

KosherGram

A PROJECT OF THE COUNCIL OF ORTHODOX RABBIS OF GREATER DETROIT

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Special Pesach Issue 5768/2008

This special Pesach issue is compiled from reliable and knowledgeable sources, both in the Detroit area and across the country. We want to thank our members/sponsors for their warm support throughout the year, and we wish them and all our readers a Chag Kosher v'Someyach.

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

EACH INDIVIDUAL LABEL SHOULD ALWAYS BE CHECKED FOR PESACH CERTIFICATION.

Consumers are cautioned not to take for granted that a product is Kosher for Pesach simply because it is in the Kosher for Pesach section of their store, or because a "Kosher for Pesach" sign is posted. Each year there are numerous instances, even in Jewish stores, of non-Pesach products mistakenly being mixed in with Pesach products, usually because their labels are almost identical. This occurs frequently with Telma soup mixes and cubes, Osem, Gefen, Haddar, Manischewitz, Empire and Aaron's Best brands of products, etc., all of which have both Pesach and non-Pesach versions of the same products with almost identical labels.

Storekeepers, likewise, should not take for granted that everything received in their Pesach shipment, even from a Jewish distributor, is indeed Pesach certified; non-Pesach products are frequently inadvertently mixed in. There have also been several instances where the outsides of cases were marked Kosher for Pesach, but the products inside were not. Each individual label must always be checked for Pesach certification.

KITNIYOS (legumes) such as corn, beans, peas and rice, may not be eaten by Ashkenazim on Pesach. Sefardim who use these products must ascertain that they contain no additives (such as vitamins), and must carefully check them before Pesach for extraneous matter. There are a number of "Kosher for Pesach" products on the market that contain kitniyos, and are acceptable only for Sephardim. Many of these products will state on the label (often in Hebrew) that the item is to be used only by those whose custom allows for the use of kitniyos.

KITNIYOS DERIVATIVES - Those who follow the prevalent custom of not using any derivatives of kitniyos (legumes) on Pesach, such as corn oil, corn syrup, dextrose, soybean oil and lecithin, should be aware that some products with Kosher for Pesach certifications do contain one or more of these ingredients. This applies especially to imported candies and chocolates. A careful check of the ingredients should be made. (Lecithin is sometimes listed just as "emulsifier", and corn syrup as "glucose".)

EGG and GRAPE MATZOH - Matzoh made with fruit juice or eggs, which includes "Kosher for Passover" Egg Matzohs, Egg Matzoh Crackers, White Grape Matzoh, White Grape Bite-Size Matzoh Crackers, Passover Tam Tam Crackers and Passover Tiny Tams, may not be eaten on Pesach, according to Ashkenazic practice, except by the sick or elderly who cannot eat regular matzoh. Most brands now state this restriction clearly in English on the package. Please note that even the sick and elderly cannot fulfill the obligation to eat matzoh at the Seder with these types of matzohs.

FROZEN VEGETABLES require special Pesach certification because many frozen vegetable plants process pasta, macaroni, breaded vegetables, etc. on the same equipment as plain vegetables.

PESACH STICKERS: If a product bears Pesach certification on an attached sticker, rather than being printed on the label itself, it is advisable to contact the supervising agency to verify that it authorized the placement of the sticker.

PET FOOD: Many commercial pet foods contain actual chometz and may not be used on Pesach. Check ingredient labels for wheat, barley, rye, oats, spelt, flour, gluten, middlings, starch, brewer's yeast, malt, or pasta. Non-chometz substitutes should be used. Pet food listing both milk and beef ingredients should not be used the entire year.

II. THE FOLLOWING PRODUCTS MAY BE USED FOR PESACH WITHOUT SPECIAL KOSHER FOR PESACH CERTIFICATION (except where noted otherwise). A new box, can or jar should be used where an old one may have come into contact with chometz.

