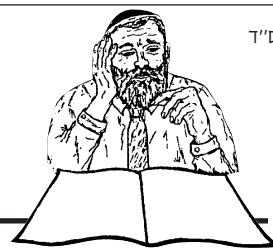


THE Daf HaKASHRUS



A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE © RABBINIC FIELD REPRESENTATIVE

© P: WHAT'S NEW FOR '06?

BY RABBI SHMUEL SINGER

Kedem continues to bottle grape juice under its own name as well as under the Savion, Gefen and Lipschutz labels. All these items have always been and will continue to be Mevushal. Kedem has one not Mevushal grape juice. This is bottled in 1.5 liter glass bottles and clearly

labeled Non-Mevushal. In addition, Rokeach will have its own ©P grape juice. This will appear under the Rokeach label, as well as the Mishpacha labels. Manischewitz will once again have an ©P grape juice under its own label. Both Rokeach and Kedem will offer a variety of ©P Sparkling Grape Juices. All these grape juices are Mevushal. In addition, Rokeach will again produce a variety of ©P cooking wines.

The OU has certified the Manischewitz matzah bakery in the United States for the past few years. For a long time this was the only © matzah bakery in the world. It continues to be the only one in the United States. Other ©P brands such as Horowitz Margareten and Goodman's are all baked at Manischewitz. The OU has also agreed to place the ©P on Aviv, Osem, Yehuda and Rishon matzah products coming from Israel. The items are supervised by local Rabbanim and are satisfactorily made with OU Pesach guidelines. They are certified by the OU when the ©P appears on them. In addition, the OU certifies Yanovsky matzah baked in Argentina. This matzah is widely distributed in Latin America. This company manufactures various types of matzah. This matzah is always an eighteen minute product. Rabbi Daniel Oppenheimer of Buenos Aires serves as the OU *rav hamachshir* at this factory.

This year Manischewitz will have spelt matzah baked from spelt flour for Pesach. Manischewitz will again have a type of *matzah ashirah* known as grape matzah, in addition to traditional egg matzah. The grape matzah is made from flour and grape juice and may only be used when egg matzah is permitted, i.e. for *Sefardim* or those *Ashkenazim* who cannot eat regular matzah. It

is so marked on the box. In addition, Manischewitz will have Passover Tam Tam crackers in various flavors as it did last year. These crackers are made from egg matzah dough and are similarly subject to the restrictions of *matzah ashirah*. They are clearly so labeled on the box. This year there will also be a line of regular matzah Tam Tams. These are small matzos sprinkled with oil and spices after baking and are not considered *Matzah Ashirah*. Manischewitz will continue to sell ©P machine *shmurah matzah* under both the Manischewitz and Goodman's labels. In addition, ©P hand *shmurah matzah* will be available from Gefen, Rokeach and Mishpacha. Kedem will be selling a new item called Matzah Sticks. This is matzah baked in stick form under the Savion label. Manischewitz makes a product known as matzah crackers. Both of these are ordinary matzah products and not *matzah ashirah*. The various Israeli © matzah companies will all be selling machine *shmurah matzah* as well.

Coca Cola will again be available with an ©P for Pesach. Aside from the New York metropolitan area, Coke will be available in Boston, Baltimore-Washington, Miami, Atlanta, Houston, Philadelphia, and Los Angeles. This year, in New York, Coca Cola items will be made with an ©P in 2 liter bottles and in cans. Other locations will have more limited Coke items made in different sizes. All these items, of course, require the ©P symbol. Most of the bottling plants servicing these markets will designate the Passover Coke items with a distinctive yellow cap in addition to the ©P symbol on the cap or shoulder of the bottle.

There have been a number of new developments in the dairy field for Pesach. This year the ©P will appear on various *Cholov Yisroel* dairy products. These include milk from Ahava with the Best Moo label as well as a full line of Ahava dairy products. A new © company Dairy Delight will be selling sour cream and yogurt under the Norman's label. In addition, Norman's will also sell *Cholov Yisroel* ready to eat puddings with the ©P label. *Cholov Yisroel* ©P hard cheese will appear this year under both the Royal

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RFR Dairy and Chometz Alert

H2O – NOT 2 SIMPLE

BY RABBI AVRAHAM JURAVEL
Co-Director IAR

By now, most RFR's know what "cow water" is. For those that don't, it is the water evaporated off the milk or whey which is captured and condensed. The vapor or steam rise during the heating process and go through a condenser. The result, cow water, is actually pure distilled water. It is definitely Dairy and sometimes

not kosher. RFR's should be checking if there is cow water in a dairy plant and what is happening to it. Rabbi Menachem Adler, Shlita, recently found a similar situation regarding Pesach. A company was evaporating water off a wheat starch slurry and using the distilled water in a kosher for pesach product!!! Please keep your eyes and ears open and look out for these situations.

