Pesach Matzos

This year, the Star-K is certifying only HADDAR CHABURA MATZOS, which adheres to the strictest 18 minute standard. The 18 minutes is calculated from the time the water is first poured onto the flour until the very last matzah of that batch is put into the oven. Please be aware that not all 18 minute matzos are the same. Most brands calculate the 18 minute interval so that the actual time is significantly greater than 18 minutes.

For more information, visit the Star-K website by typing http://www.star-k.org/cons-kash-recent.htm and selecting the Spring 2009 Vol. 29 No. 1 issue of Kashrus Kurrents, “Machine Matzohs: Timing Is Everything”.

Consumer Alerts

Celestial Seasonings Tea - In January 2009, Star-K released an alert regarding mislabeled packages of English Toffee and Decaf Vanilla Maple, with French writing on the label.

These products were mistakenly labeled as Pareve with the Star-K hechsher and are actually certified by Scroll-K as Dairy (cholov stam).

All unused packaging was destroyed when the error was discovered. Packages already in the distribution system have reached the United States. Consumers should be aware when purchasing Celestial Seasonings brand English Toffee and Decaf Vanilla Maple, with French writing on the label.

Celestial Seasonings Sugar Cookie Sleigh Ride Tea was incorrectly labeled with a Star-K. The tea is certified Dairy, non-cholov Yisroel by the Vaad Hakashrus of Denver and should bear the Scroll-K Dairy symbol. Corrective measures have been taken.

Shaklee Corp. - Due to the inability to continue sourcing a Kosher Fish Oil powder at this time, Shaklee Corp. has introduced a non-kosher version of Mighty Smart DHA Dietary Supplement. The non-kosher product will have the following SKU #20076 and will NOT bear the Star-K symbol. Kosher Mighty Smart is no longer being produced at this time but is still available from Shaklee distributors. Only Mighty Smart DHA Dietary Supplement Chews SKU #20058 is kosher certified (Pareve/Dagim) when bearing the Star-K symbol.

Chocolate Cheerios, made by General Mills, is certified OU Pareve. The correct brocha for Chocolate Cheerios and Fruit Cheerios is Shehakol followed by Borei Nefashos. Note: The brocha for all other Cheerios products is Mezonos followed by Al Hamichya.

Hills of Galilee wine bears a forged OK symbol and is NOT certified by OK Kosher Certification. Galil Mountain Winery is certified by OK Kosher Certification.

Organic Chicken Broth, Smart & Final, Inc. bears an unauthorized OU symbol and is being withdrawn from the marketplace.

Correction: In the previous issue of Keeping You Kurrent, we noted that My-T Fine Pudding Chocolate Pudding is certified by OK Kosher Certification. In reality, this product is certified OU Pareve.

Community Information

Rita’s Ices, located at the Reisterstown Road Plaza, 6796 Resisterstown Road, Baltimore, MD 21215, has decided to discontinue its Star-D Kosher Certification at this time. Rita’s Italian Ice located in Valley Village Shopping Center, 9103 Reisterstown Road, Owings Mills, MD 21117 continues to be certified by Star-D.