

METRIC

A-A-20183C
October 21, 2008
SUPERSEDING
A-A-20183B
November 22, 2004

COMMERCIAL ITEM DESCRIPTION

TEA MIXES, INSTANT

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

1. SCOPE. This CID covers instant tea mixes, packed in commercially acceptable containers, suitable for use by Federal, State, local governments, and other interested parties; and as a component of operational rations.

2. PURCHASER NOTES.

2.1 Purchasers *shall specify* the following:

- Variety(ies), style(s), type(s), and flavor(s) of instant tea mixes required (Sec. 3).
- When analytical requirements are different than specified (Sec. 6.1).
- When analytical requirements need to be verified (Sec. 6.2).
- Manufacturer's /distributor's certification (Sec. 9.2) or USDA certification (Sec. 9.3).

2.2 Purchasers *may specify* the following:

- Manufacturer's quality assurance (Sec 9.1 with 9.1.1) or (Sec 9.1 with 9.1.2).
- Packaging requirements other than commercial (Sec. 10).

3. CLASSIFICATION. The instant tea mixes shall conform to the following list which shall be specified in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order.

Varieties, styles, types, and flavors.

Variety I - Black tea

Style A - Sweetened with nutritive sweeteners

Type 1 - Regular (caffeinated)

Flavor a - Unflavored

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- Flavor b** - Lemon
- Flavor c** - Raspberry
- Flavor d** - Peach
- Flavor e** - Strawberry-kiwi
- Flavor f** - Mango
- Flavor q** - Other

Type 2 - Decaffeinated

- Flavor a** - Unflavored
- Flavor b** - Lemon
- Flavor q** - Other

Style B - Sweetened with non-nutritive sweeteners

Type 1 - Regular (caffeinated)

- Flavor b** - Lemon
- Flavor c** - Raspberry
- Flavor d** - Peach
- Flavor q** - Other

Type 2 - Decaffeinated

- Flavor a** - Unflavored
- Flavor b** - Lemon
- Flavor q** - Other

Variety II - White tea

Style A - Sweetened with nutritive sweeteners

Type 1 - Regular (caffeinated)

- Flavor g** - Blueberry
- Flavor h** - Berry honey
- Flavor q** - Other

Style B - Sweetened with non-nutritive sweeteners

Type 1 - Regular (caffeinated)

- Flavor c** - Raspberry
- Flavor g** - Blueberry
- Flavor h** - Berry honey
- Flavor i** - Apple cranberry
- Flavor q** - Other

Variety III - Green tea

Style A - Sweetened with nutritive sweeteners

Type 1 - Regular (caffeinated)

Flavor a - Unflavored

Flavor j - Honey and lemon

Flavor k - Citrus

Flavor q - Other

Style B - Sweetened with non-nutritive sweeteners

Type 1 - Regular (caffeinated)

Flavor c - Raspberry

Flavor h - Berry honey

Flavor j - Honey and lemon

Flavor k - Citrus

Flavor l - Pink lemonade

Flavor m - Blueberry pomegranate

Flavor n - Raspberry lime

Flavor o - Cherry

Flavor p - Mandarin and mango

Flavor q - Other

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

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

5. SALIENT CHARACTERISTICS.

5.1 Processing. The instant tea ingredient shall be an extract processed from the leaves, buds, and tender stems of the varieties of the species *Camellia sinensis* or *Thea sinensis* known to be suitable for making tea for consumption as a beverage. The instant tea mixes shall be processed in accordance with good manufacturing practices (21 CFR Part 110).

5.2 Raw ingredients. The instant tea mixes shall contain ingredients appropriate for the variety(ies), type(s), style(s), and flavor(s) of instant tea mixes specified in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order. The instant tea mixes may contain antioxidants, food acidulants,

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tricalcium phosphate, sodium citrate buffer, anti-caking agents, and acid resistant U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) colors approved for food use. All ingredients shall be cold water soluble.

5.2.1 Food Chemicals Codex purity. The following ingredients shall comply with the purity standards of the Food Chemicals Codex: non-nutritive sweeteners, antioxidants, food acidulants, anti-caking agents, emulsifiers, nutritional and dietary supplements, and sodium citrate buffer.

5.2.2 Sweeteners. Nutritive or non-nutritive sweeteners may be used in the pre-sweetened instant tea mixes. The nutritive sweeteners shall be white, refined, granulated cane or beet sugar, fructose, or a combination thereof. The non-nutritive sweeteners shall be aspartame, saccharin, acesulfame-K, sucralose; or a combination thereof, or other non-nutritive sweeteners approved by the FDA for food use.

