Making and selling bread and bakery products

Responsibilities if you make or sell bread and bakery products

A business that makes and sells bread and/or bakery products - such as cakes, slices or pies - is required to operate under the Food Act either from premises that meet the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations or under an approved Food Safety Programme (FSP) which exempts the business from the regulations.

How does it work?

A FSP (Food Act 1981) that has been approved by NZFSA identifies how bread and bakery products are kept safe by the business and covers activities such as handling, processing, transporting and displaying it for sale. Food businesses are audited to confirm that they are following the practices approved by NZFSA for their FSP and are selling safe food.

Alternatively, if someone can operate under the Food Hygiene Regulations the premises used to make and/or sell bread or bakery products need to meet the registration requirements prescribed in the regulations. Premises are inspected and hygiene requirements checked by local councils.

The Food Hygiene Regulations can be found at:

Food Hygiene Regulations 1974 (External website)

Fortification of bread with iodine.

From October 2009, New Zealand bakers have been required to replace non-iodised salt in bread with iodised salt. NZFSA has developed a user guide which contains information for bakers about the bread and bread products that must contain iodised salt.

The user guide is at:

The addition of folic acid and iodised salt to bread (111.96 KB PDF)

Fortification of bread with folic acid

The fortification of bread is voluntary in New Zealand. NZFSA has developed a user guide (see above) which contains information for bakers who want to add folic acid to bread.

Further information if you make or sell bread and bakery products

- Information about setting up a Food Safety Programme is at:

Food Safety Programmes (FSP)

- Information on iodine is at:

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- Information on folic acid is available at:
  Folate

- Other processing information for bread and bread products can be found at:
  Bakeries