

§ 58.335

§ 58.335 Quality control tests.

All milk, cream and related products are subject to inspection for quality and condition throughout each processing operation. Quality control tests shall be made on flow samples as often as necessary to check the effectiveness of processing and manufacturing and as an aid in correcting deficiencies in processing and manufacturing. Routine analysis shall be made on raw materials and finished products to assure adequate microbiological, composition and chemical control.

§ 58.336 Frequency of sampling for quality control of cream, butter and related products.

(a) *Microbiological.* Samples shall be taken from churnings or batches and should be taken as often as is necessary to insure microbiological control.

(b) *Composition.* Sampling and testing for product composition shall be made on churns or batches as often as is necessary to insure adequate composition control. For in-plant control, the Kohman or modified Kohman test may be used.

(c) *Chemical*—(1) *Acid degree value.* This test should be made on churnings or batches from samples taken from the cream as often as is necessary to aid in the control of lipase activity.

(2) *Free fatty acid.* This test should be made on churnings or batches from samples taken from the butter as often as is necessary to aid in the control of lipase activity.

(d) *Other analysis.* Other chemical analysis or physical measurements shall be performed as often as is necessary to insure meeting grade standards and contract specifications.

(e) *Weight or volume control.* Representative samples of the packaged product should be checked using procedures prescribed by the Administrator during the packaging operation to assure compliance with the stated net weight or volume on the container.

(f) *Keeping quality and stability.* Samples from churnings shall be subjected to a seven day keeping quality test at a temperature of 72 °F. to establish and maintain a satisfactory keeping quality history. Optionally 98 °F. for 48 hours may be used, however, in case of

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a dispute, the results of the seven days at 72 °F. will prevail.

§ 58.337 Official test methods.

(a) *Chemical.* Chemical analyses except where otherwise prescribed herein, shall be made in accordance with the methods described in the latest edition of Official Methods of Analysis of the Association of Official Analytical Chemists, published by the Association of Official Analytical Chemists, the Official and Tentative Methods of the American Oil Chemists Society or any other methods giving equivalent results.

(b) *Microbiological.* Microbiological determinations shall be made in accordance with the methods described or suggested in the latest edition of Standard Methods for the Examination of Dairy Products, published by the American Public Health Association.

§ 58.338 Composition and wholesomeness.

All ingredients used in the manufacture of butter and related products shall be subject to inspection and shall be wholesome and practically free from impurities. Chlorinating facilities shall be provided for butter wash water if needed and all other necessary precautions shall be taken to prevent contamination of products. All finished products shall comply with the requirements of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, as to composition and wholesomeness.

§ 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 identi-

fication, 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 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