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APPROVED COTTAGE FOODS – MARCH 10, 2023

Cottage Food Operations are allowed to produce certain categories of non-potentially hazardous foods. These are foods that do not support the rapid growth of microorganisms or toxins that could make people sick when the food is held outside time and temperature control. The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) is responsible for maintaining the Approved Cottage Foods List and may add or delete food categories. Notice of any change, the reason for the change, and the nature of the change is posted on our [Cottage Food Operations](#) webpage. Changes become effective 30 days after the notice has been posted. Questions about the Approved Cottage Foods List may be submitted to FDBRetail@cdph.ca.gov.

1. BAKED GOODS WITHOUT CREAM, CUSTARD, OR MEAT FILLINGS.

Examples:

Bagels * Baklava * Biscuits * Bread * Brownies * Buns * Cake * Churros * Coconut Macaroons * Cookies * Crackers * Cupcakes * Donuts (fried or baked) * Empanadas (fruit only) * Flatbreads * Fruit, Nut, or Seed Bars * Macarons (with approved buttercream) * Muffins * Pastries * Pies (fruit only) * Pizzelles * Quick Breads * Samosas (fruit only) * Tamales (fruit only) * Tarts * Tortilla * Torts * Waffles (fried or baked) * Waffle Cones

2. CANDY AND CONFECTIONS.

Examples:

Brittles * Candied Apples * Candied Popcorn (balls, caramel, chocolate) * Caramels * Cotton Candy * Chocolate-Covered Non-Perishables (including: marshmallows, nuts, candy, dried fruit, potato chips, or any combination) * Edible Dessert Sprinkles (including: sanding and crystalized sugars, non-pareils, confetti, sequins, dragees, sugar-shapes, sugar-strands (jimmies), comfits, mini-chocolates, and pralines) * Freeze-Dried Candies * Fudge * Ground Chocolate * Hard Candy * Marshmallow Bars * Marshmallows (without eggs) * Popcorn Balls * Salted Caramels * Spiced Sugar * Toffee

3. EXTRACTS CONTAINING AT LEAST 70 PROOF OR 35% FOOD-GRADE FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION ETHANOL/ALCOHOL.

Only those listed or combinations of those listed are allowed.

Apple * Apricot * Blackberry * Blueberry * Cherry * Chocolate * Cinnamon * Clove * Cranberry * Grapefruit * Kiwi * Lemon * Lime * Orange * Peach * Pear * Pineapple * Pomegranate * Raspberry * Strawberry * Tangerine * Vanilla *

4. DRIED, DEHYDRATED, AND FREEZE-DRIED FOODS.

Examples:

Baking Mixes * BeanSoup Mixes * Cereals * Coffee (roasted or freeze-dried) * Fruit * Fruit Powders * Fruit Roll-Ups * Grain Mixes * Granola * Ground Chocolate * Herbs and Herb Blends * Hot Chocolate Mix * Pasta * Popcorn * Potato Chips * Seasoning Salt * Spice Mix or Rubs * Tea * Trail Mixes * Vegetables * Vegetable Chips * Vegetable Soup Mixes

5. FROSTINGS, ICINGS, FONDANTS, AND GUM PASTES THAT DO NOT CONTAIN EGGS†, CREAM, OR CREAM CHEESE.

Examples:

Buttercream *made with butter* (traditional, vegan and chocolate) * Chocolate Frosting with commercially manufactured Balsamic Vinegar * Fondant (regular and chocolate) * Flat Icing * Gum Paste (pasteurized eggs only) * Edible Images * Sugar Glazes * Vegan Gum Paste

†Frostings and Icings made with meringue powder, powdered eggs, or pasteurized eggs are allowed.

6. HONEY AND SORGHUM SYRUPS.

Only pure; no additional ingredients are allowed.

7. FRUIT BUTTERS, JAMS, JELLIES THAT COMPLY WITH [PART 150 OF TITLE 21 OF THE CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS \(CFR\).](#)

(Only those fruits listed in the CFR are allowed. Additional fruits or vegetables will not be approved).

8. NUTS, NUT MIXES, AND NUT BUTTERS.

9. POWDERED DRINK MIXES MADE FROM MANUFACTURED INGREDIENTS.

Drink mixes cannot be labeled with “protein” because the amount cannot be determined.

10. VINEGARS AND MUSTARDS.

Examples:

Mustards (plain without eggs) * Vinegars * Fruit-Infused Vinegars (only high-acid fruits such as: apple, blackberry, blueberry, cherry, crabapple, cranberry, grape, gooseberry, grapefruit, huckleberry, kumquat, lemon, lime, loganberry, nectarine, orange, peach, plum, pineapple, pomegranate, quince, raspberry, strawberry, tomatillo, youngberry)