

Guittard Allergen Policy

The FDA regards allergens as a serious Food Safety concern. FDA defines 9 major allergens that must be controlled in food manufacturing to protect consumers. These are the 9 major allergens: milk, eggs, fish, crustacean shellfish, tree nuts, peanuts, wheat, soybean and sesame. Although there may be other allergens beyond this list, these 9 have been scientifically determined to be of primary public health concern. This letter is to inform you of the types of allergens from the list of 9 major allergens that are present in our manufacturing processes. We maintain a complete Preventive Controls program including personnel training as it relates to allergens in our facility.

Consumer Retail Products That Are Sold Through Retail Merchants Such as Grocery Stores

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Forms of Chocolate	UPC	Item Number	Allergens	Reason
CHOCOLATE BAKING BARS, Collection Etienne 2 ounce bars	071818764606 071818770003 071818710108	7646 7700 7101	Not suitable for people allergic to milk	Made on equipment also used to make milk chocolate.*
BAKING CHIPS	071818021006 071818024274 071818024809	0210 0243 0248 0207	None of the 9 major allergens	Made in a segregated processing area that does not contain any of the 9 major allergens and carry the label of "Dairy Free".
BAKING CHIPS	071818020405 071818020702 071818023000 071818023505 071818024007 071818029507	0204 0230 0235 0240 0295	Not suitable for people allergic to milk	Made on equipment also used to make milk chocolate. Where milk is directly added to a product it is stated in the ingredient declaration according to FDA guidelines.*
BAKING WAFERS, Collection Etienne, 12 ounce re-closable bag	071818738003 071818766006 071818774001	7380FT 7660FT 7740FT	Not suitable for people allergic to milk	Made on equipment also used to make milk chocolate. Where milk is directly added to a product it is stated in the ingredient declaration according to FDA guidelines.*
COCOA/CHOCOLATE POWDERS, Collection Etienne 8 ounce tins	071818750005 071818753006 071818754201	7500 7530, 7531 7542	None of the 9 major allergens	Made on a segregated line without milk protein, but milk ingredients are present in the manufacturing facility.

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*Made in a facility that is free of peanuts, tree nuts, eggs, wheat, shellfish, fish and sesame. Some dark chocolates and compounds are run on shared equipment with milk products but the equipment cannot be washed with water for Food Safety reasons; therefore, those dark chocolates without milk ingredient may contain milk protein from residual milk product on the shared equipment. For those dark chocolates, our labels inform customers with the following: "Made on equipment also used to make milk chocolate. Not suitable for individuals with milk allergies." For the products where milk is directly added to a product it is stated in the ingredient declaration according to FDA guidelines. Guittard also offers "Dairy Free" chocolates, which are made on dedicated production line with quality assurance program to prevent cross contamination. Those products must be tested for negative milk protein before release and labeled with "Dairy Free" on the package.

Chocolate and compound coatings are formulated with a small amount of sunflower or soya lecithin (less than 0.5%). Since soya lecithin may contain trace residues of soybean protein, all products made with soya lecithin are labeled accordingly. Yet due to the very low levels of usage, the soy protein is below detectable level by the third-party laboratory whether made with soya lecithin or sunflower lecithin.

Industrial and Professional Products That Are Sold to Food Businesses

Forms of Chocolate	Allergens	Reason
CHOCOLATE CHIPS, 10 LB BLOCKS, 500g BARS, WAFERS, RIBBONS, NUGGETS, LIQUID TANK TRUCK, SOLID-IN-PAILS, COMPOUND COATINGS, AND SYRUPS	Not suitable for people allergic to milk	Made on equipment also used to make milk chocolate. Where milk is directly added to a product it is stated in the ingredient declaration according to FDA guidelines.*
COCOA POWDER, SWEET GROUND GRANULES, COCOA/CHOCOLATE BLEND POWDERS, CHOCOLATE RICE, COCOA BUTTER	None of the 9 major allergens	Made in a segregated processing area that does not contain any of the 9 major allergens".
COOKIE DROPS, CHOCOLATE WAFERS (Item# 5222 , 5242 , 8138 , 8141 , 8142 , 8146 , 8148 , 8407 , 8448)	None of the 9 major allergens	Made in a segregated processing area that does not contain any of the 9 major allergens and may be labeled as "Dairy Free".

Should you have further questions, please contact us. Linsen Liu VP of Sciences November 07, 2024

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10 Guittard Road Burlingame, CA 94010 (650) 697-4427 (800) 468-2462

GUITTARD.COM

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