

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

2. Candy and Confections

Examples but not limited to:

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|------------------------------------|---|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| • Bonbons | • Chocolate-covered nonperishables | • Fudge | • Ground chocolate |
| • Brittles | <i>(including</i> | • Edible dessert sprinkles | • Hard candy |
| • Candied apples | <i>marshmallows,</i> | <i>(Sugar based,</i> | • Marshmallow bars |
| • Candied popcorn | <i>nuts, candy,</i> | <i>Chocolate</i> | • Marshmallows |
| <i>(balls, caramel, chocolate)</i> | <i>dried fruit, potato chips, or any combination)</i> | <i>based,</i> | <i>(without eggs)</i> |
| • Caramels | • Freeze-dried candies | <i>Pralines,</i> | • Popcorn balls |
| • Cotton candy | | <i>Confetti,</i> | • Salted caramels |
| • Chocolate | | <i>Nonpareils,</i> | • Spiced sugar |
| | | <i>Sequins etc.)</i> | • 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 but not limited to:

- Baking mixes
- Bean soup mixes
- Cereals
- Coffee
(roasted or freeze-dried)
- Fruit
- Fruit powders
- Fruit roll-ups
- Grain mixes
- Granola
- Ground chocolate
- Herbs & 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 Egg†, Cream, or Cream Cheese

Examples:

- Buttercream made with butter
(traditional, vegan, and chocolate)
 - Flat icing
 - Fondant
(regular and chocolate)
 - Frosting with commercially manufactured balsamic vinegar
 - 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, 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:

- 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)*