



GENERAL YOSHON NEWS

Chodesh Tov!

A Confusing Year for Yoshon Keeping!

This season has been unlike any other when it comes to keeping *yoshon*. Not only has the wheat crop been very bad, preventing many companies from even offering *yoshon* flour (in a year with a second Adar nonetheless), but the major reporting sources for *yoshon* information are even having different cutoff dates and statuses! Let's shed some light on why there are differences, and try to help explain why there is so much confusion this year.

First, the winter wheat crops and harvest were very bad this year, perhaps even worse than the "Winter Wheat Crisis of 2016". That year, the old standard "go to" for all-purpose flour of Gold Medal from the "KC" plant *almost* wasn't *yoshon* that year... Now this year, it *isn't yoshon at all!*

Next, Project Chodosh, the main reporter of the season's general grain cutoff dates, changed the wheat date sometime in late August or early September. However, for some unknown reason, the emailed news didn't get sent out, and the new wheat date wasn't known until their *Preliminary Guide to Chodosh* was released in mid-October.

After three months' time of updating our website *Yoshon.com* with the original August 1st date for wheat, we had to go back and try to change all the affected entries to the new earlier July 30th date. Currently, some entries updated before October 12th are still showing the old wheat date, plus there are newly updated entries with the new date. To top it off, we had just changed our whole website to a new system, which also has temporarily slowed down updating. At least until all the elements are in place for each of our 2100+ product entries, that is. Some entries still say, "This Product Has Not Been Updated Yet". The wheat date change has really helped to mess things up for our site, but B"H, not enough that it cannot be used.

Finally, Star-K is another major reporter of *Yoshon* dates. They put together the *Yoshon Quick Reference Guide*, their own condensed version of the *Guide to Chodosh* coupled with some independent "inside information" that they get from being in the food industry. Now, Star-K has some of their own dates and statuses, and from their research on the wheat crops, they decided to keep the old wheat date of August 1st!

So, you may wonder, which date to go by, and which source to believe? This may be a better question for your Rav if you do not know which way he would hold.

- Project Chodosh follows the strictest opinion, and say that a cutoff date is the *start date* of a product *becoming chodosh*. They report dates for items like soy sauce, and barley malt in flour, ingredients that some views hold they are so insignificant that they are considered *batul* (nullified). They do this so that the strictest of individuals will still be safe.

- The *Yoshon Network Inc.* generally follows Project Chodosh's dates/status in our reporting, so that the strictest person can still use our site. Unless of course, there is a good reason to deviate, such as adding a note to a product that there are varying opinions and to ask one's Rav which way to hold, or when a *mashgiach* contacts us with additional new information. We also add a date for soy sauce and barley malt as does Project Chodosh.

If in doubt as to whether a wheat-based product entry has been updated or not, there are two things to note: If it was updated after October 12th, it is likely correct. If it shows "Updated As" *before* October 12th, just subtract 2 days from the cutoff date to make it earlier. This only applies to items containing wheat. If it contains oats, there is no problem.

- Star-K has their own means of getting dates, due to contacts and information they glean in their field. They also hold that a cutoff date is the *last day* that a product *is still yoshon*, (which is actually what most *kashrut* agencies do in other countries for their *yoshon* reporting). They also hold that soy sauce is "always *yoshon*".

So, there you have the differences. It is up to an individual and their Rav as to which way to hold. We hope this helps in your quest for seeking out *yoshon* foods!



RECENT YOSHON UPDATES

October 21-November 4, 2021 - Updates from Various Mashgichim

- According to Rabbi Chaim M. Wagshal of New Square Kashrus:
 Unger’s Barley is *yoshon*.
 Unger’s Fillo is *chodosh* with a lot code of 212809 (21=2021, 280=October 8, 9=unimportant). (The code meaning was confirmed with him.) Anything before this date is *yoshon*.
 Solomon’s Kishke is always *yoshon*.
- According to Rabbi Shmuel Teitelbaum, all Zweets candies are *yoshon*.
- According to Rabbi Chaim Weissmandl,
 All Tuscanini Parchment Crackers are *yoshon*.
 Both Tuscanini Gnocchi Pasta flavors are *yoshon*.
 Both Bartenura Gnocchi Pasta flavors are *yoshon*.
 Lieber’s Peanut Butter Filled Pretzels and Brownie-Filled Pretzels are *yoshon*.
- According to Rabbi Sholom Tendler of Star-K, Pride of the Farm Ice Creams with wheat are always *yoshon*.

(Sources: Each respective Mashgiach)



October 27, 2021 – Updated Yoshon Cereals List

This corrects a couple of small typos. Here is the Direct Download Link:

<https://yoshon.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/YoshonCerealsListUpdated10-27-21.pdf>

(Source: TYNI)



October 26, 2021 – New Star-K Yoshon Quick Reference Guide for 5782

This handy list from Star-K has many popular products for reference. It is now current for the season. The Direct Download Link is below.

