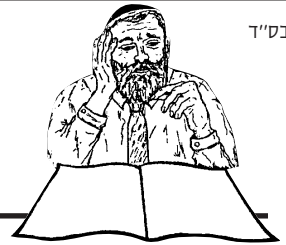



THE Daf HaKASHRUS



A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE  RABBINIC FIELD REPRESENTATIVE

DAIRY ENGLISH MUFFINS

BY RABBI DOVID COHEN
Rabbinic Coordinator

The OU certifies many brands of English Muffins which are labeled  and many others that are OU-Pareve. In light of the issur to produce dairy bread (*Shulchan Aruch* 97:1), how can the OU certify muffins as dairy? The following two answers have been suggested to this question, and include Rav Schachter's comments:

MUFFINS HAVE A UNIQUE SHAPE

The reason why one may not produce dairy or meat bread is because people are so used to eating bread with meals that they might come to accidentally eat the dairy bread with meat or vice versa. However, this is only a real concern with "generic" bread but not with one that has a unique shape since the person doesn't view that as "regular bread"; rather they know that this is something special and give thought before they eat it with meat or dairy.


Thus, the allowance to produce dairy or meat bread with a unique shape would only be applicable if the bread is viewed as a special and unique entity. However, if the item is perceived as "another type of bread", this allowance would not apply. It follows that, one cannot make dairy bagels even though bagels have a unique shape, because people have come to associate bagels with bread and therefore consider it pareve and eat it with meat

or dairy. However, Thomas' muffins were the first muffins that most people ever saw (or at least the original kosher muffin) and at the time, they were dairy. Therefore, it never became "bagelized" and viewed as "another type of bread"; rather it was always seen as something special which was dairy and couldn't be eaten with meat. Although nowadays there are pareve muffins, that doesn't take away from the fact that people view muffins as a special item which isn't necessarily pareve and wouldn't eat a muffin with meat unless they were sure that this specific one is pareve.

Rav Schachter rejected this reason as follows:

כמדומה לי שלפני עשרים שנה שרק הי' מאפענ"ז חלביים, הי' זה נחשב לשינוי צורה (כעין תורה) – מה שנאפו בצורת מאפענ"ז – אך כעת שכבר השתנה המצב, שיש הרבה קאמפעני"ז שעושים מאפענ"ז פארעווע, שוב "נפל פיתא בבירא", ובטל היתר זה, ואין להיתר אלא מטעם הביטול בששים. ועל כן מן הנכון לדקדק תמיד – ולעורר לרבנים המשגיחים שיפקחו על זה – שיהי' תמיד ששים כנגד החלב שבו.

THE DAIRY INGREDIENT IS BATEL IN THE MUFFIN

Investigation shows that the dairy component in English muffins is in fact *batal b'shishim* and the muffins are in fact pareve – thereby avoiding the *issur* to produce dairy bread – but would nonetheless be labeled  based on concerns of *bitul issur l'chatchilah* and technicalities as to how the OU certifies companies.


Based on the above, RC's and RFR's should be vigilant to review dairy English Muffins formulas to ascertain that in fact the dairy component is *botul b'shishim*.

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Funding for the Harry H. Beren ASK^U8 comes from the Harry H. Beren Foundation, Lakewood, NJ

KASHRUTH *alert!*

CHET'S PEANUT BUTTER TOPPING (15.5 oz tube):

CHOCOLATE FLAVORED

BANANA FLAVORED

ROASTED NUT FLAVORED

CINNAMON NUTMEG FLAVORED

products produced by Harris Family Foods, Edgewater, MD bear the © symbol. The correct designation should be ©D. Corrective action is being taken.

Due to equipment issues, the 67 oz. size of NESQUIK CHOCOLATE POWDER produced by Nestle Brands, Glendale, CA will be certified as ©D. All other sizes will continue to be certified © pareve.

NATURE VALLEY GRANOLA BARS (Spanish Label) in Vanilla and Strawberry varieties and Nature Valley Trail Mix Bars in Fruit & Nut and Apple Cinnamon varieties (General Mills, Minneapolis, MN), distributed in Mexico, mistakenly bear an unauthorized © symbol. These products are being withdrawn from the marketplace.

