

Approved Cottage Foods

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 but not limited to:

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|---------------------|---------------------------|---|------------------|
| • Bagels | • Cookies | • Macarons | • Samosas |
| • Baklava | • Crackers | (with approved fillings or buttercream) | (fruit only) |
| • Biscuits | • Cupcakes | | • Scones |
| • Bread | • Donuts | | • Tamales |
| • Brownies | (fried or baked) | • Muffins | (fruit only) |
| • Buns | • Empanadas | • Pastries | • Tarts |
| • Cake | (fruit only) | • Pies | • Tortillas |
| • Churros | • Flatbreads | (fruit only, no pumpkin) | • Torts |
| • Coconut macaroons | • Fruit, nut or seed bars | • Pizzelles | • Waffles |
| | | • Quick breads | (fried or baked) |
| | | | • Waffle cones |

2. Candy and Confections

Examples but not limited to:

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| • Bonbons | • Chocolate-covered nonperishables | • Fudge | • Ground chocolate |
| • Brittles | (including marshmallows, nuts, candy, dried fruit, potato chips, or any combination) | • Edible dessert sprinkles | • Hard candy |
| • Candied apples | | (Sugar based, Chocolate based, Pralines, Confetti, Nonpareils, Sequins etc.) | • Marshmallow bars |
| • Candied popcorn (balls, caramel, chocolate) | | | • Marshmallows (without eggs) |
| • Caramels | • Freeze-dried candies | | • Popcorn balls |
| • Cotton candy | | | • Salted caramels |
| • Chocolate | | | • 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.

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

4. Dried, Dehydrated, and Freeze-Dried Foods

Examples but not limited to:

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|--|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| • Baking mixes | • Fruit powders | • Hot chocolate mix | • Tea |
| • Bean soup mixes | • Fruit roll-ups | • Pasta | • Trail mixes |
| • Cereals | • Grain mixes | • Popcorn | • Vegetables |
| • Coffee
(roasted or
freeze-dried) | • Granola | • Potato chips | • Vegetable chips |
| | • Ground chocolate | • Seasoning salt | • Vegetable soup
mixes |
| • Fruit | • Herbs & herb blends | • Spice mix or rubs | |

5. Frostings, Icings, Fondants, and Gum Pastes that Do Not Contain Eggs†, Cream, or Cream Cheese

Examples:

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| • Buttercream made with butter
(traditional, vegan, and chocolate) | • Fondant
(regular and chocolate) | • Gum paste
(pasteurized eggs only) | <i>†Frostings and icings made with meringue powder, powdered eggs, or pasteurized eggs are allowed.</i> |
| • Flat icing | • Frosting with commercially manufactured balsamic vinegar | • Edible images | |
| | | • Sugar glazes | |
| | | • Vegan gum paste | |

6. Honey and Sorghum Syrups

Only pure; no additional ingredients are allowed.

7. Fruit Butters, Preserves, Jams, and Jellies that Comply with [Part 150 of Title 21 of The Code of Federal Regulations \(CFR\)](#)

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

8. Nuts, Nut Mixes, and Nut Butters

Only roasted/pasteurized nuts are allowed.

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:

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|---|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| • Mustards (<i>plain, without eggs</i>) | ○ <i>blackberry</i> | ○ <i>huckleberry,</i> | ○ <i>plum,</i> |
| • Vinegars | ○ <i>blueberry</i> | ○ <i>kumquat,</i> | ○ <i>pineapple,</i> |
| • Fruit-infused vinegars (<i>only high-acid fruits such as</i> | ○ <i>cherry</i> | ○ <i>lemon,</i> | ○ <i>pomegranate,</i> |
| ○ <i>apple,</i> | ○ <i>crabapple,</i> | ○ <i>lime,</i> | ○ <i>quince,</i> |
| | ○ <i>cranberry,</i> | ○ <i>loganberry,</i> | ○ <i>raspberry,</i> |
| | ○ <i>grape,</i> | ○ <i>nectarine,</i> | ○ <i>strawberry,</i> |
| | ○ <i>gooseberry,</i> | ○ <i>orange,</i> | ○ <i>tomatillo,</i> |
| | ○ <i>grapefruit,</i> | ○ <i>peach,</i> | ○ <i>youngberry)</i> |