<https://yoshon.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Star-KYoshonQuickReferenceGuide5782.pdf>

(Source: Star-K)



October 24, 2021 – Newly Updated Yoshon Cereals List

This should cover them all. We are happy to report that General Mills and Post cereals are now all re-updated on the website to reflect the newer dates, including the change of wheat date.

(Source: TYNI)



October 17, 2021 – “Final” Edited Version of the Preliminary Guide is Released

Project Chodosh sent this message from their email list, with the newest Guide:

“Attached is the final version of the preliminary guide for the 2021 Yoshon season. Please discard the pre-edited version sent out last week.

Thank you to all those who sent in corrections. Most have been incorporated into the guide.

Please do not reply directly to this email. Your response will not be seen. All responses should be sent to yherman20@gmail.com:

Printed copies will be sent out to all those who ordered later this week.

I apologize that answering the texts has been sporadic while I was working to get the guide out. Full service should resume this week. Texts are answered Sunday-Wednesday once a day and we try to answer Thursday night as well. The texts are not looked at on Friday.

Mrs. Rosskamm”

[TYNI Note: Attached to the email was the new Guide. Here is the Direct Download Link:

<https://yoshon.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/PreliminaryGuide2021-22.pdf>]

(Source: Project Chodosh)



October 15, 2021 – New Kemach Food Products Corp. Yoshon Update

Kemach Foods sent this message from their email list, plus a corrected update sheet.

“Good afternoon,

I just updated the website with the latest information on our cereal (as well as a few corrected typos etc.).

B"H we were able to confirm that the Oats and Durum Wheat in our most recent production were still Yoshon (this pertains to Toasted Oats, Honey Nut Toasted Oats, Fruit Whirls, Bunch O' Krunch, Corn Crisp, & Sugar Puffed Wheat). We are still working on finding out about the Barley (this affects only the Multi-grain Toasted Oats).

www.Kemach.com/yoshon.html

Have a wonderful Shabbos,

Nechemia Salzman

KEMACH FOOD PRODUCTS CORP...”

[TYNI Note: Attached to the email was the corrected new sheet. Here is the Direct Download Link:

<https://yoshon.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/KemachYoshonUpdate2021-10-15-21.pdf>]

(Source: Kemach Food Products Corp.)



October 14, 2021 – Official Kemach Food Products Corp. Yoshon Update.

Kemach sent us their official update sheet. They update it periodically, so we will send out any new updates if there are any changes.

[They did send out a new update the next day, see above.]

(Source: Kemach Food Products Corp.)



October 13, 2021 –Yoshon Cereals List

We compiled our usual Yoshon Cereals List, which will be updated if there are any changes. [We did. See above.]

For those wishing to repost a permanent link on their websites, use this link which never changes:

<https://yoshon.com/updates-downloads/#YoshonCerealsList>

(Source: TYNI)



October 12, 2021 – Kemach Updates Their Website’s Yoshon Dates

Kemach’s printable version was not available online yet, so we copied the page itself and put it into pdf format for temporary use. It will be updated when they have the better printed version. [It was posted in a few days.]

(Source: Kemach Food Products Corp.)



October 12, 2021 – General Chodosh Cutoff Date Sheet

A major problem for us is that the Preliminary Guide announced an earlier wheat date. Instead of August 1st, it has been changed to July 30th, a full two days earlier! This means all of our wheat product entries updated between August 5-October 11th must be changed.

The General Chodosh Cutoff Date Sheet has now been updated with the General Mills and Post dates, as well as the new date for wheat. It has the updated date for when the Preliminary Guide came out. Here is the Direct Download Link:

<https://yoshon.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/GeneralDatesUpdated-10-11-21.pdf>

(Source: TYNI)



October 11, 2021 – The [Unedited] Preliminary “Guide to Chodosh” is Published

From the email:

“Dear Yoshon Observers,

Attached is the first guide for this year. It has not yet been edited. A final version will be sent out once the editing process is complete

I am sorry for the delays and I apologize that it took me so long to complete this task. Rabbi Moshe Herman is working on bringing another person into the project to prevent such delays in the future.

With Sincere Apologies, Mrs. Rosskamm”

(Source: Project Chodosh)



October 8, 2021 – Second Correction for Whole Wheat Flour in COR Canada Yoshon Update#1

“No Name Flour - If the best before date includes “PFM” use the same code as COR 285 flour. If it is “PH(0)7” or “PH(0)2” use the codes noted above for “PH”. If it is “AD” a best before code of 2022 SE 15 or earlier. Whole Wheat flour - Best Before codes are **8 months earlier**.

The PFM mill has changed the best before date for whole wheat flour to 8 months. No Name Whole wheat flour with PFM in the code with a best before date of April 22, 2022 is *yoshon*.”