Daf Notes: In the future, The Daf HaKashrus plans to publish a more detailed analysis of this important kashruth issue.

WHAT'S NEW

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George and the Kirkeby label. The Kirkeby cheeses are imported from Europe and also carry the London Beth Din *hechsher*. This year Mishpacha is introducing two new Passover items *cholon yisroel* hot cocoa mix and no-sugar hot cocoa mix. Mishpacha will also have a new Passover non-dairy ©P topping.

Manischewitz will be selling Passover noodles this year after a break of a year. These noodles are made from potato starch. Gefen and Flaum will again have potato starch ©P noodles. Savion is introducing a new product frozen macaroni and cheese made with potato starch noodles. Frankel's also will again have frozen ©P potato starch noodles. Frankel's has introduced a line of frozen foods including blintzes, waffles and pizza. All of these are made from potato starch. Macabee Pizza will be selling a frozen Passover pizza also made from potato starch. Dayenu will have frozen Passover pierogies, pizza, ravioli and pizzaroggies made with matzah meal. Kineret blintzes made from potato starch will also be available. This year King Kold of Chicago will be selling frozen ©P items including matzah balls, potato pancakes and blintzes under the Ratner's label. These items are matzah meal based. King Kold has also introduced frozen potato kugel batter, potato pancake batter and matzah ball batter. The Dr. Prager label will again appear with an ©P on frozen potato and vegetable pancakes.

Manischewitz will continue with its traditional ©P soup nuts. Mishpacha will have soup nuts not made with matzah meal. Rokeach will continue with various potato items, such as pancake mix. Manischewitz will also have a full line of these items. Manischewitz will introduce a low sodium potato pancake mix

and a low sodium matzah ball mix with the ©P symbol.

Savion will again have couscous and granola mix. Both of them contain matzah meal. T. Abraham and Savta will also be selling Passover granola from matzah meal. Savion will also be selling a line of muffin and cake mixes. Sarah's Wholesome Muffins will also have two varieties of Passover muffin mix. These items contain matzah meal. Manischewitz is introducing Passover meringue cookies as a new item this year. This product contains no matzah meal. In addition, Kineret will expand its line of Passover cakes and cookies. L'chaim will have Passover cookies as a new item. Both of these items are made from potato starch. Bernie's Foods will again offer potato starch cakes under the Frankel label and matzah meal rolls and burger rolls under the Dayenu label. Manischewitz is introducing a new ©P sugar free biscotti and sugar free macaroons, as well as sugar free cookies. The biscotti and cookies contain matzah meal. Mishpacha will have ©P macaroons made without matzah meal. Yehuda Passover marble cake, honey cake and chocolate cake will be available from Israel with an ©P. These items are made from potato starch. In addition, Gefen will have a line of cake mixes all made without matzah meal. Similarly, the Le Tova ©P line of baking mixes made from potato starch will be available. Of course, Manischewitz and Rokeach will continue to have their traditional line of matzah meal based baking mixes.

As in years past, ©P potato chips will be made by Bloom's, Herr's, Utz, Pathmark, Rokeach and Manischewitz. Manischewitz will also have ©P potato stix and sweet potato chips. Rokeach and Empress will again have a full line of chocolate items for Pesach,

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OU KOSHER ANNOUNCES TWO NEW PROGRAMS:

*KOSHER TIDBITS, debuts this week (Feb. 15) on OURadio;
A RABBINICAL ROAD SHOW to travel across North America*

The OU's Kashrut Division today announced two new programs, in which its in-house specialists will share their knowledge and expertise on a wide variety of topics with kosher consumers and other interested individuals around the world.

The programs are *Kosher Tidbits*, a comprehensive series of 15-minute broadcasts on OuRadio, www.ouradio.org, which will be available as well on the OU and OU Kosher websites; and a lecture series in which the OU experts will hit the road to share their knowledge with audiences across North America. *Kosher Tidbits* is scheduled to begin this Wednesday, February 15.

The Orthodox Union, the world's largest and most respected kosher certification agency, grants the famed OU symbol to more than 400,000 products manufactured in 80 countries around the globe. Its worldwide staff is guided by 50 New York-based Rabbinic Coordinators (RC's), the overwhelming majority of whom are specialists in the global food industry. Each of these RC's has spent years learning about and grappling with the *halachic* (Jewish law) concerns of their assigned industries, and have visited countless plants and facilities where they have worked with industry specialists.

