

**§ 58.712**

should possess finish and appearance characteristics which will permit removal of all packaging material and surface defects. The cheese should at least meet the requirements equivalent to U.S. Standard Grade for Bulk American Cheese for Manufacturing provided the quantity of the cheese with any one defect as listed for U.S. Standard Grade is limited to assure a satisfactory finished product.

**§ 58.712 Swiss.**

Swiss cheese used in the manufacture of pasteurized process cheese and related products should be equivalent to U.S. Grade B or better, except that the cheese may be blind or possess finish characteristics which do not impair the interior quality.

**§ 58.713 Gruyere.**

Gruyere cheese used in the manufacture of process cheese and related products should be of good wholesome quality and except for smaller eyes and sharper flavor shall meet the same requirements as for Swiss cheese.

**§ 58.714 Cream cheese, Neufchatel cheese.**

These cheeses when mixed with other foods, or used for spreads and dips should possess a fresh, pleasing and desirable flavor.

**§ 58.715 Cream, plastic cream and anhydrous milkfat.**

These food products shall be pasteurized, sweet, have a pleasing and desirable flavor and be free from objectionable flavors, and shall be obtained from milk which complies with the quality requirements as specified in §§ 58.132 through 58.138 of this subpart.

**§ 58.716 Nonfat dry milk.**

Nonfat dry milk used in cheese products should meet the requirements equivalent to U.S. Extra Grade except that the moisture content may be in excess of that specified for the particular grade.

**§ 58.717 Whey.**

Whey used in cheese products should meet the requirements equivalent to USDA Extra Grade except that the

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moisture requirement for dry whey may be waived.

**§ 58.718 Flavor ingredients.**

Flavor ingredients used in process cheese and related products shall be those permitted by the Food and Drug Standards of Identity, and in no way deleterious to the quality or flavor of the finished product. In the case of bulky flavoring ingredients such as pimento, the particles should be, to at least a reasonable degree, uniform in size, shape and consistency. The individual types of flavoring materials should be uniform in color and should impart the characteristic flavor desired in the finished product.

**§ 58.719 Coloring.**

Coloring shall be Annatto or any other cheese or butter color which is approved by the Food and Drug Administration.

**§ 58.720 Acidifying agents.**

Acidifying agents if used shall be those permitted by the Food and Drug Administration for the specific pasteurized process cheese product.

**§ 58.721 Salt.**

Salt shall be free flowing, white refined sodium chloride and shall meet the requirements of The Food Chemical Codex.

**§ 58.722 Emulsifying agents.**

Emulsifying agents shall be those permitted by the Food and Drug Administration for the specific pasteurized process cheese product, and shall be free from extraneous material.

**OPERATIONS AND OPERATING PROCEDURES**

**§ 58.723 Basis for selecting cheese for processing.**

A representative sample shall have been examined to determine fat and moisture content. One sample unit from each vat of cheese shall have been examined to determine the suitability of the vat for use in process cheese products in accordance with the flavor,