

Is it Hamets After Pesah?

By: Rabbi Nissim Kairey

We understand that during Pesah, one cannot own *hamets* as the Torah teaches us "ולא יראה לך חמץ וגו'". That is that one cannot own *hamets* and not keep *hamets* on their property during Pesah. However, once Pesah is over, what happens to that *hamets* that was in the possession of a Jew during Pesah?

The answer is that items that are bonafide *hamets* remain forbidden to consume and even to sell for profit or benefit from it in any way. The Hachamim implemented this fine to uphold and guard the integrity of our vigilance to rid ourselves of all *hamets* during Pesah.

If one's *hamets* was properly sold to a goy for the duration of Pesah, this will not apply; however, if one just nullified their *hamets* and did not rid themselves of it, this fine will apply.

Furthermore, even if one may not have purposefully transgressed the prohibition of having *hamets*, it is still forbidden to derive any benefit from it. However, if one did his best effort to nullify and rid or sell, and yet, for example, the sale did not go through (e.g., he couldn't figure out the online form, or such as the story of a Rabbi who, in his rush to come to sell the *hamets*, left many papers of people who sold their *hamets* behind at home), then, if found on Pesah, it will require to be burnt.

However, for post-Pesah, such cases may be different as the reason for a fine upon the person is not the same. Therefore, one should consult with their Rabbi regarding specific cases.

If a store is owned by a Jew who did not sell his *hamets*, any bonafide *hamets* of that store is forbidden to purchase or eat. When buying *hamets* from a Jewish-owned store, one must be careful that a proper selling of *hamets* was performed. A store owned by a non-Jew and that receives *hamets* products from a non-observant Jewish distributor may also be subject to the above.

It would be necessary to wait until there is enough product turnover that we can assume that there is no more *hamets* from Pesah. This can be verified by the Kashrut supervision of that store or a letter stating such. Hence, the following list of stores for post-Pesah that are ok to purchase from immediately after Pesah.

One must keep in mind that bourbon, beer, and whiskey also fall under the above category. This can be found by Jewish-owned liquor stores and, more importantly, by Bourbon and Whiskey companies owned by non-observant owners.

PER AKO, THE FOLLOWING BRANDS ARE SUBJECT TO THE ABOVE CONCERN:

- 1792 Ridgemont
- 99 Schnapps
- A. Smith Bowman
- Ancient Age
- Antique Collection
- Barton
- Blantons
- Bowman
- Buffalo Trace
- California Deluxe
- Canadian Host
- Canadian Hunter
- Canadian LTD
- Canadian Supreme
- Colonel Lee
- Dr. McGillicuddy's
- Eagle Rare
- Elmer T Lee
- Experimental Collection
- Fireball
- Fleishmann's
- George T. Stagg
- Hancock's Presidents Reserve
- Herbsaint
- Highland Mist
- House of Stuart
- Imperial
- James Foxe
- Kentucky Gentleman
- Kentucky Tavern
- Lauder's
- McAfee's Benchmark
- Mr. Boston
- Northern Light
- Old Charter
- Old Rip Van Winkle
- Old Thompson
- Old Weller
- Pappy Van Winkle
- Peychaud's
- Regan's
- Rich & Rare
- Rock Hill Farms
- Royal Canadian
- Sazerac Rye
- Ten High
- Thomas H. Handy
- Tom Moore
- Van Winkle
- Very Old Barton
- Virginia Gentleman
- W L Weller

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR GUIDELINES AND LIST OF COMMON LOCAL STORES.

Post Pesah Information 5784/2024

The misvah of not owning *hamets* is so important that if *hamets* was owned during Pesah, one cannot eat that *hamets* after Pesah. The following list is of stores where *hamets* was not owned by a Jew, and one can purchase *hamets* after Pesah.

Hamets may be purchased at any JSOR establishments after Pesah.

The following places that are not under our supervision have been verified to either have sold hamets or are not necessary to be sold. Consumers in other communities should check with their local Kosher agency for post-Pesah information.

Places not listed below have been omitted because of missing or problematic information. Please feel free to contact JSOR or visit www.jsor.org for any updates or further questions.

- Aldi
- Adler's Pharmacy - *Oakhurst, NJ*
- BJ's Wholesale Club
- Costco
- Court Liquors - *Long Branch, NJ*
- CVS
- Deal Food- *Deal, NJ*
- Duane Reade
- Foodtown
- K-Mart
- Lidl
- Monmouth Bottle Shop - *Oakhurst, NJ*
- Nature's Corner - *Spring Lake, NJ*
- Petco
- PetSmart
- Publix
- Rite-Aid
- Sam's Club
- Stop and Shop - *Long Branch*
(some are careful regarding other locations)
- 7-11
- Shoprite:
(each franchise is independently owned)
West Long Branch
Neptune
Howell
Freehold
Ave. I Brooklyn
- Trader Joe's
- Target *(some are careful refrozen foods)*
- Walgreens
- Walmart
- Wegman's
- Whole Foods

Purchasing *hamets* after Pesah from other establishments not known to be sold/absolved:

From Large Stores: After May 17, 2024

From Small Stores: After May 31, 2024

From Liquor Stores June 11, 2024