

SECTION C

C-1 ITEM DESCRIPTION

PCR-C-026, CHICKEN, SPICY ORIENTAL, WITH RICE, COOKED, DEHYDRATED, PACKAGED IN A BRICKPACK POUCH, SHELF STABLE

Styles.

- Style A - Meal, Cold Weather (MCW), Packaged in a White Brickpack Pouch
- Style B - Food Packet, Long Range Patrol (LRP), Packaged in a Subdued Colored Brickpack Pouch

Each component is consumed by combat personnel under worldwide environmental extremes as part of an operational ration, and is a source of nutritional intake.

C-2 PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS

A. Product standard. A sample shall be subjected to first article or product demonstration model inspection as applicable, in accordance with the tests and inspections of Section E of this Performance-based Contract Requirements document.

B. Shelf life. The packaged food shall meet the minimum shelf life requirement of 36 months at 80°F.

C. Dehydrated product.

(1) Appearance.

a. General. The dehydrated spicy oriental chicken with rice shall be a mixture of cooked, chicken pieces, rice, green beans, water chestnuts, mushrooms, and sweet red peppers, and peanuts in spicy, oriental style sauce, that has been dehydrated. The dehydrated product may include peanuts. The dehydrated product shall be free from foreign materials.

b. Chicken. The chicken pieces shall be a medium to light tan color and shall be characteristic of cooked, dehydrated chicken.

c. Rice. The rice shall be enriched, parboiled, long grain, milled rice. The rice shall be off-white color and shall be characteristic of cooked, dehydrated rice.

d. Vegetables. The vegetables shall be green bean pieces, water chestnut slices, mushroom pieces, and sweet red pepper pieces and shall be characteristic of the appropriate, dehydrated vegetable.

e. Peanuts. The peanuts If peanuts are included they shall be whole or splits and shall be medium tan color.

(2) Odor.

a. General. The odor shall be characteristic of cooked, dehydrated chicken, rice, green beans, water chestnuts, mushrooms, and sweet red peppers, and peanuts in spicy, oriental style sauce.

b. Foreign. The dehydrated product shall be free from foreign odors.

(3) Texture. The product shall be fully dehydrated. There shall be discernible chicken pieces, rice, green bean pieces, water chestnut slices, mushroom pieces, and sweet red pepper pieces, and peanuts. If peanuts are included they shall be discernible whole or splits.

(4) Weight.

a. Net weight. No individual pouch shall weigh less than 150 grams.

(5) Nutrient content.

a. Protein content. The protein content shall be not less than 19.0 percent.

b. Fat content. The fat content shall be not greater than 15.0 percent.

c. Sodium content. The sodium content shall be not greater than 2000 mg per 100 grams.

(6) Moisture content. The moisture content of the dehydrated product shall not exceed 2.5 percent.

(7) Microbiological. The aerobic plate count shall not be greater than 75,000 per gram in four of five samples, and not greater than 150,000 per gram in any sample. The E. coli count shall have no positive tubes in the standard three tube most probable number (MPN) technique.

D. Rehydrated product.

(1) Appearance.

a. General. The rehydrated spicy oriental chicken with rice shall be a mixture of chicken pieces, rice, green bean pieces, water chestnut slices, mushroom pieces, and sweet red pepper pieces, ~~and peanuts~~ in spicy, oriental style sauce. The overall appearance shall be characteristic of chicken, rice, and vegetables, ~~and peanuts~~ that have been frozen and reheated. The rehydrated product may have peanuts. The rehydrated product shall be free from foreign materials.

b. Chicken. The chicken shall be in natural proportions. The cooked chicken shall be pieces typically produced by a 1/2 inch machine setting and shall be medium to light tan color. The cooked chicken shall be free of bone or bone fragment, skin, cartilage, coarse connective tissue, tendons or ligaments, and discolored meat.

c. Rice. The rice shall be enriched, parboiled, long grain, milled rice. The rice shall be distinct rice grains and shall be off-white color.

d. Vegetables. The vegetables shall be green bean pieces, water chestnut slices, mushroom pieces, and sweet red pepper pieces and shall be the characteristic color for the appropriate vegetable.

e. Peanuts. ~~The peanuts~~ If peanuts are included they shall be whole or splits and shall be medium tan color.

f. Sauce. The sauce shall be medium to dark tan color.

(2) Odor and flavor.

a. General. The spicy oriental chicken with rice shall have an odor and flavor characteristic of cooked chicken, rice, green beans, water chestnuts, mushrooms, and sweet red peppers, ~~and peanuts~~ in spicy, oriental style sauce. The product may have peanuts.

b. Foreign. The rehydrated product shall be free from foreign odors and flavors.

