THERMAL PROCESS REQUIREMENTS FOR EDIBLE ACIDIFIED FOOD

Acidified foods are defined as low acid foods to which acid(s) or acid food(s) are added to equal a PH of 4.6 or below.

Prior to contacting the Iowa Department of Inspections, Appeals & Licensings (IDIAL), the following requirements MUST be met:

1. Have taken "the Better Process Control School" through a Food Authority and receive a certificate (example the University of Nebraska at Lincoln)

- 2. Have taken the Food Safety Course for manager Food Handler (example ServSafe Food Handler).
- 3. Send your sample to an approved FDA Food Authority describing your thermal process for analysis.
- 4. The Food Authority will provide you with your Laboratory Analysis Report with critical points to monitor during your thermal process.

- 5. The Food Authority will also provide you with a final letter describing the following:
- 5.1 Your product information (Food Product Group, Product Name, Form of product, Packing medium, and Governing Regulation)
- 5.2 Your processing method (Initial and final equilibrium PH, acidify agent, preservatives if any)
- 5.3 Your process source, mode, and container closure treatment.

- 6. Find a registered commercial kitchen approved by your County or State where your product will be processed.
- 7. Having completed all the 6 steps above, Contact the IDIAL and schedule your inspection.

Good luck!











Freshly harvested Hot Habanero Peppers (2023 production)





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THANK YOU!