

## Permits required for selling at farmers' market

*As reported by Judy Blaisdell of the Maine Dept. of Ag, April 2011 to Maine Farmers' Market Federation*

**Fruits, berries and vegetables** — no permits necessary if unprocessed.

**Potatoes** - no permits necessary if unprocessed; if processed a commercial kitchen and mobile vendors license.

**Meats of all kinds** — Must be slaughtered under Inspection (state or USDA). Will require a retail meat license, label review and a mobile vendor license.

**Milk (goat or cow)** — requires a Milk Distributor License and a mobile vendor license.

**Pickles, chutneys, salsa, etc. (acidic)** - Either a home kitchen or commercial kitchen license determined after a process review. Needs a mobile vendor's license.

**Jams, jellies, preserves, etc. (non-acidic)** – A home kitchen and a mobile vendor's license.

**Cider** – Will require a cider processing license, possibly a HACCP plan, and a mobile vendor license.

**Cheeses (soft or hard; cow, goat or sheep)** — Milk Distributor license, and mobile vendor license.

**Yogurt, Kefir, Gelatto, etc.** - Milk Distributor/frozen dessert manufacturer license, & a mobile vendor license.

**Maple Syrup** — Maple syrup processing license, and a mobile vendor license.

**Honey** - A mobile vendor license. Home food processing license if bottling, raw honey comb doesn't need one.

**Baked goods** — Home Food Manufacturing license if baking in the home or a bakery license for a commercial location, also requires a mobile vendor license to sell at a farmers' market.

**Eggs** — If producers have less than 3000 birds they are exempt from license and inspection. Eggs must be kept refrigerated at 45° F or less and must be labeled properly.

**Prepared, ready-to-eat foods** — Food service is licensed through DHHS Health Inspection Program.

**Fermented vegetable foods (Tempeh, Kim Chi, Sour Kraut, etc.)** — Either a home kitchen or commercial kitchen license determined after a process review. Needs a mobile vendor's license.

**Fish**— Requires a mobile vendors license. Any processed fish has to be processed in a commercial facility licensed as a commercial food processor. Lobstermen are the only fishermen that are allowed to sell their own product without any other licensing. As for other seafood, the seller has to have a wholesaler's license.

**Sprouts** — Requires a commercial food processors license and a mobile vendors license.

**Garden Seedlings** — The growing location (farm) requires a license to sell nursery stock (plants).

**Ornamental crops (trees, flowers, hanging baskets, houseplants)** — The growing location (farm) requires a license to sell nursery stock (plants).

**Wreathes and Christmas trees** — No license necessary to sell cut Christmas trees and wreathes.

**Pet Foods** — (dog food, dog biscuits, etc.) need to register each product with the ME Dept of Ag.

**Non-consumable products (ie; candles)** – Needs a Retail Certificate.