§ 19.297 Use of materials in production of spirits.

A proprietor may produce spirits from any suitable material in accordance with the proprietor's statements of production procedure in the notice of registration. Materials from which alcohol will not be produced may be used in production only if the use of the materials is described in the approved statements of production procedure. The distillation of nonpotable chemical mixtures as described in §19.36 will be deemed to be the original and continuous distillation of the spirits in such mixtures and to constitute the production of spirits.

(26 U.S.C. 5172, 5178)

RULES FOR PRODUCTION OF SPIRITS

§ 19.301 Distillation.

The distillation of spirits must be done in a continuous system. Distilling operations are continuous when the spirits are moved through the various steps of production as quickly as plant operation will permit. The proprietor may move the product through as many distilling or other production operations as desired, provided the operations are continuous. The collection of unfinished spirits for the purpose of redistillation is not considered to be a break in the continuity of the distilling procedure. However, the quantity and proof of any unfinished spirits must be determined and recorded before any mingling with other materials or before any further operations involving the unfinished spirits outside the continuous system. Before the production gauge, spirits may be held only as long as reasonably necessary to complete the production procedure.

(26 U.S.C. 5178, 5211, 5222)

§ 19.302 Treatment during production.

During production, the proprietor may purify or refine the spirits by using any material that will not remain in the finished product. Juniper berries and other natural aromatics or their extracted oils may be used in the distillation of gin. Spirits may be percolated through or treated with oak chips that have not been treated with any chemical. The proprietor must destroy or so treat any materials used in treatment of spirits, and which do not remain in the spirits, so as to preclude the extraction of potable spirits.

(26 U.S.C. 5201)

§ 19.303 Addition of caramel to rum or brandy and addition of oak chips to spirits.

A proprietor may add caramel that has no material sweetening properties to rum or brandy in packages or tanks prior to production gauge. A proprietor may add oak chips that have not been treated with any chemical to packages of spirits prior to or after the production gauge. The proprietor must note the use of oak chips on all transaction records.

(26 U.S.C. 5201)

§ 19.304 Production gauge.

A proprietor must gauge all spirits by determining the quantity and proof as soon as reasonably possible after production is completed. Additional requirements regarding production gauges are found in subpart K of this part.

(26 U.S.C. 5204, 5211)

§ 19.305 Identification of spirits.

Upon completion of the production gauge, the proprietor must identify containers of spirits as provided in subpart S of this part. When the proprietor intends to enter spirits into bonded storage for later packaging in wooden packages, the proprietor may identify the spirits with the designation to which they would be entitled if drawn into wooden packages, followed by the word “Designate,” for example, “Bourbon Whisky Designate.”

(26 U.S.C. 5201, 5206)