

Cottage Food Businesses – Foods Not Allowed

Types of foods NOT ever allowed to be produced for sale by a cottage food business:

Acidified or pickled products

Examples:

- Corn relish
- Pepper jelly
- Pickled beets
- Pumpkin butter
- Salsa

Baked goods (perishable)

Examples:

- Baked goods with perishable icings and fillings²
- Banana, pumpkin, zucchini, sweet potato breads/cakes/muffins, etc. with water activity value greater than 0.85²
- Focaccia-style breads with vegetables or cheeses²
- Waffles and pancakes²
- Cheesecakes
- Cream and custard pies
- Pumpkin pies²
- Sweet potato pies

Chocolate confections and candies made from raw cocoa beans or

Time/Temperature Control for Safety (TCS)¹ ingredients

- Chocolates with TCS filling ingredients

Condiments or sauces

Examples:

- Barbecues sauce
- Hot sauce
- Ketchup
- Mustard

Fermented foods

Examples:

- Kimchi
- Kombucha
- Pickles
- Sauerkraut

Fish or shellfish products

Examples:

- Smoked or dried fish
- Ceviche

Fruit and fruit products

Fresh cut fruit of any kind added as an unbaked topping

¹ TCS foods are those that require specific time and temperature controls to prevent the growth of harmful bacterial and ensure food safety.

² These foods are not approved unless lab testing determines that they are non-potentially hazardous. See Product Testing FAQ for more information.

Vegetables and vegetable products

- Dehydrating of herbs and vegetables including vegetable chips
- Foods containing cooked vegetables
- Fresh cut vegetables
- Garlic or vegetable in oil mixtures

Meat and poultry products

Examples:

- Dried or dehydrated meat and poultry
- Egg rolls, meat pies
- Fresh meat and poultry
- Meat and poultry jerkies

Milk and dairy products

Examples:

- Butter
- Cottage cheese
- Gelato
- Hard and soft cheeses
- Ice cream
- Kefir
- Yogurt

Nut butters (homemade)

Examples:

- Almond butter
- Hazelnut butter
- Peanut butter

Pasta

- Fresh or refrigerated pasta
- Dehydrated pasta

Raw dough and energy balls

- Cookie dough
- Energy or protein balls/bites that are not baked
- Pizza dough

Raw seed sprouts

Examples:

- Alfalfa sprouts
- Bean sprouts
- Garbanzo bean sprouts
- Mung bean sprouts
- Snow pea sprouts

Seed butters

Examples:

- Pumpkin seed butter
- Sesame seed butter
- Sunflower seed butter

Sugar-free products

Examples:

- Fruit butters
- Jams
- Jellies
- Marmalades
- Preserves
- Syrups

Syrups

Examples:

- Blueberry
- Elderberry