Whole Grains Council Breaking Barriers for over a Decade

Cynthia Harriman

Director of Food & Nutrition Strategies, Oldways / Whole Grains Council

Whole Grains: Breaking Barriers, Boston, November 9-11, 2014



Barrier: Retail Products

Historic Problems:

- Very few whole grain products available
- Manufacturers inexperienced in formulating with whole grains
- Consumers couldn't easily identify whole grain foods



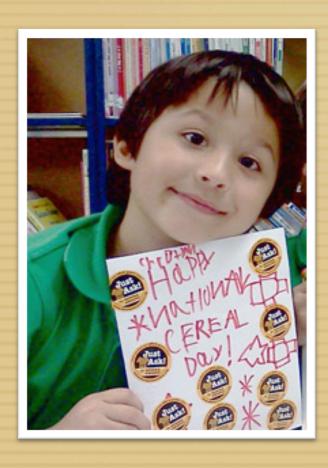




Barrier: Retail Products

The WGC Solutions:

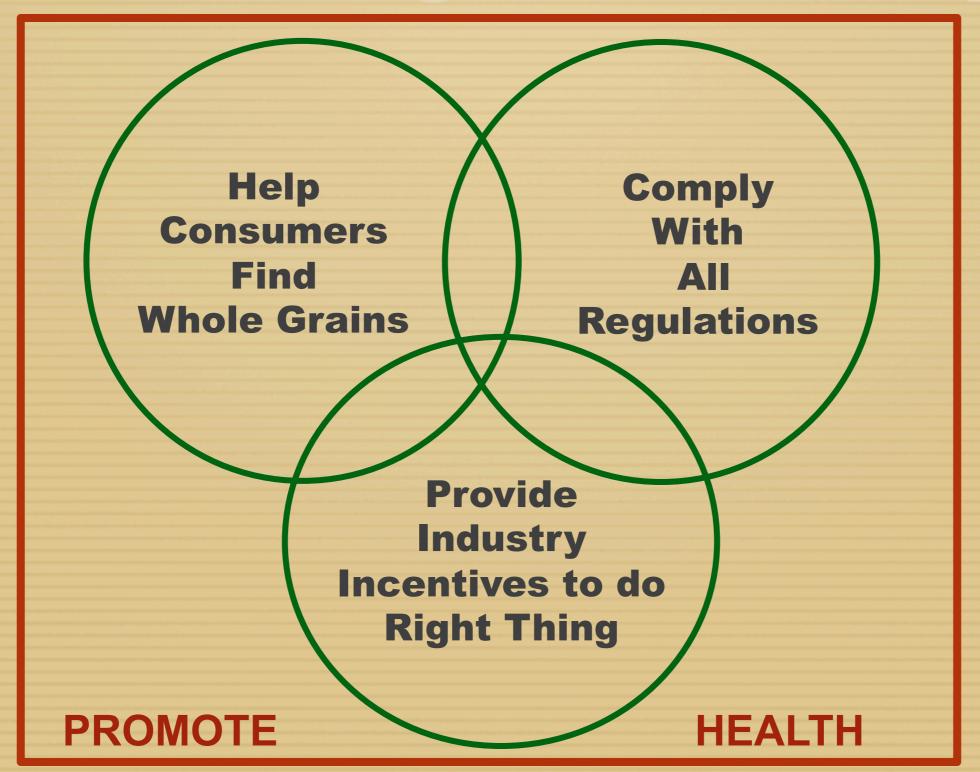
- Increasing consumer demand through education
- Creating the Whole Grain Stamp
- Incentivizing new product development





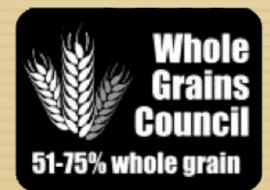


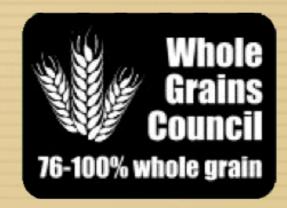
WG Labeling: Not So Simple!



1 1/2 Years in the Making





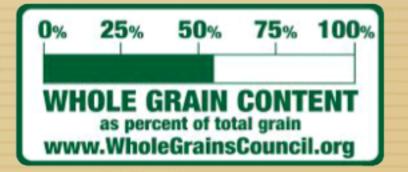




Aim for 3 or more whole grain servings each day



www.WholeGrainsCouncil.org







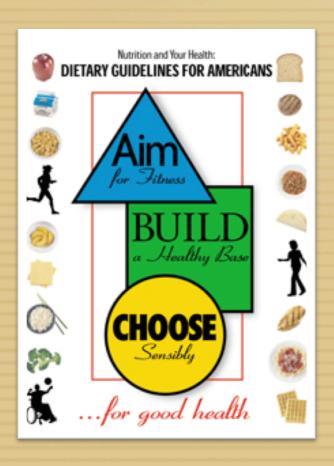




Barrier: Nutrition Policy

Historic Problems:

- U.S. Dietary Guidelines didn't specify whole grain needs
- WIC program didn't require whole grains
- Schools weren't required to serve whole grains



