

**IDENTIFYING SHELF STABLE PUMPKIN,
SWEET POTATO AND MERINGUE PIES**

Most pumpkin, sweet potato, and meringue pies are considered potentially hazardous foods. Potentially hazardous foods are those capable of supporting rapid growth of pathogenic microorganisms and must be kept cold below 41° F or hot above 140° F except during necessary preparation times.

A number of large national manufacturers were able to alter standard recipes which allow limited room temperature display of these types of pies. These food processors must adhere to strict labeling protocol so that it is clear which pies are room-temperature safe. The labeling requirements are as follows:

1. The pies must be enclosed in individual containers which must be labeled “this pie is prepared using a special recipe that allows room temperature display,” or “special recipe allows room temperature display,” or equivalent wording. Otherwise the pie will be prominently labeled with the American Institute of Baking “RT” symbol. RT = shelf stable;
2. Individual containers must be labeled with a “sell by” or “refrigerate by” date corresponding to the time period the manufacturer has documented that the pies are safe to store at room temperature;
3. Individual containers must be labeled “keep refrigerated after purchase,” “refrigerate after opening,” or “refrigerate by” a date corresponding to the time period the manufacturer has documented that the pies are safe to store at room temperature.

The following are special formula pie products identified to be safe for limited room temperature storage:

PUMPKIN AND SWEET POTATO PIES

- Country Home Bakers, Inc. (sold by Safeway as “gourmet”); code JLCHB;
- Sara Lee Pumpkin Pie; code NPH-AT-3;
- Sara Lee Sweet Potato Pie; code NPH-AT-3;
- Bonert’s Slice of Pies; code Non-PHF;
- Plush Pippin Corporation; codes 2414, 44214, 54514, 2914, 43214;
- Western Country Pies (sold by Albertson’s under store label); codes WCP and SS
- Phranil Foods Company; code 143;
- Sarsfield Foods Limited, “The Pie People”; codes 16123, 47923, and 61223;
- Kroger Co., dba Smith’s Food & Frozen Dough Bakery; codes 326299, B 26477, 32084, B 26476, and 99756 (Sold by QFC and Fred Meyer as “Your Pie Connection, Homestyle Pumpkin Pie”).

MERINGUE PIES

- Sara Lee Lemon Meringue Pie; codes 5529 and 5866 embossed on bottom of pie tin;



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360-337-5235 t.
360-337-5291 f.

- Bonert's Slice of Pie, Lemon Meringue tin is stamped with "Bonert's" and "non-PHF";
- Western Country Pies, Lemon, Chocolate, and Coconut meringue pies; codes "WCP" and "S/S" embossed on bottom of pie tin;
- Plush Pippin Pies; identified by the bar code number 33764, followed by item number 42340 or 22340.