(3) Texture.

a. General. The product shall rehydrate within ten minutes.

- b. Chicken. The chicken shall be moist and tender.
- c. Rice. The rice shall be moist and shall be slightly soft to slightly firm.
- d. Vegetables. The water chestnuts shall be crunchy. The green beans, mushrooms, and sweet red peppers shall be slightly soft to slightly firm.
- e. Peanuts. ~~The peanuts~~ **If peanuts are included they** shall be crunchy.
- f. Sauce. The sauce shall be moderately thick.

(4) Palatability and overall appearance. The finished product shall be equal to or better than the approved product standard in palatability and overall appearance.

C-3 MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

THE FOLLOWING LIST OF INGREDIENTS IS PROVIDED FOR INFORMATION ONLY TO PROVIDE THE BENEFIT OF PAST GOVERNMENT EXPERIENCE. THIS IS NOT A MANDATORY CONTRACT REQUIREMENT.

Ingredients: chicken, enriched rice, green beans, water chestnuts, mushrooms, red peppers, peanuts, partially hydrogenated vegetable oil and/or vegetable oil, and soy sauce or teriyaki flavor

SECTION D

D-1 PACKAGING

Product shall be filled into pouches in accordance with the PACKAGING REQUIREMENTS AND QUALITY ASSURANCE PROVISIONS FOR DEHYDRATED PRODUCT IN A BRICKPACK POUCH.

D-2 LABELING

Each pouch shall be labeled in accordance with the PACKAGING REQUIREMENTS AND QUALITY ASSURANCE PROVISIONS FOR DEHYDRATED PRODUCT IN A BRICKPACK POUCH.

D-3 PACKING

Packing for shipment to ration assembler shall be in accordance with the PACKAGING REQUIREMENTS AND QUALITY ASSURANCE PROVISIONS FOR DEHYDRATED PRODUCT IN A BRICKPACK POUCH.

D-4 MARKING

Marking of shipping containers shall be in accordance with the PACKAGING REQUIREMENTS AND QUALITY ASSURANCE PROVISIONS FOR DEHYDRATED PRODUCT IN A BRICKPACK POUCH.

SECTION E INSPECTION AND ACCEPTANCE

Inspection for packaging, labeling, packing, and marking shall be in accordance with the PACKAGING REQUIREMENTS AND QUALITY ASSURANCE PROVISIONS FOR DEHYDRATED PRODUCT IN A BRICKPACK POUCH.

E-6 QUALITY ASSURANCE PROVISIONS

Definitions.

(1) Critical defect. A critical defect is a defect that judgment and experience indicate would result in hazardous or unsafe conditions for individuals using, maintaining, or depending on the item; or a defect that judgment and experience indicate is likely to prevent the performance of the major end item, i.e., the consumption of the ration.

(2) Major defect. A major defect is a defect, other than critical, that is likely to result in failure, or to reduce materially the usability of the unit of product for its intended purpose.

(3) Minor defect. A minor defect is a defect that is not likely to reduce materially the usability of the of the unit of product for its intended purpose, or is a departure from established standards having little bearing on the effective use or operation of the unit.

Quality Assurance Provisions.

The following quality assurance criteria, utilizing ANZI/ASQC Z1.4-1993, Sampling Procedures and Tables for Inspection by Attributes, are required.

A. Classification of inspections. The inspection requirements specified herein are classified as follows:

(1) Product standard inspection. The first article or product demonstration model shall be inspected in accordance with the provisions of this Performance-based Contract Requirements document and evaluated for overall appearance and palatability. Any failure to conform to the performance requirements or any appearance or palatability failure shall be cause for rejection.

(2) Conformance inspection. Conformance inspection shall include the product examination and the methods of inspection cited in this section.

B. Product examination. The finished product shall be examined for compliance with the performance requirements specified in Section C of this Performance-based Contract Requirements document utilizing the double sampling plans indicated in ANSI/ASQC Z1.4 - 1993. The lot size shall be expressed in pouches. The sample unit shall be the contents of one pouch. The inspection level shall be S-3 and the AQL, expressed in terms of defects per hundred units, shall be 1.5 for major defects and 4.0 for minor defects. Defects and defect classifications are listed in table I.

