product. The plan must address the following areas: (1) food security plan management; (2) outside and inside security of the production and storage facilities; (3) slaughter, when applicable, and processing, including all raw material sources; (4) shipping and receiving; (5) storage; (6) water and ice supply; (7) mail handling; (8) personnel security; and (9) transportation, shipping, and receiving.

10.1.1 **FDSS.** When required in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order, a FDSS must be conducted by USDA, AMS, SCP, SCI Division. The FDSS verifies that operators of food establishments have implemented measures to minimize the risk of tampering or other criminal actions against the food under their control. An AMS FDSS verifies the participating company’s adherence to the FDA’s *Guidance for Industry - Food Producers, Processors, and Transporters: Food Security Preventive Measures Guidance.*

10.1.2 **Food defense section of the Plant Systems Audit (PSA).** When required in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order, a food defense audit will be conducted as part of the PSA. The audit will be conducted by USDA, AMS, SCP, SCI Division auditors. This verifies that operators of food establishments have implemented measures to minimize the risk of tampering or other criminal actions against the food under their control. The food defense section of the PSA verifies the participating company’s adherence to the FDA’s *Guidance for Industry - Food Producers, Processors, and Transporters: Food Security Preventive Measures Guidance.*

10.2 **Manufacturer’s quality assurance.** When required in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order, the product manufacturer will be required to provide evidence, by certificate that the manufacturing plant has undertaken one of the following quality assurance measures within 12 months prior to providing a bid or no later than 10 business days from the date of the awarding of the contract. Failure to provide this documentation within the proper time frame may result in the contract being terminated for cause.

10.2.1 **Plant survey.** A plant survey conducted by USDA, AMS, or other survey performed by a third party auditing service is required within 12 months prior to the date of the awarding of the contract. An AMS plant survey audit verifies that, at the time of the survey, the manufacturer produces products in a clean sanitary environment in accordance with *Current Good Manufacturing Practice in Manufacturing, Packing, or Holding Human Food* (21 CFR Part 110).

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3 See footnote 3 on page 2.
10.2.2 **PSA.** A PSA conducted by USDA, AMS, or other audit performed by a third party auditing service is required within 12 months prior to the date of the awarding of the contract. An AMS PSA verifies the manufacturer's capability to produce products in a clean sanitary environment in accordance with *Current Good Manufacturing Practice in Manufacturing, Packing, or Holding Human Food* (21 CFR Part 110), and verifies that the manufacturer has in place an internal quality assurance program.

10.3 **Manufacturer’s/distributor’s certification.** When required in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order, the manufacturer/distributor must certify that the wild rice distributed meets or exceeds the requirements of this CID. The manufacturer/distributor must certify via a Certificate of Conformance or other adequate documentation (*as specified by the purchaser*) that the wild rice meets the analytical requirements specified in Sec. 7 of this CID.

10.4 **USDA certification.** When required in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order that product quality and acceptability or both be determined, the FGIS must be the certifying program. FGIS inspectors must certify the quality and acceptability of the wild rice in accordance with FGIS procedures, which include selecting random samples of the wild rice, evaluating the samples for conformance with the salient characteristics and analytical requirements of this CID and other contractual requirements, and documenting the findings on official FGIS score sheets and/or certificates. In addition, when required in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order, FGIS inspectors will examine the wild rice for conformance to the U.S. Standards for Condition of Food Containers (7 CFR Part 42) in effect on the date of the solicitation.

11. **PACKAGING.** Preservation, packaging, packing, labeling, and case marking must be commercial unless otherwise specified in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order.

12. **USDA INSPECTION NOTES.** When Section 10.4 is specified in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order, USDA certification must include evaluation of the quality and condition of samples of wild rice and compliance with requirements in the following areas:

- Processing guidelines (Sec. 5).
- Salient characteristics (Sec. 6).
- Analytical requirements *when specified in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order* (Sec. 7). When USDA analytical testing is specified, FGIS inspection personnel must select samples and submit them to the USDA, Science and Technology Program (S&TP) laboratory for analysis.
- Packaging requirements (Sec. 11 or *as specified in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order*).
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13. REFERENCE NOTES.

13.1 USDA certification services.

13.1.1 Federal Grain Inspection Service. For USDA, FGIS certification, contact the Policies, Procedures, and Market Analysis Branch, Field Management Division, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA), STOP 3632, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-3632, telephone (202) 720-0277, fax (202) 720-1015, or via E-mail: Andrew.S.Greenfield@usda.gov.

13.1.2 USDA Plant Survey. For a USDA plant survey contact the Associate Director, Inspection Operations, SCI Division, SCP, AMS, USDA, Room 1536 South Building, STOP 0240, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-0240, telephone (202) 720-2482, fax (202) 720-0393, or via E-mail: Nathaniel.Taylor@ams.usda.gov.

13.1.3 USDA FDSS, and PSA. For a USDA FDSS and PSA contact the Chief, Auditing Services Branch, SCI Division, SCP, AMS, USDA, Room 1536 South Building, STOP 0247, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-0247, telephone (202) 720-5021, fax (202) 260-8927, or via E-mail: fvaudits@ams.usda.gov.

13.2 USDA analytical testing and technical information services.

13.2.1 FGIS contacts. For FGIS technical information on analytical testing, contact Jason Vanfossan, FGIS, GIPSA, TSD, USDA, 10383 Ambassador Drive, Kansas City, MO 64153, telephone (816) 891-0474, fax (816) 891-7314 or via E-mail: Jason.D.Vanfossan@usda.gov.

13.2.2 AMS contacts. For AMS technical information on analytical testing, contact a member of the Laboratory Approval and Testing Division, S&TP, AMS, USDA, STOP 0272, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-0272, telephone (202) 690-0621 or via E-mail: KerryR.Smith@ams.usda.gov.

13.3 Sources of documents.

13.3.1 Sources of information for nongovernmental documents are as follows:

Copies of the Approved Methods of the AACC International may be obtained from: AACC International, 3340 Pilot Knob Road, St. Paul, MN 55121-2097; telephone (651) 454-7250, fax (651) 454-0766, or via E-mail aacc@scisoc.org or on the Internet at: http://www.aaccnet.org.

13.3.2 Sources of information for governmental documents are as follows:

Applicable provisions of the U.S. Standards for Condition of Food Containers are contained in 7 CFR Part 42, the National Organic Program are contained in 7 CFR Part 205, the Fair Packaging and Labeling Act are contained in 16 CFR Parts 500 to 503, and the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act are contained in 21 CFR Parts 1 to 199. These documents may be purchased from: Superintendent of Documents, New Orders, P.O. Box 979050, St. Louis, MO 63197-9000. Credit card (Visa, MasterCard, Discover/NOVUS, and American Express) purchases may be made by calling the Superintendent of Documents on (866) 512-1800, (202) 512-1800. These documents may also be obtained free of charge on the Internet at: http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/browse/collectionCfr.action?collectionCode=CFR.


CIVIL AGENCY COORDINATING ACTIVITIES:

DOJ - BOP
HHS - FDA
USDA - SCP
VA - OSS

PREPARING ACTIVITY:

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