

# KosherGram

## A PROJECT OF THE COUNCIL OF ORTHODOX RABBIS OF GREATER DETROIT

### Nissan 5769 / March 2009 - Special Pesach Issue

Compiled and edited by Rabbi Beryl Broyde, *Kashruth Coordinator*

#### 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.

#### A partial listing of Kitniyos

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

**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 5769/2009 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:** Bromo-Seltzer, Di-Gel tablets, Pepsid tablets, Zantac.

**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:** Ajax, Clorox, Comet, Glass Plus, Mr. Clean, Murphy Oil.

**COCOA:** Hershey 100% pure Cocoa.

**COFFEE, GROUND & INSTANT (unflavored):**

Regular and 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, Gillette, Old Spice, Right Guard, Secret, Soft & Dri.

**DETERGENT:** Any powder with an OU. Liquids: Cheer, Dreft, Dynamo, Fab, Ivory Snow, Tide.

**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:** Listerine, Scope, Tom's of Maine.

**NUTS:** Commercially packaged raw almonds, filberts or walnuts (shelled or unshelled) without any additives or preservatives (such as BHA or BHT). NOTE: Pecans, even raw, require Pesach certification.

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

**PERFUME:** Chanel, Estee Lauder, 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:** O-Cel-O Sponges, Scotch Brite, and any plain steel wool.

**SHAMPOO:** Head and Shoulders, Revlon Flex, Selsun Blue Lotion.

**SHOE POLISH**

**SILVER POLISH:** Hagerty, Weiman Royal Sterling, Wrights.

**SUGAR:** Big Chief and Pioneer white granulated sugar with the K-COR symbol, Domino with OK-P.

**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, Sensodyne, 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 shoulder of the bottle, 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 and River Ranch brands bearing a Star-K are approved for Pesach even without a P, except for Dole Very Veggie blend which contains peas.

**C. WIRTHY & CO. ATLANTIC SALMON FROZEN FILLETS** (plain unseasoned, 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.

**FISHIN brand SALMON FROZEN FILLETS** bearing a Kof-K (sold at Farm Fresh), is Kosher for Pesach.

**SEA MERCHANTS HADDOCK, POLLOCK and SOLE FROZEN FILLETS** bearing an OU are Kosher for Pesach. However, Sea Merchants **TILAPIA** Frozen Fillets are not recommended for Pesach, due to chometz products produced on the same equipment.

**TREASURES FROM THE SEA FROZEN FISH PRODUCTS** are no longer OU certified and are not recommended.

**CKP KOSHER POULTRY** is not under supervision of the Council of Orthodox Rabbis.

**JOYVA PRODUCTS** are under Kof-K certification for year-round use, but not for Pesach, because they contain cornstarch and corn syrup. They are therefore not recommended for Pesach even when bearing a Passover marking.

**SCHMERLING'S SUGARLESS AND NO SUGAR ADDED CHOCOLATES** are not Kosher for Pesach, as stated on their labels.

**KARA CANNED COCONUT MILK**, product of Indonesia, has been incorrectly labeled OK Kosher Passover. This product is not approved for Passover.

**MANISCHEWITZ KOSHER FOR PASSOVER MATZO BALL SOUP** - Reduced Sodium, Ready to Serve (24 oz.) bearing lot code 0461(A,B)NMA10160, and Manischewitz Kosher for Passover Matzo Ball Soup - Ready to Serve (24 oz.) bearing lot code 0251(A,B)NMA10181 or 0461CNMA10181, were recalled by the manufacturer in May 2008 due to insect larvae.

**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”** contains 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.

#### **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.

### **POST-PESACH 5769 INFORMATION – DETROIT AREA**

**CHOMETZ** may be purchased from the following stores immediately after Pesach, except for **DUNKIN’ DONUTS** at 10 Mile & Greenfield, where chometz should not be bought until **10:30 PM** on Motzaei Pesach.