KASHRUTH *advisory!*

The Orthodox Union wishes to clarify the following with regard to Orthodox Union certified dairy airline meals:

1. WEISS'S KOSHER CUISINE is ©D Cholov Yisrael
2. KOSHAIR CUISINE is ©D not Cholov Yisrael (MilMar Food Group)
3. BORENSTEIN CATERERS is ©D not Cholov Yisrael

The airline meals labels accurately depict the above information.

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION RE HELLMAN'S MAYONNAISE

Years ago the eggs in Hellman's mayonnaise were processed at a dairy/pareve facility. At the time, the OU Poskim reviewed the production process and concurred that the eggs were halachically pareve (see the *Daf HaKashrus* Vol. 10-Page 13). Nonetheless, some consumers viewed this as a "*beheima shehoru bo chochom*" (an animal on which a *talmid chochom* has ruled). The intent is that a *baal nefesh*, a person of religious sensitivity, will not consume an animal, or by extension, any food, on which a *sheila* was posed, even if the *psak* was that it is kosher. (See *Ramo, Yoreh Daya* 116:7). Though pareve products made in a dairy/pareve plant may not fit the exact criteria of *beheima shehorun bo chochom*, there are people who do not wish to get involved in this type of situation and were uncomfortable with the pareve status of the eggs and mayonnaise.

Currently, production of eggs for Hellman's Mayonnaise takes place in a different facility and the original issues are no longer relevant. The eggs are unquestionably pareve. Consumers who were concerned about this matter may now enjoy Hellman's mayonnaise and rely on the pareve designation with full confidence.

POSITION AVAILABLE

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of the Capital District



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Rav HaMachshir
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Fax (518) 489-1530

Vaad Hakashruth of the Capital District seeks a kashruth specialist with both local and national level supervision experience. (We represent a number of national kashruth agencies). Candidate will work with Rav HaMachshir, lay Vaad Board and community Mashgichim. (there is room to grow into administrative role) Self motivation, abilities to provide hashgacha temidit, oversee facilities and market the Vaad for new hashgachos. Vaad also oversees the Albany Eruv and the Capital District Chevra Kadisha.

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Email: vhcd51@yahoo.com

Fax: 518-489-1530

MAZAL TOV TO ...

our devoted RC RABBI DONEAL EPSTEIN AND HIS WIFE on the birth and Bris of their son, Shimon Eliyahu.

our dedicated RFR in St. Paul, MN, RABBI REUVEN DRORI AND HIS WIFE on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Dovid Menachem.

our devoted RFR in San Diego, RABBI AHARON SHAPIRO AND HIS WIFE on the engagement of their daughter Henna to Yisroel Shomer of Toronto, ONT, Canada.

our devoted secretary HADASSAH HERBSTMAN on her engagement to Binyomin Unger of Monsey, NY.

our dedicated RFR in California RABBI SHLOMO SHABTAY AND HIS WIFE on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Yosef Yitzchok.

DOUBLE MAZAL TOV TO...

father and daughter and their spouses born 28 Nissan – Devora Lea Barouk daughter of MENDI & CHAYA MUSIA BAROUK, (Crown Heights, Brooklyn, NY) granddaughter of Aryeh Leib & Brocho Heintz. Born Motzoei Shabbos 2 Iyar, Devora Lea Heintz daughter of ARYEH LEIB & BROCHO HEINTZ (Utrecht, Netherlands). Rabbi Heintz is © RFR for Kerry Bio-Science Utrecht, Netherlands. His daughter Mrs. Barouk works as a © secretary in the Kashruth Dept.

CONDOLENCES TO...

the OU's Executive Vice President RABBI DR. TZVI HERSH WEINREB AND FAMILY on the loss of his mother Mrs. Sylvia Weinreb O'H who resided in Monsey, NY.

our dedicated RFR in Atlanta, GA RABBI DOVID REZNICK AND FAMILY on the loss of his mother Shirley Reznick of Charleston, SC.

◆ המקום ינחם אתכם בתוך שאר אבלי ציון וירושלים ◆