OU Kosher recently established an internal Communications and Marketing arm under the direction of Rabbi Dr. Eliyahu Safran. According to Rabbi Dr. Safran, "OU Kosher undertook this initiative not only to communicate and market the OU symbol to the world at large, but to make available to the Jewish com-

munity wherever it may be the overwhelming amount of Torah knowledge found at OU headquarters in New York, supplemented by the experience of hundreds of Rabbinic Field Representatives (RFR's) around the world."

The first program, *Kosher Tidbits*, coordinated by Rabbi Dr. Safran and assisted by Rabbi Eliyahu W. Ferrell – a Rabbinic Coordinator who oversees numerous chemical industrial plants will feature RC's who will make presentations on OU Radio, www.ouradio.org. These presentations can be downloaded at the OU website, www.ou.org; and the OU Kosher website, www.oukasher.org. The programs will be targeted to rabbis, scholars, students — indeed, everyone who keeps kosher and who wants to better understand the intricacies of kosher law, including the contemporary food industry.

In order to increase the impact of this program, the email address of each presenting rabbi will be made available. "That way," explained Rabbi Dr. Safran, "if listeners want further elaboration or clarification of a given subject, they will be able to contact us. It's important for the community to be aware that all kinds of kashrut information is available at the OU, and that we are only too happy to respond."

In the second program, both RC's and RFR's – "encompassing the greatest concentration of kosher expertise in the world," according to Rabbi Dr. Safran will travel to synagogues, schools, the OU's NCSY centers, study groups, and college campuses (particularly the 12 universities nationwide that feature the OU's Jewish Learning Initiative on Campus Program) to share their knowledge.

Interested parties are urged to contact OU Kosher, Department of Communications and Marketing, by calling or emailing Suzanne Beck at 212-613-8346, becks@ou.org; or Aviva Sabov at 212-613-8239, sabova@ou.org.

WHAT'S NEW

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as will Manischewitz and Elite. Barton's continues as an © label and will have a full line of both dairy and pareve chocolate and candy items. As in years past Cyrk will have ice cream and ices with the ©P label.

Pesach ice cream sandwiches and ice cream cones will again be available under the Tovli label. Tovli will have ice cream and ice pops as well as plain cones with the ©P label. Tovli will also have ©P lemon wafers and chocolate wafers made without matzah meal. As in years past, pareve Pesach chocolate chips will be available with the Manischewitz and Bloom's labels. Mishpacha will also have ©P chocolate chips. Tovli is producing pareve sorbet ice bars and ice cups in various fruit flavors with the ©P label. Elyon will be selling ©P marshmallows as in past years. In addition, Manischewitz will be selling ©P marshmallows this year, as will Savion.

Manischewitz has kept the Season name on ©P fish items which include tuna, sardines, salmon and anchovies. Season has introduced a number of new Moroccan sardine items in various sauces for Pesach. All of these items are made with *Mashgiach Temidi* and *bishul yisrael*. In addition, the Season label will continue to appear on ©P bamboo shoots and water chestnuts as well as some sauces and oil. Bumble Bee has made a large ©P production of tuna fish under its own label. Aside from this, tuna fish is available with an ©P from Rokeach, Gefen and Mishpacha. All these items are made with *Mashgiach Temidi* and *Bishul Yisrael*. Dr. Praeger's continues to produce breaded fish fillets and fish sticks with an ©P. These products contain no matzah meal. **This year there will be no supermarket ©P labels on tuna fish.**

The OU position remains that extra virgin olive oil can be used without special supervision for Pesach. In addition, Bartenura, Carmel, Gefen, Mishpacha and Season olive oil will be available with an ©P label. Mother's olive oil pan coating spray, Mishpacha olive oil spray and Manischewitz buttery safflower cooking spray, olive oil spray and olive oil garlic cooking sprays

will also be available. Prepared olives with an ©P will be available from Gefen, Osem, Kvuzat Yavne, Gilboa and Mishpacha. Manischewitz is introducing two new flavored ©P olive oil products for Pesach.

