EDIBLE OILS
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A food safety and regulation assistance program for food-based entrepreneurs

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Food2Market offers:

Assistance:
Product testing
Guidance with food safety regulations
General food safety education

Education:
Food Safety Workshop
Better Process Control School
Seafood HACCP Training

Online Resources:
www.clemson.edu/extension/food2market
Steps for starting a specialty food business:

1. The Product
2. Regulation Requirements
3. A Business Plan
4. Packaging
5. Labels
6. Market Decisions
7. Production
The Product

- Develop a prototype
- Determine the market form
- Calculate the batch size
- Consult with a process authority
  - Is the formulation/process safe?
  - What testing is needed?
- Have the product tested
- Determine cost to produce
Food Regulation Requirements

Who will regulate your products?
What are the requirements of the regulatory authority?
The South Carolina Department of Agriculture Regulations

- Produce product in an approved facility
- Product testing (if applicable)
- Label reviewed by SCDA
- Apply for RVC
- Comply with regular inspections
Product Testing

Coordinated by the Food2Market program. Testing conducted by Dr. Julie Northcutt in the Department of Food, Nutrition and Packaging Science.

- pH and water activity do not apply to oils
- Herb infused oils may require pH testing
- Data is written into a Process Control Letter
- Official documentation for SCDA and FDA
- Provides processing guidelines information to produce product safely
Herb Infused Oils

Clostridium botulinum is the biggest safety concern related to storing jarred and canned foods at room temperatures. That is because the ideal conditions for the botulism toxin to be activated are created in an environment that is:
- low acid
- low oxygen
- moist
- held at temperatures between 38 °F - 118 °F.

Those are exactly the set of conditions that are created when oil is combined with low-acid foods (i.e., garlic and herbs).

- Ingredients added to oils for flavor infusions should be acidified.
- Producers may infuse oils with Garlic, Basil, Oregano and Rosemary, using specific research based methods for acidifying.
- Other acidified herbs may be added but will require pH testing for safety.
The Business Plan

- Executive Summary
- Company Description
- Market Analysis
- Organization & Management
- Product line
- Liability Insurance
- Marketing & Sales
- Funding
- Financial Projections

SC Small Business Development Center
http://scsbdc.com/

- Free consultation
- 17 locations across the state
- More than 40 business consultants
Packaging

Determine packaging needs for your product
- Visual appeal/marketing
- Safety
- Quality
- Requirements of retail
Labels

Labels have to meet FDA standards for font size and information. The four basic requirements are:

- Statement of identity (product name)
- List of ingredients by weight
- Name and address of the manufacturer, packer or distributor
- Net weight

Also:
- Design for a size and shape that is compatible with your packaging
- Nutrition facts panel? Required for sales exceeding $50,000/per year or 100 + employees
- Bar code? Membership fee of $750. Large stores require bar codes.

Uniform Code Council, Inc.
Phone: 937-435-3870
info@uc-council.org
http://www.uc-council.org
Market Decisions

Write a marketing plan
- Where will you sell your product?
- What is the sales price? (consider competition’s price and your financial needs)
- How will you distribute? your vehicle, mail, distributor, broker, etc.
Production

Where will you produce your product? (commercial kitchen, pilot plant, co-packer, etc.)
How will you store your ingredients, packaging and final product?
Good Manufacturing Practices

"A food shall be deemed to be adulterated if it has been prepared, packed or held under insanitary conditions whereby it may have been contaminated with filth or whereby it may have been rendered injurious to health."

- Stated in the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act
- The basis for Good Manufacturing Practices (GMPs) in manufacturing, packing or holding human food.
Good Manufacturing Practices

• Plant design.
• General maintenance of physical facilities.
• Cleaning and sanitizing of equipment and utensils.
• Pest control.
• Proper use and storage of cleaning compounds, sanitizers and pesticides.
• Employee health, hygiene and training.
HACCP Principals

- Conduct a hazard analysis.
- Determine critical control points (CCPs).
- Establish critical limits.
- Establish monitoring procedures.
- Identify corrective actions.
- Verify that the system works.
- Establish procedures for record keeping and documentation
Questions
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