TABLE I. Product defects 1/ 2/ 3/

<u>Category</u>		<u>Defect</u>
<u>Major</u>	<u>Minor</u>	
		<u>Dehydrated product</u>
		<u>Appearance</u>
101		Glazed surface area measuring more than 0.5 inch in any dimension. <u>4/</u>
102		Dark colored core in any dimension. <u>4/</u>
	201	Chicken not medium to light tan color or not characteristic of cooked, dehydrated chicken.
	202	Rice not off-white or not characteristic of cooked, dehydrated rice.
	203	Vegetables not characteristic of the appropriate, cooked, dehydrated vegetable.
	204	Peanuts if present not medium tan or not whole or splits.
		<u>Odor</u>
103		Not characteristic of cooked, dehydrated chicken, rice, green beans, water chestnuts, mushrooms, and sweet red peppers, and peanuts in spicy, oriental style sauce.
		<u>Texture</u>
104		Wet spots or soft spots. <u>5/</u>
		<u>Weight</u>
	206	Net weight of an individual pouch less than 150 grams.
		<u>Rehydrated product</u> <u>8/</u> <u>9/</u>
		<u>Appearance</u>
105		Bone or bone fragment measuring more than 0.3 inch in any dimension.
106		Product not a mixture of chicken pieces, rice, green bean pieces, water chestnut slices, mushroom pieces, and sweet red pepper

pieces, ~~and peanuts~~ in a spicy, oriental style sauce.

- 207 Total weight of skin, cartilage, coarse connective tissue, tendons or ligaments, and discolored meat more than 0.20 ounce.
- 208 Chicken not medium to light tan color.
- 209 Rice not distinct grains or not off-white color.
- 210 Color not characteristic for the appropriate vegetable.
- 211 Peanuts **if present** not whole or splits or not a medium tan color.
- 212 Sauce not medium to dark tan color.

Odor and flavor

- 107 Odor or flavor not characteristic of frozen and reheated chicken, rice, green beans, water chestnuts, mushrooms, **and** sweet red peppers, ~~and peanuts~~ in a spicy, oriental style sauce.

Texture

- 108 Hard cores due to incomplete water penetration. 10/
- 213 Chicken not moist or not tender.
- 214 Rice not moist or not slightly soft to slightly firm.
- 215 Vegetables not slightly soft to slightly firm or water chestnuts not crunchy.
- 216 Peanuts **if present** not crunchy.
- 217 Sauce not moderately thick.

1/ Presence of foreign material such as, but not limited to dirt, insect parts, hair, glass, wood or metal, or presence of foreign odor or flavor (such as, but not limited to burnt, scorched, rancid, sour, or stale) shall be cause for rejection of the lot. Foreign flavor is not applicable to dehydrated product.

2/ Finished product not equal to or better than the approved product standard, in palatability and overall appearance shall be cause for rejection of the lot. Palatability is not applicable to dehydrated product.

3/ Enriched rice shall be verified with the ingredients' statement on the pouch.

4/ Evidence of faulty dehydration.

5/ Evidence of incomplete dehydration.

8/ Rehydrate according to pouch instructions. Product that does not rehydrate within ten minutes shall be cause for rejection of the lot.

9/ Machine setting requirement for chicken pieces shall be verified with the producer's certificate of conformance. The requirement for natural proportions shall be verified with a certificate of conformance.

10/ Dry areas attributable to gristle and similar materials in the meat shall not be considered as defects because they do not necessarily rehydrate properly.

C. Methods of inspection.

(1) Shelf life. The contractor shall provide a certificate of conformance that the product has a 3 year shelf life when stored at 80°F. Government verification may include storage for 6 months at 100°F or 36 months at 80°F. Upon completion of either storage period, the product will be subjected to a sensory evaluation panel for appearance and palatability and must receive an overall score of 5 or higher based on a 9 point hedonic scale to be considered acceptable.

(2) Net weight. The net weight of the filled and sealed pouches shall be determined by weighing each sample unit on a suitable scale tared with a representative empty pouch. Results shall be reported to the nearest gram.

(3) Nutrient content. The sample to be analyzed shall be a composite of eight filled and sealed pouches that have been selected at random from the lot. The composited sample shall be prepared (see NOTE) and analyzed for protein content, fat content, and sodium content in accordance with the following methods of the Official Methods of Analysis of AOAC International:

<u>Test</u>	<u>Method Number(s)</u>
Protein	988.05, 991.20
Fat	925.12
Sodium	985.35, 984.27

Test results for protein and fat shall be reported to the nearest 0.1 percent. Test results for sodium content shall be reported to the nearest 1.0 mg per 100 grams. Any result not conforming to the requirements specified in Section C of this Performance-based Contract Requirements document shall be cause for rejection of the lot.

NOTE: The USDA will use AOAC method 983.18 for preparation of the sample.