5.2.3 Lemon flavor or lemon juice powder. The instant tea mixes containing lemon flavoring or juice powder shall be protected from oxidation, rancidity, evaporation or other types of deterioration by encapsulation or entrapped in an edible material (such as dextrose, corn syrup solids or vegetable gums).

5.2.4 Carbohydrate bulking agent. The instant tea mixes may contain carbohydrate bulking agents and shall be either maltodextrin or corn syrup solids.

5.3 Finished Product. The instant tea mixes shall be free from lumps that do not fall apart with light finger pressure and be completely soluble. Variety I - Black tea mixes shall possess a typical light brown color. Variety II - White tea mixes shall possess a light to medium gold color. Variety III - Green tea mixes shall possess a light to medium amber color. All tea mixes shall have uniform distribution of ingredients and no aggregates of individual ingredients and anti-caking agents. The instant tea mixes shall have an odor characteristic of the variety, style, type, and flavor of tea mix specified. The reconstituted instant tea mixes shall have a flavor and odor characteristic of the variety, style, type, and flavor of tea mix specified.

5.4 Foreign material. The finished product shall be clean, sound, wholesome, and free from evidence of rodent or insect infestation.

6. ANALYTICAL REQUIREMENTS.

6.1 Analytical requirements. Unless otherwise specified in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order, the instant tea mixes shall conform to the following analytical requirements:

Table I. Analytical requirements (percent by weight)

	Moisture maximum	Sugar maximum <u>1/</u>	Titratable acidity minimum <u>2/</u>	Titratable acidity maximum
Variety I - Black				
Style A, Type 1	0.70	97.0	2.2	--
Style A, Type 2	0.70	97.0	2.2	
Style B, Type 1, flavor b	4.0	--	--	40.0
Style B, Type 1, flavor c and d	4.0	--	--	37.0
Style B, Type 2	4.0	--	--	37.0
Variety II - White				
Style A, Type 1	0.70	97.0	0.08	--
Style B, Type 1	4.0	--	--	0.13
Variety III - Green				
Style A, Type 1	0.70	97.5	0.07	--
Style B, Type 1	4.0	--	--	0.12

1/ Sucrose.

2/ As citric acid on a dry basis.

6.2 Product verification. When USDA verification of analytical requirements is specified in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order, analytical testing shall be performed on a composite sample. The composite sample shall be 113 g (4 oz) and prepared from five randomly selected subsamples. Subsamples shall be a minimum of one packet/container and shall contain the appropriate number of packets/containers to yield a 113 g (4 oz) sample when composited.

6.3 Analytical testing. When specified in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order, the analyses shall be in accordance with the following methods from the Official Methods of Analysis of the AOAC International:

<u>Test</u>	<u>Method</u>
Moisture	925.45A
Titratable acidity	920.92
Sugar	923.09 or 977.20

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6.4 Test results. The test results shall be reported to the nearest 0.1 percent except for the following. The moisture content for Style A, Types 1 and 2 of Varieties I - III, and titrable acidity for Style A, Type 1 and Style B, Type 1 of Varieties II and III, shall be reported to the nearest 0.01 percent. Any result not conforming to the analytical requirements shall be cause for rejection of the lot.

7. MANUFACTURER'S/DISTRIBUTOR'S PRODUCT ASSURANCE. The manufacturer/distributor shall certify that the instant tea mixes provided shall meet the salient characteristics of this CID, conform to their own specifications, standards, and quality assurance practices, and be the same instant tea mixes offered for sale in the commercial market. The purchaser reserves the right to require proof of conformance.

8. REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS. The delivered instant tea mixes shall comply with all applicable Federal, State, and local mandatory requirements and regulations relating to the preparation, packaging, labeling, storage, distribution, and sale of instant tea mixes within the commercial marketplace. Delivered instant tea mixes shall comply with all applicable provisions of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, the Fair Packaging and Labeling Act, and regulations promulgated thereunder.

9. QUALITY ASSURANCE PROVISIONS. *Purchaser shall specify 9.2 or 9.3; purchaser may specify 9.1 with 9.1.1 or 9.1 with 9.1.2.*

9.1 Manufacturer's quality assurance. When required in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order, the product manufacturer shall 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 awarding of the contract. Failure to provide this documentation within the proper time frame may result in the contract being terminated for cause.

