

§ 58.511

times. The floors, walls, and ceilings shall be of such construction as to permit thorough cleaning.

EQUIPMENT AND UTENSILS

**§ 58.511 General construction, repair and installation.**

The equipment and utensils used for the manufacture and handling of cottage cheese shall be as specified in § 58.128. In addition for certain other equipment the following requirements shall be met.

**§ 58.512 Cheese vats or tanks.**

(a) Cheese vats or tanks shall meet the requirements of § 58.416. When direct steam injection is used for heating the milk, the vat or tank may be of single shell construction. The steam shall be culinary steam.

(b) Vats shall be equipped with valves to control the heating and cooling medium and a suitable sanitary outlet valve. Vats used for creaming curd should be equipped with a refrigerated cooling medium. A circulating pump for the heating and cooling medium is recommended.

**§ 58.513 Agitators.**

Mechanical agitators shall meet the requirements of § 58.417.

**§ 58.514 Container fillers.**

Shall comply with the 3-A Sanitary Standards for Equipment for Packaging Frozen Desserts and Cottage Cheese.

**§ 58.515 Mixers.**

Only mixers shall be used which will mix the cheese carefully and keep shattering of the curd particles to a minimum. They shall be constructed in such a manner as to be readily cleanable. If shafts extend through the wall of the tank below the level of the product, they shall be equipped with proper seals which are readily removable for cleaning and sanitizing. The mixer shall be enclosed or equipped with tight fitting covers.

**§ 58.516 Starter vats.**

Bulk starter vats shall meet the requirements of § 58.415.

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QUALITY SPECIFICATIONS FOR RAW MATERIAL

**§ 58.517 General.**

Raw materials used for manufacturing cottage cheese shall meet the following quality specifications.

**§ 58.518 Milk.**

The selection of raw milk for cottage cheese shall be in accordance with §§ 58.132 through 58.138.

**§ 58.519 Dairy products.**

(a) *Raw skim milk.* All raw skim milk obtained from a secondary source shall be separated from milk meeting the same quality requirements for milk as outlined in § 58.518 above. Skim milk after being pasteurized and separated shall be cooled to 45 °F. or lower unless the skim milk is to be set for cheese within two hours after pasteurizing. The skim milk should not be more than 48 hours old from the time the milk was received at the plant and the skim milk is set for cheese.

(b) *Nonfat dry milk.* Nonfat dry milk, when used, shall be obtained from milk meeting the same quality requirements as outlined in § 58.518 above. It shall be processed according to the requirements of this Subpart, and should meet the requirements of § 58.236(b)(3).

(c) *Condensed skim milk.* Condensed skim milk, if used, shall be prepared from raw milk or skim milk that meets the same quality requirements outlined above for raw milk or skim milk. It shall be cooled promptly after drawing from the vacuum pan or evaporator and shall have been pasteurized before concentrating or during the manufacture. The standard plate count of the concentrated milk shall not exceed 30,000 per ml. at time of use.

(d) *Cream.* Any cream used for preparing the dressing for creamed cottage cheese shall be separated from milk meeting at least the same quality requirements as the skim milk used for making the curd. The flavor of the cream shall be fresh and sweet. Cream obtained from a secondary source shall meet the same requirements. The creaming mixture prepared from this cream, after pasteurization, shall have a standard plate count of no more than 30,000 per ml.