(Source: COR Canada)

[TYNI Note: We corrected the document a second time, and it is currently on our website for download at this link: <https://yoshon.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Corrected10-4-21CORCanadaYoshonUpdate1.pdf>]



YOSHON PRODUCT OR ESTABLISHMENT ALERTS

November 4, 2021 – Updates and Alerts on Hecker’s All-Purpose Flour

This was seen only yesterday, and afterward clarification was sought...

October 28, 2021 – Hecker’s Flour Alert

HECKERS ALL PURPOSE FLOUR which contain "NT" in the code is milled from Yoshon winter wheat in a facility that handles only winter wheat. (For those makpid on malt in flour, probable Chodosh date for malt is Dec 15 / “Best If Used By” date of June 15 23.

The Whole Wheat and Self-rising were being done under the OU at another mill.

(Source Kashrut.com via COR Detroit and Kof-K)

Yesterday, November 4th, someone on one of our Yoshon.com WhatsApp Groups asked if the "NT" designation was really necessary. It is a valid question, since if there were other plants that made *chodosh* Hecker’s All-Purpose Flour, then surely it *would* be necessary. Since it originally had appeared that there was only the one mill that handled the *yoshon* flour, it seemed as though the need for a plant code was unnecessary, so clarification was requested, and given.

“Hello,

Thank you for your email.

Since Hecker’s is a private label and can be moved around to different mills we strongly suggest the consumers look for the NT designation next to the ink jetted code on the bags. In the event they see a different code they are welcome to inquire with our office regarding the status of the mill.

Best regards,

Rabbi M. Reich”

(Source: Rabbi Reich of Kof-K)



October 18, 2021 – Kemach Sends Update on Chow Mein Noodles

Kemach sent this message from their email list, with a code deciphering sheet:

“Good evening,

According to our Mashgiach the most recent production Kemach Chow Mein Noodles that will begin to hit the stores in the coming days are already CHODOSH. The Code is **1721J** (October 17, 2021). I attached a file explains how to read this code. (Previous productions were Yoshon).

Have a good evening,
Nechemia”

(Source: Kemach Food Product Corp.)



1721JXXXX = October 17, 2021

17 21 J X XXX

Diagram explaining the code deciphering sheet:

- 17**: Date (Day of Month)
- 21**: YEAR (2021)
- J**: MONTH (October)
- X**: Irrelevant (Shift)
 - M: Morning
 - A: Afternoon
 - D: Dusk
- XXX**: Irrelevant (Operator Code) can be one or more letters or numbers.

Legend for months:

A = January	E = May	I = September
B = February	F = June	J = October
C = March	G = July	K = November
D = April	H = August	L = December

(FIRST CHODOSH CODE: 1721J – OCTOBER 17, 2021)

of
that

October 13, 2021 - T.I. CACFP Weekly Food Distribution Notice Regarding Yoshon

Reposted Article from BJLife Newsroom

“T.I. CACFP Weekly Food Distribution Notice Regarding Yoshon

Baltimore, MD - Oct. 13, 2021 - As with many things that have been affected by COVID, we are having difficulty with supply line issues regarding Yoshon products for our box program.

Beginning Tuesday, 10/19/21, Seven Mile Market has generously offered to provide a ‘YOSHON EXCHANGE’ for those that need. The exchange will provide the opportunity to immediately exchange any non-Yoshon items that are in the box for Yoshon items that are nutritionally acceptable equivalents.

After picking up your regular box, please re-enter the Seven Mile Market parking lot from the Reisterstown Road entrance and proceed to the second set of doors where the exchange will be set up.

There will be a notification on the weekly flyer for the items that are affected.

Please contact meals@torahinstitute.org with any questions or concerns.”

(Source: Baltimore Jewish Life)



October 11, 2021 - Correction on Quaker Date in the Preliminary Guide

Please be advised that the Quaker cutoff date (year) for Oats in the chart under “360 days” is incorrect. Instead of “July 18 24”, it should actually be “July 18 22”.

(Source: TYNI Research)



October 11, 2021 - Guide Correction on Malt Date

“Correction to Heckers item below on P. 16: Best By date for Heckers malt is June 15 23

Heckers White Flour contains 100% winter wheat, as determined by independent sources. Flour is milled in a facility that only has winter wheat. Probable Chodosh date for malt is Dec 15, code best by use date of June 15 22 (18 months after packing.)”

(Source: COR Detroit)



RECALLS AND ISSUES AFFECTING YOSHON OR POTENTIALLY YOSHON PRODUCTS

Nothing to report this month.



OFFERS, PROMOS, AND DISCOUNT COUPONS

Coupons for Kellogg’s: Coupons for lots of other items than just cereals, such as Morningstar Farms, Townhouse and Cheez-It Crackers, and Pringles. Be sure to check for a *hechsher* on the cereals, as not all of them are kosher.:

<https://coupons.kelloggsfamilyrewards.com/>



Coupons on Gerber Baby Cereals: Just requires verification:

<https://bricks.coupons.com/Authenticate.asp?o=136829&c=FU&p=WrdmOGj2&dauth=yes>

Kol Tuv,
The TYNI Staff

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