#### **All COR certified establishments**

##### **One Stop Kosher Market**

**Aldi**  
**Farm Fresh**  
**Kroger**  
**Meijer**  
**Save-A-Lot 11 & Greenfield and 9 & Woodward**  
**Trader Joe's**  
**Whole Foods**

**Costco**  
**Sam’s Club Warehouse**

#### **GFS (Gordon Food Service)**

##### **Family Dollar Stores**

**K-Mart**  
**Target**  
**Wal-Mart**

**CVS**  
**Walgreens**

**Nutrifoods**

**Fruitasia**  
**Randazzo**  
**Westborn**

Buying chometz after Pesach from Jewish owned stores that do not observe Pesach, such as Hiller’s / Shopping Center, Natural Food Patch, Efros Drugs at Orchard Lake & Maple Roads, Sav-On Drugs at Telegraph & Maple Roads, Produce Palace, and Restaurant Depot Foodservice Wholesaler is questionable, even if they made a Mechiras Chometz before Pesach, due to the possibility that new chometz was received during Pesach; consult your Rav.

For questions regarding products not listed here, please contact your Rav. A message for product information may also be left on the Kashrus Line at (248) 968-3057.

To be added to the KosherGram mailing list, or if you have a change of address, please contact our office.

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***Make your donation payable to Council of Orthodox Rabbis. Thank you***

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# Pesach: Frequently Asked Questions

By Rabbi Doniel Neustadt

*Yoshev Rosh, Vaad Harabbonim of Greater Detroit*

## **When faced with a choice, is there any reason to patronize a Jewish-owned store rather than a non-Jewish-owned store?**

Rashi in *Parashas Behar* (25:14) states that one should patronize a Jew whenever possible. Although this is not recorded as law in the Rambam and *Shulchan Aruch*, the Chafetz Chayim rules that one should follow this policy. Even if the Jewish-owned business is located a bit farther away and it will take longer to shop there, it is still a mitzvah to give preference to the Jewish-owned establishment.

One must shop at Jewish-owned store, however, only when the price is the same or slightly higher. If the price is much higher, then there is no mitzvah to patronize it. The *poskim* do not give a precise definition of what is considered “much higher” and what is considered “slightly higher,” and it may, therefore, be up to each individual to decide this for himself.

When judging what is considered much higher or slightly higher, the judgment may be based on the total outlay of money, not on the price differences per item. For instance, if shopping at the non-Jewish store will yield an overall savings of twenty dollars, even though the savings per item is only a few cents, twenty dollars may be considered a significant difference and it would be permissible to shop at the non-Jewish store.

The same ruling applies to differences in service. If there is only a slight difference, then it is a mitzvah to support the Jewish businessman. If there is a great disparity, then it is not a mitzvah.

## **Must one really clean and check for chametz behind the stove or refrigerator?**

No, it is not required that one move out their stove or refrigerator to look and clean for *chametz*. One is only required to clean the areas in the house where *chametz* may be found during Pesach. For all other areas where *chametz* is inaccessible, and will remain inaccessible during Pesach, one could rely on the process of nullification (*bittul chametz*) that is made right after the *bedikah* and repeated again after the burning of the *chametz*.

## **What should be done if some edible chametz is found in one's house or workplace during Pesach?**

If the *chametz* is found on Shabbos or Yom Tov, then it should be covered with a utensil or a towel, etc. The *chametz*, which is considered severe *muktzeh*, should not be moved at all, not even with one's feet or body. If the *chametz* is found on *Chol ha-Moed*, it should be disposed of immediately. If possible, it should be burned. If this is not possible, then it should be flushed down the toilet or crumbled and thrown to the winds or cast into a river.

## **Is it permitted to go shopping on Chol ha-Moed?**

Generally speaking, it is forbidden to go shopping on *Chol ha-Moed* for items that will not be needed on *Chol ha-Moed* or the last days of Yom Tov. It is forbidden, for example, to go shopping for clothing, household goods or *sefarim* which will not be used until after Yom Tov is over. There are, however, a number of exceptions to this basic rule. Among them:

- I. It is permitted to buy a gift which will be given on *Chol ha-Moed*, even though the recipient will not use the gift on *Chol ha-Moed*.
- II. It is permitted to shop on *Chol ha-Moed* if the item will not be available after *Chol ha-Moed*.
- III. It is permitted to shop on *Chol ha-Moed* if one must be out of town after *Chol ha-Moed* and will not be able to buy the item elsewhere.
- IV. It is permitted to shop on *Chol ha-Moed* if the item is on a special sale (such as a clearance or an end-of-season sale) and will cost considerably more after Yom Tov. It is advisable to consult a *rav* to determine what exactly is considered “considerably more” in this case.

