

Item: **Cheese Spread, Cheddar, Fortified, With Bacon**

Document: **PCR-C-039, Cheese Spread, Cheddar, Fortified, Packaged in a Flexible Pouch, Shelf Stable**

Approximate Caloric Value Per Serving: **110** Component Classification: **Primary**

Estimated Shelf Life: **36 months at 80°F**

Item Characteristics

Appearance: No evidence of excessive heating (materially darkened or scorched), mottling curdling, or oiling off. Smooth, homogenous, slightly plastic, light yellow-orange color (between No. 6 and No. 10 of National Cheese Institute Color Standard), uniform surface sheen, and small pieces of brown to reddish-brown bacon uniformly dispersed throughout. Free from foreign materials. No evidence of emulsion separation.

Odor: Slight bitterness from the medium cured cheese. Free from foreign odors. Medium cured cheddar, slightly buttery, slightly meaty, and slightly smoky.

Flavor: Slight bitterness from the medium cured cheese. Free from foreign flavors. Medium cheddar, slightly buttery, salty, slightly meaty, and slightly smoky.

Texture: Smooth, homogenous, and easily spreadable. Not grainy. Bacon pieces that are soft to slightly firm and may be chewy.

Possible Deteriorative Changes

Appearance: Excessive darkening, scorched, mottled, curdled, or excessive oiliness.

Odor: Old cheddar, scorched milk, sour.

Flavor: Bitter, overcooked/scorched milk, slight metallic, acidic/sour, or high smoke flavor.

Texture: Curdled, grainy, rubbery, excessively thick or excessively oily (oiled off), or chewy or hard bacon pieces.

Unique Examination/Test Procedures:

Package must be kneaded prior to opening for examination of this product. If mold growth is observed, examine the package closely for holes, cuts and tears, especially at the juncture of the product edge of the seals and the body of the pouch. If pouch integrity is compromised, score the pouch defect and note

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findings in the narrative (evidence of mold, desiccation, dark color, etc.).

Special Notes: