

Avocado Buy American Exception

Section 104(d) of the William F. Goodling Child Nutrition Reauthorization Act of 1998 requires school food authorities (SFAs) to purchase, to the maximum extent practicable, “domestic commodity or product.” A “domestic commodity or product” is either: (1) an agricultural commodity produced in the U.S; or (2) a food product processed in the U.S using “substantial” agricultural commodities that are produced in the U.S.

There are five primary exceptions to the Buy American Act: (1) the purchase of domestic products would be inconsistent with the public interest; (2) the cost of the domestic products is unreasonable; (3) domestic products are not reasonably available in the quantity or quality required; (4) the procurement is for use outside of the U.S. or (5) the procurement is below the micro-purchase threshold of \$3000.

The J.R. Simplot Company sources 100% of the avocado used in the production of Simplot branded avocado and guacamole items from Mexico. This includes the brands Harvest Fresh™, Daily Pick™ and J.R. Simplot Company. Avocado trees are native to the humid, sub-tropical and tropical regions of central and northern South America. Mexico is the largest producer of avocados, followed by the United States (California and Florida). While avocados are grown in the United States, they are generally used for fresh production and not large volume frozen manufacturing. To meet the volume and quality standards of our customers, we must continue to support our customers’ needs with avocado supply from Mexico.

Regards,



Katie Backstrom
Regulatory Manager

