

**§ 58.339 Containers.**

(a) Containers used for the packaging of butter and related products shall be commercially acceptable containers or packaging material that will satisfactorily protect the quality of the contents in regular channels of trade. Caps or covers which extend over the lip of the container shall be used on all cups or tubs containing two pounds or less, to protect the product from contamination during subsequent handling.

(b) *Liners and wrappers.* Supplies of parchment liners, wrappers and other packaging material shall be protected against dust, mold and other possible contamination.

(1) Prior to use, parchment liners for bulk butter packages shall be completely immersed in a boiling salt solution in a suitable container constructed of stainless steel or other equally non-corrosive material. The liners shall be maintained in the solution for not less than 30 minutes. The liners shall be effectively treated with a solution consisting of at least 15 pounds of salt for every 85 pounds of water and shall be strengthened or changed as frequently as necessary to keep the solution full strength and in good condition.

(2) Other liners such as polyethylene shall be treated or handled in such a manner as to prevent contamination of the liner prior to filling.

(c) *Filling bulk butter containers.* The lined butter containers shall be protected from possible contamination prior to filling. Use of parchment liners may be accomplished by alternately inverting one container over the other or stacking the lined boxes on their sides in a rack, until ready for use. When using polyethylene liners the boxes should be lined immediately prior to use. When packing butter into the bulk containers, care shall be taken to fill the corners leaving as few holes or openings as possible. The surface of the butter as well as the covering liner shall be smoothed evenly over the top surface before closing and sealing the container. Containers should be stacked only as high as the firmness of the product will support weight, so as not to crush or distort the container.

**§ 58.340 Printing and packaging.**

Printing and packaging of consumer size containers of butter shall be conducted under sanitary conditions. Separate rooms equipped with automatic filling and packaging equipment should be provided. The outside cartons should be removed from bulk butter in a room outside of the printing operation but the parchment removal and cutting of the butter may be done in the print room.

**§ 58.341 Repackaging.**

When officially graded or inspected bulk product is to be repackaged into consumer type packages for official grade labeling or other official identification, a supervisor of packaging shall be required and the plant, equipment, facilities and personnel shall meet the same specifications as outlined in this part, including such markings or identification as may be required.

**§ 58.342 General identification.**

Commercial bulk shipping containers shall be legibly marked with the name of the product, net weight, name and address of manufacturer, processor or distributor or other assigned plant identification (manufacturer's lot number, churn number, etc.) and any other identification that may be required. Packages of plastic or frozen cream shall be marked with the percent of milkfat.

**§ 58.343 Storage of finished product in coolers.**

All products shall be kept under refrigeration at temperatures of 40 °F. or lower after packaging and until ready for distribution or shipment. The products shall not be placed directly on floors or exposed to foreign odors or conditions such as drippage due to condensation which might cause package or product damage.

**§ 58.344 Storage of finished product in freezer.**

(a) *Sharp freezers.* Plastic cream or frozen cream intended for storage shall be placed in quick freezer rooms immediately after packaging, for rapid and complete freezing within 24 hours. The packages shall be piled or spaced in

**§ 58.345**

**7 CFR Ch. I (1–13 Edition)**

such a manner that air can freely circulate between and around the packages. The rooms shall be maintained at –10 °F. or lower and shall be equipped to provide sufficient high velocity, air circulation for rapid freezing. After the products have been completely frozen, they may be transferred to a freezer storage room for continued storage.

(b) *Freezer storage.* The room shall be maintained at a temperature of 0 °F. or lower. Adequate air circulation is desirable.

Butter intended to be held more than 30 days shall be placed in a freezer room as soon as possible after packaging. If not frozen before being placed in the freezer, the packages shall be spaced in such a manner as to permit rapid freezing and repiled, if necessary, at a later time.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR FINISHED PRODUCTS BEARING USDA OFFICIAL IDENTIFICATION**

**§ 58.345 Butter.**

The quality requirements for butter shall be in accordance with the U.S. Standards for Grades of Butter for U.S. Grade AA, U.S. Grade A, or U.S. Grade B, respectively.

(a) In addition, the butter is subject to the following specifications when sampled and tested in accordance with §§ 58.336 and 58.337.

(b) Proteolytic count, not more than 100 per gram; yeast and mold count, not more than 20 per gram; coliform count, not more than 10 per gram.

(c) Optional except when required or requested: Copper content, not more than 0.3 ppm; iron content, not more than 1.0 ppm; enterococci, not more than 10 per gram.

**§ 58.346 Whipped butter.**

(a) The quality requirements for whipped butter shall be in accordance with the U.S. Standards for Grades of Whipped Butter for U.S. Grade AA and U.S. Grade A, respectively.

(b) Whipped butter shall also be subject to the following specifications when sampled and tested in accordance with §§ 58.336 and 58.337, respectively:

(1) Proteolytic count, not more than 50 per gram; yeast and mold count, not more than 10 per gram; coliform count, not more than 10 per gram; and keeping-quality test, satisfactory after 7 days at 72 °F.

(2) Optional except when required or requested: Copper content, not more than 0.3 ppm; iron content, not more than 1.0 ppm; enterococci, not more than 10 per gram.

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**§ 58.347 Butteroil or anhydrous milkfat.**

The flavor shall be bland and free from rancid, oxidized, or other objectionable flavors.

(a) In addition, the finished products shall meet the following specifications when sampled and tested in accordance with §§ 58.336 and 58.337:

	Butteroil	Anhydrous milkfat
Milkfat .....	Not less than 99.6 percent .....	Not less than 99.8 percent.
Moisture .....	Not more than 0.3 percent .....	Not more than 0.1 percent.
Other butter constituents including salt .....	Not more than 0.1 percent .....	Not more than 0.1 percent.
Salt .....	Not more than 0.05 percent .....	Not more than 0.05 percent.
Antioxidants .....	Those permitted by standards of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and authorized for use by the Food and Drug Administration.	Those permitted by standards of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and authorized for use by the Food and Drug Administration.
Free fatty acids .....	Not more than 0.5 percent (calculated as oleic acid).	Not more than 0.3 percent (calculated as oleic acid).
Peroxide value .....	Not more than 0.1 milliequivalent per kilogram of fat.	Not more than 0.1 milliequivalent per kilogram of fat.
Iron content .....	Not more than 0.2 ppm .....	Not more than 0.2 ppm.
Copper content .....	Not more than 0.05 ppm .....	Not more than 0.05 ppm.