This is a partial list, for Pesach 5768/2008 only. The omission of any specific brand or product does not necessarily imply that it contains chometz or that it is not permissible for use on Pesach. - This list refers only to products manufactured in the U.S. Products manufactured in other countries, including Canada, even with the same brand names, may have different formulations. - Most of the medications, cosmetics and toiletries listed are not under supervision, and their listing here, based on information from the manufacturer, pertains only to their lack of chometz, not to the general Kashrus of their ingredients. Many of the medications contain kitniyos, which is permissible when taken for medicinal purposes.

ALUMINUM FOIL

AMMONIA

ANTACIDS: Di-Gel tablets, Maalox liquid and tablets.

BABY FORMULA: Enfamil, Isomil, Prosobee, Simalac. All contain kitniyos. Separate utensils should be used, and they should not be washed in a Pesach sink.

BABY WIPES without alcohol.

BAKING SODA

BLEACH

CLEANSERS: Bon Ami Glass Cleaner, Clorox, Comet, Glass Plus, Mr. Clean, Murphy Oil, Soft Scrub.

COCOA: Hershey 100% pure Cocoa.

COFFEE, GROUND & INSTANT (unflavored):

Regular & decaffeinated: The following brands with an OK-P on the label - Maxwell House, Sanka, Yuban.

Regular only, not decaffeinated: Folgers, Taster's Choice.

CONTACT LENS FLUID

DENTAL FLOSS: Any unflavored.

DEODERANT: Dry Idea, Right Guard, Secret, Soft & Dri.

DETERGENT: Any powder with an OU.

DISHWASHING LIQUID: Ajax, Dawn, Ivory, Joy, Palmolive.

DISPOSABLE PLATES: Pure plastic plates, styrofoam; Chinet with OK-P.

EGGS: should be purchased before Pesach.

FABRIC SOFTENER

FISH, FROZEN RAW (plain): Dagim, Ungar's. - See also Part III. [Frozen fish need to be investigated for Pesach to determine if chometz products are processed in the area, or if a corn starch/corn syrup glaze is used.]

FRUIT, FROZEN: Plain frozen unsweetened fruit, with no syrup and no additives listed.

GLUE: Elmer's regular [not Elmer's Washable School Paste, Carpenter's Wood Glue or Glue Pens].

ICE (in bags): from plain water (any brand).

JUICE: Frozen concentrated unsweetened orange juice and grapefruit juice with no additives listed.

LEMON JUICE: ReaLemon with OU.

LIME JUICE: ReaLime with OU.

LIPSTICK: Cover Girl, Max Factor; Revlon – except Colorstay Liptint and Ultimate Edition.

MINERAL OIL

MOUTHWASH: Cepacol, Lavioris, Listerine, Scope.

NUTS: Commercially packaged raw almonds or walnuts (shelled or unshelled) without any additives or preservatives (such as BHA or BHT), not roasted or pasteurized. NOTE: Pecans, even raw, require Pesach certification.

OLIVE OIL: Bertolli and Filippo Berio Extra Virgin with OU, Pompeian Extra Virgin with Star-K, and other brands listed in OU and Star-K Pesach directories.

PERFUME: Chanel, Revlon.

OVEN CLEANERS: Dow, Easy Off, Shaklee.

PLASTIC WRAP AND BAGS

RAISINS: Del Monte (natural and golden), Dole.

SALT: Any non-iodized OU brand not listing dextrose or polysorbate.

SCOURING PADS: Chore Boy, O-Cel-O Sponges, Scotch Brite, Scrunge, and any plain steel wool.

SHAMPOO: Head and Shoulders, Pert, Revlon Flex.

SHOE POLISH

SILVER POLISH: Hagerty, Starco, Tarnishield, Weiman Royal Sterling.

SUGAR: Domino with OK-P; Pioneer white granulated sugar with the letter F, J or N in the beginning of the lot code.

TEA: INSTANT - Nestea unflavored 100% Tea, regular and decaffeinated (unflavored, unsweetened).

TEA BAGS - Regular tea bags that are unflavored and not decaffeinated, and have no additives, may be used for Pesach without special certification. Lipton unflavored Decaffeinated Tea Bags may be used for Pesach without special certification.

TOOTHPASTE: Aquafresh, Colgate, Gleem, Ultrabrite.

WATER: Any unflavored, spring or distilled.