## **ADDENDUM TO PESACH KOSHERGRAM**

**SOY MILK:** The following brands contain no chometz, and may be used on Pesach by those who are permitted by their Rav to eat Kitniyos: Soy Dream Original un-enriched Soy Milk, and Vitasoy San Sui Original Natural Soy Milk.

**ISRAELI PEPPERS** (red, yellow, orange) are now being sold at local stores (e.g. Sam's Club, Trader Joe's, Meijer), and require taking of Terumos and Maaseros. Check the label or sticker of each package for the country of origin.

**ELITE CHOCOLATES** are recommended only when bearing the certification of the OU or the Badatz of the Eda Hacharedis. For Pesach, special Pesach marking is required.

**LISTERINE POCKETPAKS BREATH STRIPS** and **LISTERINE POCKETMIST ORAL CARE MIST** that still bear the Kof-K symbol are Kosher for year-round use, but not for Pesach. Unfortunately, the manufacturer has decided to discontinue Kosher certification, and new packages will therefore not bear a Kof-K and are not recommended. Consumers can express their disappointment to the manufacturer at 1-888-222-0182.

**NESTLE NESQUIK REGULAR CHOCOLATE POWDER**, which used to be pareve, is now dairy equipment and bears an OU-D. Older containers with a plain OU are pareve. – The “No Sugar Added” variety contains whey, a dairy ingredient. – Nestle Nesquik with Vitamin Complex, made in Mexico, bears no OU and is not recommended. – For Pesach, only containers with special Pesach marking may be used.

**CHOMETZ AFTER PESACH:** In the March 2009 KosherGram, we listed several Jewish-owned stores such as Hiller’s / Shopping Center, Natural Food Patch, Efros Drugs, Sav-On Drugs, Produce Palace and Restaurant Depot Foodservice Wholesaler in which we recommended that you consult your Rabbi, prior to purchasing any chometz after Pesach. We have received communication from some of these stores that they have made a Mechiras Chometz with other Rabbis in the community. These stores, which are not VAAD certified establishments, did not make the Mechiras Chometz through the Council of Orthodox Rabbis; therefore, the VAAD will not render an opinion as to any Mechiras Chometz made by them. We suggest that you contact management for relevant information and consult your Rabbi for a Halachic ruling concerning buying Chometz after Pesach from these or any other Jewish-owned store.

**PISTACHIO RECALL:** The FDA and the California Department of Public Health are investigating Salmonella contamination in pistachio products sold by Setton Farms of Terra Bella, CA. These pistachio nuts have been repackaged into many different consumer level containers, and were also used as ingredients in a large variety of foods. The FDA is therefore advising people at this time to avoid eating all pistachio products, and in particular Setton Farms and Kroger brands of pistachios, until further information is available about the scope of the contamination. A full list of recalled pistachio products is available at <http://www.fda.gov/pistachios/>

**BUYER BEWARE:** This is true with purchasing kosher foods year round, but especially during the Pesach season. Many non-kosher stores sell a very wide variety of foods including kosher, treif, chometz and foods that are Kosher L’Pesach. Do not assume that when making a purchase at a non-kosher certified store that the products you are buying are free of chometz, or even kosher. Finding it in “the kosher aisle” is meaningless in these stores, as there is no guarantee that the store clerk did not place the product on the shelf in error. There is also no guarantee that another shopper did not place one of the items they intended to buy but changed their mind, in the kosher section after changing their mind. Many packages look alike. Please inspect each individual item that you are purchasing for a reliable kosher and/or kosher L’Pesach certification.

***The Council of Orthodox Rabbis wishes you and your family a Chag Kosher V’Sameach!***

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