

# IFSAC Food Categories with Examples

(Not all food examples below have been linked to outbreaks, and many foods not shown below have been linked to outbreaks.)

This categorization scheme<sup>1</sup> updates a former scheme<sup>2</sup> to include more specific information.

## Land Animals

### DAIRY

**Solid/semisolid dairy products** *hard and soft cheese*  
**Fluid Milk** *whole milk, skim milk*



## Aquatic Animals

### FISH

**Siluriformes** *catfish*  
**Other Fish** *grouper, tuna*

### SHELLFISH

**Crustaceans** *crabs, lobster*  
**Mollusks**

**Bivalve** *clams, oysters*  
**Non-bivalve** *octopuses, squid*

**OTHER AQUATIC ANIMALS** *frogs, jellyfish*



## Plants

**OILS-SUGARS** *olive oils, canola oils, sugars, honey*  
**PRODUCE**

### Vegetables

**Fungi** *portabellas, button mushrooms*  
**Sprouts** *alfalfa sprouts, mung bean sprouts*  
**Root-underground**

**Roots** *carrots, beets*  
**Tubers** *potatoes, yams*  
**Bulbs** *garlic, onions*  
**Other** *ginger, taro*

### Seeded vegetables

**Vine-grown** *squashes, cucumbers*  
**Solanaceous** *tomatoes, peppers*  
**Legumes** *lima beans, snow peas*  
**Other** *okras, sweet corns*

**Herbs** *basil, cilantro*

### Vegetable row crops

**Flowers** *artichokes, broccoli*  
**Stems** *asparagus, celeries*  
**Leafy** *lettuce, spinach*

### Fruits

**Melons** *cantaloupes, watermelons*  
**Pomes** *apples, pears*  
**Stones** *apricots, cherries*  
**Small** *blueberries, strawberries*  
**Tropical** *bananas, mangoes*  
**Sub-tropical** *avocados, oranges*

### GRAINS-BEANS

**Grains** *rice, wheat*  
**Beans** *pinto beans, black beans*

### NUTS-SEEDS

**Nuts** *peanuts, almonds*  
**Seeds** *sesame seeds, pumpkin seeds*



## Other

**OTHER FOODS** *ice, alcohol, dietary supplements*



<sup>1</sup> Richardson LC, Bazaco MC, Parker CC, Dewey-Mattia D, Golden N, Jones K, Klontz K, Travis C, Zablotsky Kufel J, Cole D. An updated scheme for categorizing foods implicated in foodborne disease outbreaks: a tri-agency collaboration. *Foodborne Pathog Dis*, 2017 Sep 19, ahead of print.

<sup>2</sup> Painter JA, Ayers T, Woodruff R, Blanton E, Perez N, Hoekstra R, Griffin PM, Braden C. Recipes for foodborne outbreaks: a scheme for categorizing and grouping implicated foods. *Foodborne Pathog Dis*, 2009; 6:1259-64.

