

## DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE



Division of Measurement Standards  
8500 Fruitridge Road  
Sacramento, CA 95826-4808

DMS NOTICE  
QC – 02 – 2

July 9, 2002

Discard: Retain

TO WEIGHTS AND MEASURES OFFICIALS

**SUBJECT: Statewide Milling Products Survey**

The statewide survey of milling products, one of the priority marketplace evaluations identified in cooperation with the California Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers Association, was completed in November, 2001. Participating counties randomly selected and tested 603 items throughout the State. Your participation in this important survey is greatly appreciated.

The results of the survey show an average overfill of 2.38% for the products tested throughout the State. Of the 603 items tested, 107 were found to be underfilled. All underfilled products found during the survey were followed up with official lot inspections. All of the 11 subcategories surveyed had an average overfill.

The following attachments outline the parameters and results of the survey for individual subcategories as well as the category as a whole.

If you have any questions regarding this or other surveys, please contact Ken Lake, Program Supervisor, at (916) 229-3047.

Sincerely,

Mike Cleary  
Director  
(916) 229-3000

Attachments

## **STATEWIDE MILLING PRODUCTS COMMODITY SURVEY**

Information for this statewide milling products commodity survey was collected by County Weights and Measures Officials during October and November, 2001.

### **SAMPLE**

Forty retail items were to be selected in each of the following subcategories:

- 6.01 – Cereals, Breakfast Foods
- 6.02 – Brans, Wheat Germ
- 6.03 – Corn Meal
- 6.04 – Wet Corn Meal Mush
- 6.05 – Milled Rice and Rice By-products
- 6.06 – Prepared Flour and Flour Mixes
- 6.07 – Grain Products, N.E.C.
- 6.08 – Macaroni and Allied Foods
- 6.09 – Popcorn
- 6.40 – Milling Products, N.E.C.

Two hundred retail items were to be selected for the following category:

- 6.50 - Milling Products, Point of Pack

The sample from an individual packer consisted of five randomly selected items of any type or types of commodities in the 6.00 category. The total commodity sample size, retail and point of pack was to consist of 600 randomly selected individual items.

To insure that all regions of the State contributed to the survey, the counties were divided into four groups of approximately equivalent populations. Each group of counties selected and tested one quarter of the total sample for the survey.

### **SELECTION**

Establishments visited for purchases were chosen randomly by participating counties using the criteria that no more than three items from a single subcategory and not more than 15 items overall were to be selected from the same retail establishment. All types of retail stores carrying milling products were considered for purchases, not just supermarkets and food stores.

Packers were defined as any establishment weighing or measuring and labeling milling products for retail sale. Packers were also chosen at random by the participating county.

### **INSPECTION PROCEDURE**

After purchase, samples were taken to the local quantity control laboratory and tested for net content. Each package was opened to determine the actual net content, and then compared with the labeled net content to determine any error for that package.

## 2001 MILLING PRODUCTS SURVEY

Category	Description	Number of Items Tested	Percent Compliance	Number Overfilled	Number No Error	Number Underfilled	Average Percent Error	Standard Deviation
6.01	Cereals, Breakfast Foods	45	96	43	0	2	3.58	4.75
6.02	Brans, Wheat Germ	40	80	32	1	7	3.39	12.82
6.03	Corn Meal	40	83	33	0	7	1.89	3.57
6.04	Wet Corn Meal Mush	40	93	37	0	3	3.03	3.76
6.05	Milled Rice and Rice By-Products	44	80	31	4	9	1.43	3.62
6.06	Prepared Flour and Flour Mixes	40	73	29	1	10	1.31	2.02
6.07	Grain Mill Products, N.E.C.	39	82	29	3	7	2.15	2.67
6.08	Macaroni and Allied Foods	40	70	23	5	12	1.70	4.91
6.09	Popcorn	40	88	34	1	5	1.97	3.65
6.40	Milling Products, N.E.C.	41	76	30	1	10	2.39	4.54
6.50	Milling Products, Point of Pack	194	82	133	26	35	2.49	8.28
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>603</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>454</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>2.38</b>	<b>6.47</b>