(4) Moisture content testing. Eight filled and sealed pouches shall be selected at random from the lot regardless of lot size. The contents of each pouch shall be blended to uniformity using a blender or a food processor. The blending must be rapid and conducted in such a way that minimum heat is transferred to the product and that the product has minimum exposure to atmospheric moisture. Each sample shall be tested for moisture content in accordance with the Official Methods of Analysis of the AOAC method 926.08 except that the temperature-time cycle for moisture analysis shall be modified by using a temperature of 70°C for 16 hours at a pressure of not more than 100 mm of mercury. Test results shall be reported to the nearest 0.1 percent. Any result not conforming to the requirements specified in Section C of this Performance-based Contract Requirements document shall be cause for rejection of the lot.

(5) Microbiological testing. Five filled and sealed pouches of finished product shall be selected at random from the lot regardless of lot size. The contents of each sample pouch shall be tested for aerobic plate count in accordance with the Official Methods of Analysis of the AOAC, method 966.23 or method 990.12, and E.coli in accordance with the Official Methods of Analysis of the AOAC, method 966.24. The diluent shall be added to each sample of dry product and allowed to stand for 15 minutes before the blending of that sample. Continue as directed. Any result not conforming to the requirements specified in Section C of this Performance-based Contract Requirements document shall be cause for rejection of the lot.

SECTION J REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

NON-GOVERNMENTAL STANDARDS

AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR QUALITY CONTROL (ASQC)

ANSI/ASQCZ1.4-1993 Sampling Procedures and Tables for Inspection by Attributes

AOAC INTERNATIONAL Official Methods of Analysis of the AOAC International

AMSRD-NSC-CF-F (M Canniff/4503)
January 2005

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TO: DSCP-FTRAC (D Kavanagh/7771)

SUBJECT: ES case ES05-039 (DSCP-SS-05-13492); Removal/Elimination of Peanuts in MCW/LRP Entrees, Document Change, PCR-C-026, CHICKEN, SPICY ORIENTAL, WITH RICE, COOKED, DEHYDRATED, PACKAGED IN A BRICKPACK POUCH, SHELF STABLE.

Date received: 11 January 2005

Date due: 24 January 2005

Date replied: 21 January 2005

1. Reference e-mail, dated 21 September 2004, and Company Memorandum, dated 10 January 2005, both from J. Ostrin, Oregon Freeze Dry, Inc. (OFD) to J. Knapp, Ameriqua, and V. Loveridge, Natick Soldier Center (NSC), Subject, Peanuts in MCW/LRP Entrees.
2. NSC has no objection to OFD's decision to remove peanuts from their plant operations. Nutritional requirements will not be changed for affected products, entrée items made for the Meal, Cold Weather (MCW) and the Food Packet, Long Range Patrol (LRP).
3. Although recent productions of Beef Teriyaki with Rice have included peanuts, PCR-B-017, BEEF TERIYAKI WITH RICE, COOKED, DEHYDRATED, PACKAGED IN A BRICKPACK POUCH, SHELF STABLE does not require the ingredient and therefore no changes are required for the document.
4. PCR-C-026, CHICKEN, SPICY ORIENTAL, WITH RICE, COOKED, DEHYDRATED, PACKAGED IN A BRICKPACK POUCH, SHELF STABLE includes peanuts as a required ingredient. Therefore, to allow for a flexible requirement for the peanut ingredient, NSC requests that DSCP implement the following changes for current, pending, and future procurements until the subject document is formally amended or revised.

Page 1

- A. C-2, C (1), a. Delete ", and peanuts". Add "and" before "sweet". Add a sentence before the last sentence, "The dehydrated product may include peanuts."
- B. C-2, C (1), e. Delete "The peanuts" and add "If peanuts are included they".
- C. C-2, C (2) a. Delete ", and peanuts". Add "and" before "sweet".
- D. C-2, C (3) Delete ", and peanuts". Add "and" before "sweet". Add sentence after last sentence, "If peanuts are included they shall be discernible whole or splits."

Page 2

- E. C-2, D (1) a. Delete ", and peanuts" in first and second sentences. Add "and" before "sweet". Add "and" before "vegetables". Add a sentence before the last sentence, " The rehydrated product may have peanuts."
- F. C-2, D (1) e. Delete "The peanuts" and add "If peanuts are included they".

G. C-2, D (2) a. Delete ", and peanuts". Add "and" before "sweet". Add sentence, "The product may have peanuts."

Page 3

H. C-2, D (3) e. Delete "The peanuts" and add " If peanuts are included they".

Page 5 & 6

I. E-6, B, Table I, Minor Defects 204, 211 and 216. Add "if present" between "Peanuts" and "not".

J. E-6, B, Table I, Major Defects 103, 106, 107. Delete ", and peanuts". Add "and" before "sweet".

5. Updated PCR-C-026 as CHANGE 02, 21 January 2005 is attached.

6. The POCs for this action are Vicki Loveridge (DSN 256-5035) and Mary Canniff (DSN 256-4503).

1 Encl

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