III. PRODUCT ALERTS

FAYGO ORIGINAL SPARKLING WATER, with a KP in the beginning of the code on the side of the cap, is certified for Pesach by the Council of Orthodox Rabbis of Greater Detroit.

PRE-WASHED PACKAGED ICEBERG LETTUCE SALAD and COLESLAW require Pesach approval due to the citric acid that may be used in the washing process. However, Dole brand bearing a Star-K is approved for Pesach even without a P.

C. WIRTHY & CO. ATLANTIC SALMON FROZEN FILLETS (plain, raw) bearing a Kof-K (sold at Sam's Club), is Kosher for Pesach.

KIRKLAND SIGNATURE ATLANTIC SALMON FROZEN PORTIONS bearing an OU (sold at Costco), is Kosher for Pesach.

SEA MERCHANTS HADDOCK, POLLOCK and SOLE FROZEN FILLETS bearing an OU (sold at Farm Fresh), are Kosher for Pesach.

TREASURES OF THE SEA TILAPIA FROZEN FILLETS bearing an OU is not approved for Pesach, due to chometz products produced on the same equipment.

FISHIN brand SALMON FROZEN FILLETS from China, sold at Farm Fresh, bears an unauthorized Kof-K, and is not approved for Pesach.

EMPIRE CHICKEN BREAST NUGGETS and **BREADED CHICKEN TENDERS**, in 2 lb. and 3 lb. bags, were mistakenly labeled KAJ-KP between August 16 and October 2007. This product contains bread crumbs and is not Kosher for Pesach.

BRANDS OF SALT listed on page 32 of the OU Pesach Guide as not requiring special Pesach certification, refer only to non-iodized types. Iodized salt is not acceptable for Pesach.

JOYVA PRODUCTS are under Kof-K certification for year-round use, but not for Pesach, because they contain cornstarch and corn syrup.

SUGAT and **ORZIL BRANDS** of beans, peas, rice and seeds are kitniyos, which are not eaten by Ashkenazim on Pesach. The Pesach certification on some of these products is only for Sefardim.

“PLAY-DOH” is chometz.

COMBAT ROACH CONTROL SYSTEM, BLACK FLAG ROACH ENDER and **d-CON MOUSE & RAT BAITS** contain a chometz bait (which is nontoxic to humans) and should be put away and sold with the chometz. **RAID ANT & ROACH TRAPS** contain a non-chometz bait and may be used on Pesach. All insecticide sprays may be used.

EVANGER’S CAT AND DOG FOOD PRODUCTS which have “brewers dried yeast” listed on the ingredient panel should not be used on Pesach, even when [incorrectly] bearing “Kosher for Passover” on the label.

SCIENCE DIET CANNED CAT FOOD has been reformulated and contains chometz, except for “Mixit”.

Pesach Guide to some of most commonly used Medications and Cosmetics

An extensive coverage of medications and cosmetics which are Kosher for Pesach is beyond the scope of this newsletter, but such a booklet, prepared by Rabbi Gershon Bess, is in fact available from the Kollel Bais Avrohom of Los Angeles, and may be ordered by calling the Kollel at (323) 933-7193. It is also available at Borenstein’s and Spitzer’s Bookstores.

A partial listing of Kitniyos

Anise	Cumin	Lecithin	Sesame Seeds
Beans	Dextrose (outside U.S. may be chometz)	Millet	Soy Beans
Canola Oil	Fennel	Mustard	String Beans
Caraway Seeds	Fenugreek	Peanuts	Sunflower Seeds
Chickpeas	Green Beans	Peas	Tofu
Coriander	Kasha (buckwheat)	Poppy Seeds	
Corn (maize)	Kimmel	Rice	

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For questions regarding products not listed here, please contact your Rav or the Vaad Horabonim office at (248) 559-5005. If there is no answer, a message may be left on the Kashrus Hotline at (248) 968-3057. To be added to the KosherGram mailing list, or if you have a change of address, please write the *Council of Orthodox Rabbis of Greater Detroit at 25881 Greenfield Rd .#32, Southfield, Michigan, 48075.*