

§ 58.525

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The containers shall be checked weighed during the filling operation to assure they are filled uniformly to not less than the stated net weight on the container. Also care shall be taken that the cottage cheese be of uniform consistency at the time of packaging to assure legal composition in all packages.

(c) *General identification.* Bulk packages containing cottage cheese shall be adequately and legibly marked with the name of the product, net weight, name and address of the manufacturer, lot number, code or date of packaging and any other identification as may be required. Consumer size packaged products shall meet the applicable regulations of the Food and Drug Administration.

§ 58.525 Storage of finished product.

Cottage cheese after packaging shall be promptly stored at a temperature of 45 °F. or lower to maintain quality and condition until loaded for distribution. During distribution and storage prior to sale the product should be maintained at a temperature of 45 °F. or lower. The product shall not be exposed to foreign odors or conditions such as drippage or condensation that might cause package or product damage. Packaged cottage cheese shall not be placed directly on floors.

REQUIREMENTS FOR COTTAGE CHEESE BEARING USDA OFFICIAL IDENTIFICATION

§ 58.526 Official identification.

(a) Only cottage cheese manufactured and packaged in accordance with the requirements of this part and with the applicable requirements in subpart A of this part which has been officially inspected in process and found to be in compliance with these requirements may be identified with the official USDA Quality Approved Inspection Shield.

(b) *Nonfat dry milk.* Nonfat dry milk, when used in cottage cheese bearing official identification, shall meet the requirements for U.S. Extra Grade (Spray Process), at time of use, and should be of U.S. Low Heat Classification (not less than 6.0 mg. undenatured whey protein nitrogen per gram of non-

fat dry milk). In addition, the nonfat dry milk shall have a direct microscopic count not exceeding 75 million per gram. The age of the nonfat dry milk shall be covered by a USDA grading certificate, evidencing compliance with quality requirements, dated not more than 6 months prior to use of the dry milk. In the interim between manufacture and use, the nonfat dry milk shall be stored in a clean, dry, vermin-free space. In any case, if the nonfat dry milk is more than 120 days old, at time of use, it shall be examined for flavor to make certain that it meets the requirements for U.S. Extra Grade.

§ 58.527 Physical requirements.

(a) *Flavor.* The cottage cheese shall possess a mild pleasing flavor, similar to fresh whole milk or light cream and may possess the delicate flavor and aroma of a good lactic starter. The product may possess to a slight degree a feed, acid, or salty flavor but shall be free from chalky, bitter, utensil, fruity, yeasty, or other objectionable flavors.

(b) *Body and texture.* The curd particles shall have a meaty texture, but sufficiently tender to permit proper absorption of cream or cheese dressing. The texture shall be smooth and velvety and shall not be mealy, crumbly, pasty, sticky, mushy, watery, rubbery or slimy or possess any other objectionable characteristics of body and texture. Small curd style (cut with ¼ inch knives) should have curd particles approximately ¼ inch or less in size. Large curd style (cut with knives over ¼ inch) should have curd particles approximately ¾ inch or more in size.

(c) *Color and appearance.* The finished cottage cheese, creamed or plain curd, shall have an attractive natural color and appearance with curd particles of reasonably uniform size. The creamed cottage cheese shall be uniformly mixed with the cream or dressing properly absorbed or adhering to the curd so as to prevent excessive drainage.

§ 58.528 Microbiological requirements.

Compliance shall be based on 3 out of 5 consecutive samples taken at the time of packaging.

(a) *Coliform.* Not more than 10 per gram.

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(b) *Psychrotrophic*. No more than 100 per gram.

(c) *Yeasts and molds*. Not more than 10 per gram.

§ 58.529 Chemical requirements.

(a) *Moisture*. See § 58.505(b).

(b) *Milkfat*. See § 58.505(b).

(c) *pH*. Not higher than 5.2.

(d) *Phosphatase*. Not more than 4 micrograms of phenol equivalent per gram of cheese.

§ 58.530 Keeping quality requirements.

Keeping quality samples taken from the packaging line shall be held at 45 °F. for 10 days. At the end of the 10 day period the samples shall possess a satisfactory flavor and appearance, and shall be free from bitter, sour, fruity, or other objectionable tastes and odors. The surface shall not be discolored, translucent, slimy or show any other objectionable condition.

SUPPLEMENTAL SPECIFICATIONS FOR PLANTS MANUFACTURING, PROCESSING AND PACKAGING FROZEN DESSERTS

DEFINITIONS

§ 58.605 Meaning of words.

For the purpose of the regulations in this subpart, words in the singular form shall be deemed to impart the plural and vice versa, as the case may demand. Unless the context otherwise requires, the following terms shall have the following meaning as applied to frozen desserts meeting FDA requirements and briefly defined as follows:

(a) *Ice cream*. The product conforming to the requirements of the Food and Drug Administration for ice cream (21 CFR 135.110).

(b) *Frozen custard*. The product conforming to the requirements of the Food and Drug Administration for frozen custard (21 CFR 135.110).

(c) *Reduced Fat, Light, or Fat free Ice Cream*. The products conforming to all applicable Federal Regulations including "Ice cream and frozen custard," Food and Drug Administration (21 CFR 135.110), "Nutrient content claims for fat, fatty acid, and cholesterol content of foods," Food and Drug Administration (21 CFR 101.62), and "Requirements

for foods named by use of a nutrient content claim and a standardized term," Food and Drug Administration (21 CFR 130.10).

(d) *Sherbet*. The product conforming to the requirements of the Food and Drug Administration for sherbet (21 CFR 135.140).

(e) *Mellorine*. The product conforming to the requirements of the Food and Drug Administration for mellorine (21 CFR 135.130).

(f) *Overrun*. The trade expression used to reference the increase in volume of the frozen product over the volume of the mix. This increase in volume is due to air being whipped into the product during the freezing process. It is expressed as percent of the volume of the mix.

(g) *Mix*. The trade name for the combined and processed ingredients which after freezing become a frozen dessert.

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ROOMS AND COMPARTMENTS

§ 58.619 Mix processing room.

The rooms used for combining mix ingredients and processing the mix shall meet the applicable requirements for rooms specified in § 58.126. The room shall be ventilated to remove moisture and prevent condensation from forming on walls and ceiling. The room shall be well lighted.

§ 58.620 Freezing and packaging rooms.

The rooms used for freezing and packaging frozen desserts shall be adequate in size to permit satisfactory air circulation and maintained in a clean and sanitary condition. The rooms shall be constructed in the same manner as prescribed above for mix rooms.

§ 58.621 Freezing tunnels.

Freezing tunnels for quick freezing at extremely low temperatures shall be designed and constructed as to insure ease in cleaning and satisfactory conditions of operation.