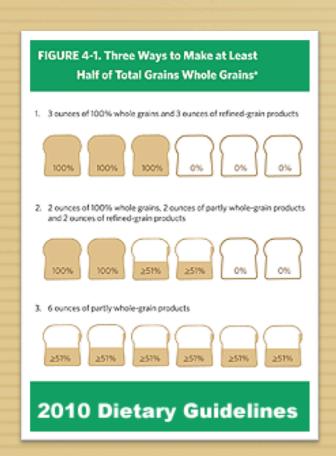


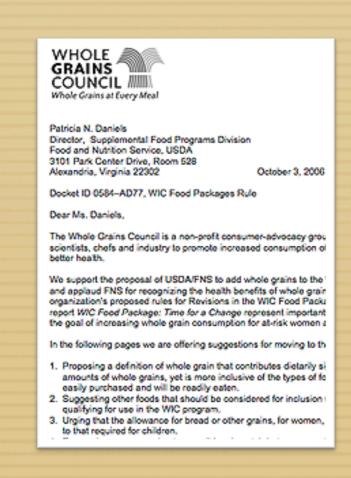


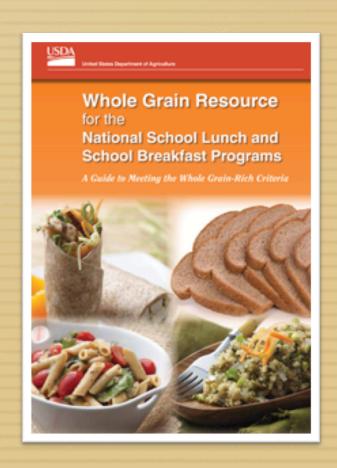
Barrier: Nutrition Policy

The WGC Solutions:

- Dietary Guidelines 2005 and 2010: comments from WGC
- WIC presentation in DC at WIC conference, comments
- Schools: ongoing co-operation with USDA/FNS







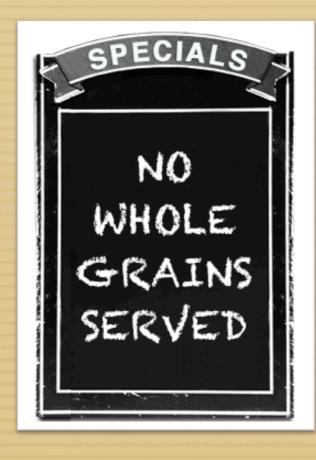


Barrier: Restaurants

Historic Problems:

- Perception that no one wants whole grains
- Perception that no one serves whole grains
- Inexperience with creating whole grain dishes



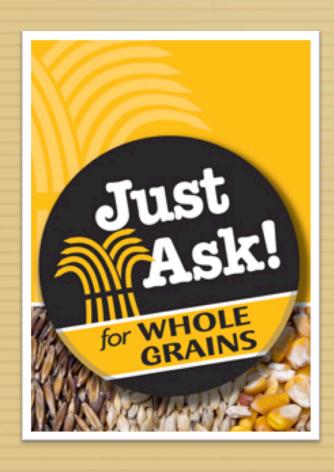




Barrier: Restaurants

The WGC Solutions:

- "Just Ask" campaign, starting in 2007
- Annual Whole Grains Challenge, 2007-2012
- Outreach, through NRA and other channels



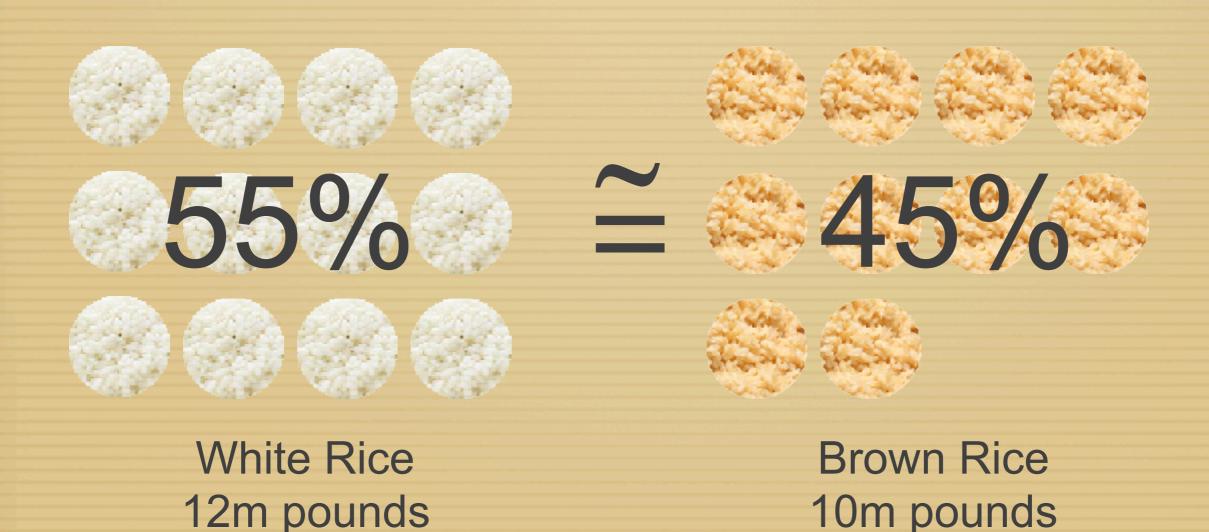


Restaurants Today





If you serve it, they will eat...



PF Chang's China Bistro & Pei Wei's Asian Diner (true since 2007)

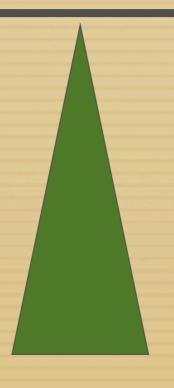


A Crucial Balancing Act

CONSUMERS

MANUFACTURERS FOODSERVICE

DEMAND



SUPPLY



People... the Real Difference

Thank you so much for sending those [materials] out! Monday is our first meeting where I will have some eager nutrition students make up a nice poster all about whole grains and their benefits.

- Kristine from California

Thank you for your prompt reply. This truly helps. Many thanks to you and Oldways for the wonderful work you do in promoting healthy eating.

- Craig from Pennsylvania

Thank you so much for your help and support of our nutrition program. Now I can use the word "germ" with confidence and explain it with accuracy... and my students will love the items you are sending... Thanks again for your help.

- Teresa from Florida