The OU position remains that regular tea bags, which are not flavored or decaffeinated, are acceptable for Pesach without special supervision. In addition we have clarified once again this year that all Lipton decaffeinated tea bags are acceptable without special supervision. This is not true of other decaffeinated tea bags. Pathmark, Shoprite and Lipton also have specially marked ©P plain tea bags on the market. Manischewitz will also have a line of ©P tea bags. These include regular tea and herbal teas. In addition Sweet-Touch-Nee and Wissotsky will continue to have Pesach herbal teas. Nestea instant unflavored tea powder and instant unflavored decaffeinated tea powder are acceptable for Pesach without special supervision. **Our position in former years in regard to coffee had been similar to tea. We maintained that all regular coffee, that is unflavored and not decaffeinated, is acceptable for Pesach without supervision. This is no longer true. Some coffee companies add maltodextrin, which is either chametz or kitniyos, to instant coffee. As a result this coffee is not kosher for Passover. Only coffee bearing an ©P symbol or brands listed in the gray area of the © Passover Directory should be used. Both Folger's and Taster's Choice instant coffee remain acceptable. Other brands should be checked in the Directory. Ground coffee remains acceptable from any source as long as it is unflavored and not decaffeinated.**

This year a number of supermarket labels will have ©P flavored seltzers for Pesach. These include Acme, America's Choice, Foodtown, King Kullen, Pathmark, Shoprite and White Rose. Cornell will have flavored sodas with an ©P. This year both Shoprite and Pathmark will once again be selling some sugared sodas with an ©P symbol.

RESERVE THE DATE ASK©8

The original ONE WEEK ASK© 8 and THREE WEEK SUMMER KASHRUTH INTERN TRAINING PROGRAMS will Bs'd take place during the weeks of AUGUST 7-25.

For more information and to register call Rabbi Yosef Grossman
Director – ASK© and Kashruth Education at
212-613-8212, fax 212-613-0621, email grossman@ou.org.

A MEDAL FOR RABBI YOSEF GOLDBERG

In the last week I audited two of our plants. In both cases the companies sang our praises for the exemplary service received from their RC.

The OU has chassidim. Give Rabbi Yosef Goldberg a medal please. This is what I like to hear at our plants.

(A comment by Dr. Avrohom Meyer, RFR Europe as circulated by Rabbi Dr. Eliyahu Safran.)

KASHRUTH alert!

NESTLE MINI MARSHMALLOWS HOT COCOA MIX (food service) produced by Nestle USA Inc., Glendale, CA is distributed in cartons containing 30 single serve envelopes, which bears an unauthorized ©D symbol on its external carton and is not certified as kosher by the Orthodox Union. Individual envelopes do not bear an ©D symbol. Corrective action is being taken.

MCDONALD'S CANADA NEWMAN'S OWN CREAMY CAESAR DRESSING, RANCH DRESSING, AND LOW FAT BALSAMIC VINAIGRETTE (Single Serve Pouches) distributed in MacDonald's restaurants by McDonald's Canada, bear an unauthorized ©D symbol and are not certified as kosher by the Orthodox Union. Corrective action is being taken. *Please note: These products are not to be confused with Newman's Own salad dressings which are available for retail sale and are kosher certified when bearing the © symbol.*

MAZAL TOV TO ...

our dedicated RC RABBI MICHAEL COLEMAN AND HIS WIFE on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Yosef.

ASK^U Mesorah Conference II

by Rabbi Yosef Grossman, Director - ASK ^U and Kashruth Education

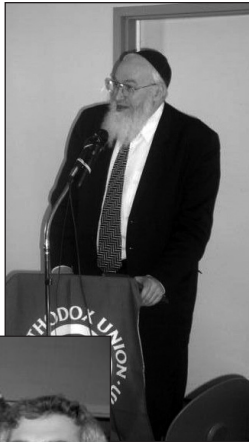
On Sunday, February 19, over 300 attendees of the Harry H. Beren ASK OU Mesorah Conference II braved the chilling temperatures and heard in-depth Shiurim from left to right:

Rabbi Yisroel Belsky on Halachic Measurements

Rabbi Hershel Schachter on Techeles

and Rabbi Menachem Genack on Gelatin.

They heard warm greetings from Rabbi Dr. Tzvi Hersh Weinreb and Rabbi Dr. Bernard Lander.



A special hazkarah took place in memory of Rav Shlomo Zev Zweigenhaft zt'l, an OU senior shochet, who recently passed away.

The participants received Reb Dovid Cohen's remarkable Sourcebook, heard a fascinating shiur on Tzaraas and color from Dr. Sholom Kelman and saw (counterclockwise from picture at left):

Rabbi Zivotosky holding the sword of the swordfish.
To his left Rabbi Schachter, Rabbi Genack, Rabbi Grossman and Dr. Greenspan.

Dr. Ari Greenspan's Finger Esrog.

Rabbi Dr. Seth Mandel's oats.

Rabbi Chaim Goldberg's fish with scales.

Rabbi Ami Cohen's steinbok with straight horns.

The overflow crowd was totally engrossed and enjoyed the conference. See below.

