

Saturday & Sunday Omaha Farmers Market

2017 Category Descriptions & Permitted Product Information

The Omaha Farmers Market reserves the right to deny stall space to any vendor at any time. OFM Management makes the final determination as to the category classification of all products.

All items for sale MUST be listed individually on the application (including specific varieties of produce). Vendors wishing to add a new product mid-season must make a request to do so in writing.

Definition of “Vendor” – Vendor shall be defined as the producer of goods sold and shall include spouse, siblings, children, parents and employees of the applicant who assist in the cultivation of the same property or assist in the production of items available for sale.

Vendors may not add new items (even within their category) mid-season without written approval from OFM Management. Vendors seeking to add new items between seasons, must bring the new products to the attention of OFM Management, **“first right of refusal” on spaces assumes vendors are selling the same products as they were in the previous season.** New additions must be approved separately.

The litmus test for any of these categories is “are you involved in the growing or production of the product?”

Answers that may make you eligible:

- Yes, I personally grow _____.
- Yes, I work in the kitchen and prepare _____.
- Yes, I personally and artistically (not through kit or mold) make _____.
- Yes, I raise the livestock that has been processed and is being sold.
- Yes, I process livestock that has been raised by others, but I use my own recipe and process to turn it into the final product.
- Yes, I am a paid employee (not sub-contractor) of _____ and am involved in the company beyond being a sales clerk at the Market.
- Yes, I grow/make my product within a 150-mile radius of the market.

Answers that may make you ineligible:

- No, my neighbor raises this produce and gives it to me.
- No, I buy _____ from a wholesaler at my own expense and keep any profit.
- No, _____ contracts me and my only duty is to sell products at the Market.
- No, I am an independent sales representative for this line of _____.
- No, but my family grows, produces, makes _____ and they ship it to me, I visit once in a while and come back with a truckload.
- No, I don't grow/make my product within a 150-mile radius of the market.

Farm & Nursery Products and Processed Farm Products

Vendors qualify for this category if all items for sale are produce, plants, flowers, meat or eggs. Vendors may sell a mix of qualifying products within one stall space as long as all products originate from their land and their produce.

Qualifying examples include, but are not limited to:

- Produce
- Herbs fresh or dried
- Meat – vended by producer or processor
- Eggs
- Grains or birdseed mixes
- Bedding plants, houseplants, seedlings, saplings or ornamental grasses that the seller grows
- Ornamental produce, such as gourds, colored corn, dried grass or stalks

Additional notes Farm & Nursery Products and Processed Farm Products:

- Meat Vendors may, in cooperation with the Health Department, sell grilled sandwiches without applying as a “Value Added Food” vendor for an additional stall space.
- Produce vendors may, with written permission from OFM management, also sell baked or canned goods if at least some of the ingredients are grown by the vendor.

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Value Added Foods

- Vendors must prepare or bake their own food items to qualify for this category. Qualifying examples include, but are not limited to:
 - Baked goods
 - Salsas, sauces, marinades
 - Jams and jellies
 - Honey and pollen
 - Mustards
 - Cheese
 - Roasted Soybeans
 - Coffees, tea and root beer
 - Food prepared to be eaten onsite (including: breakfast items, sandwiches, crepes, donuts, etc)
- Additional notes for Value Added Food category:
 - In Douglas County, most “baked goods” qualify for a licensed kitchen exemption. This allows vendors to sell items that were prepared and baked in a non-commercial, non-regulated kitchen (i.e. a home kitchen) if they clearly post a sign stating thus. A sample of acceptable wording, as provided by the Douglas County Health Department: “Food items were prepared in a kitchen that is not subject to regulation or inspection by the Foods Division of the Nebraska Department of Agriculture.” Only certain items are eligible for this exemption, please contact the Douglas County Health Department for more information. Do NOT assume that just because you are making it in your home kitchen that it qualifies for this exemption.
 - Additional non-edible honey or pollen products may be allowed under this category if the vendor is making and selling these items in addition to edible honey products.
 - Additional non-edible goat and/or sheep milk products may be allowed under this category if the vendor is making and selling these items in addition to edible goat and/or sheep milk products.

Craft Items and Personal Services

- All art or craft items must be the original handmade work of the vendor. The handcrafted component should dominate any commercial components and commercial components should be transformed in a way that makes the work unique. At the discretion of OFM management vendors may be allowed sell more than one craft item as long as there is a common link between the products or they are of the same genre. Qualifying examples include, but are not limited to:
 - Original 2D art or photography
 - Original art from the following media: wood, fiber, metal, glass, pottery / ceramic
 - Candles
 - Soaps, lotions, lip balms, bath products
 - Services including: knife sharpening, massage, cooking classes, hair-braiding
- Additional notes for Craft Items and Personal Services category:
 - **Photographs of your product must be submitted with your application. The photos will remain on file with Vic Gutman & Associates throughout the season. New photographs may be requested each year. Emailing the photographs is acceptable or you may submit a link to your website.**
 - Non-profit organizations may be allowed space at the discretion of OFM. Any items for sale must be approved prior to day of sale by OFM management. Proceeds from sales (if applicable) must benefit the organization.

On occasion, to attract particular types of products not otherwise available at the market, OFM may allow special sales days and allow sales by persons other than those who grow, raise or produce the product. This may include seafood or citrus promotions.