9.1.1 Plant systems audit. A plant systems audit (PSA) conducted by USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), or another audit performed by a third party auditing service, and 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 Title 21 Code of Federal Regulations Part 110 - Current Good Manufacturing Practice in Manufacturing, Packing, or Holding Human Food, and verifies that the manufacturer has in place an internal quality assurance program. The AMS PSA determines the manufacturer's ability to produce under this CID, if the products of interest are identified at the time of the PSA.)*

9.1.2 Plant survey. A plant survey conducted by USDA, AMS, or another survey performed by a third party auditing service and 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 Title 21 Code of Federal Regulations Part 110 - Current Good Manufacturing Practice in Manufacturing, Packing, or Holding Human Food.)

9.2 Manufacturer's/distributor's certification. When required in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order, the manufacturer/distributor will certify that the finished instant tea mixes distributed meets or exceeds the requirements of this CID.

9.3 USDA certification. When required in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order that product quality and acceptability or both be determined, the Processed Products Branch (PPB), Fruit and Vegetable Programs (FV), AMS, USDA, shall be the certifying program. PPB inspectors shall certify the quality and acceptability of the instant tea mixes in accordance with PPB procedures which include selecting random samples of the packaged instant tea mixes, evaluating the samples for conformance with the salient characteristics of this CID and other contractual requirements, and documenting the findings on official PPB score sheets and/or certificates. In addition, when required in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order, PPB inspectors will examine the instant tea mixes for conformance to the United States Standards for Condition of Food Containers in effect on the date of the solicitation.

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

11. USDA INSPECTION NOTES. When Section 9.3 is specified in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order, USDA certification shall include evaluation of the quality and condition of samples of packaged instant tea mixes, and compliance with requirements in the following areas:

- Salient characteristics (Sec. 5).
- Analytical requirements *when specified in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order* (Sec. 6.1). When USDA analytical testing is specified, PPB inspection personnel shall select samples and submit them to the USDA, Science and Technology Programs (S&TP) laboratory for analysis.
- Packaging requirements (Sec. 10 or as specified in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order).

12. REFERENCE NOTES.

12.1 USDA certification contact. For USDA certification, contact the **Branch Chief, PPB, FV, AMS, USDA, STOP 0247, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-0247, telephone (202) 720-4693, Fax (202) 690-1527, or via E-mail: terry.bane@usda.gov.**

12.2 Analytical testing and technical information. For USDA technical information on analytical testing, contact the **Branch Chief, Technical Service Branch, S&TP, AMS, USDA,**

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STOP 0272, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-0272, telephone (202) 690-0621, or via E-mail: shirleyj.wright@usda.gov.

12.3 Sources of documents.

12.3.1 Sources of information for nongovernmental documents are as follows.

Copies of the Official Methods of Analysis of the AOAC International may be obtained from: **AOAC International, 481 North Frederick Avenue, Suite 500, Gaithersburg, MD 20877, telephone (301) 924-7077. Internet address: www.aoac.org.**

Copies of the Food Chemicals Codex may be purchased from: **United States Pharmacopeial Convention, 12601 Twinbrook Parkway, Rockville, MD 20852-1790, telephone (800) 227-8772 or (301) 881-0666, Fax (301) 816-8148. Internet address: www.usp.org.**

12.3.2 Sources of information for governmental documents are as follows.

Applicable provisions of: 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 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954. 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 or on the Internet at: <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/nara/index.html>.**

Copies of this CID and the United States Standards for Condition of Food Containers are available from: **Branch Chief, PPB, FV, AMS, USDA, STOP 0247, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-0247, telephone (202) 720-9939, Fax (202) 690-1527, via E-mail: FQAStaff@usda.gov or on the Internet at: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/FQAS>.**

Beneficial comments, recommendations, additions, deletions, clarifications, etc., and any data which may improve this document should be sent to: **Commander, Defense Supply Center Philadelphia, ATTN: DSCP-FTSA, 700 Robbins Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19111-5092 or Fax (215) 737-2963, or via E-mail: Sally.A.Gallagher@dla.mil.**

Military activities should submit requests for copies of this CID to: **Standardization Documents Order Desk, Document Automation and Production Service, 700 Robbins Avenue, Building 4D, Philadelphia, PA 19111-5094 or on the Internet at: <http://assist.daps.dla.mil/quicksearch/>.**

MILITARY INTERESTS:

Custodians

Army - GL
Navy - SA
Air Force - 35

Review Activities

Army - MD, QM
Navy - MC

CIVIL AGENCY COORDINATING ACTIVITIES:

DOJ - BOP
HHS - NIH, IHS
USDA - FV
VA - OSS

PREPARING ACTIVITY:

DLA - SS

(Project No. 8955-2008-001)

NOTE: The activities listed above were interested in this document as of the date of this document. Since organizations and responsibilities can change, you should verify the currency of the information above using the ASSIST Online database at <http://assist.daps.dla.mil>.

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