

USDA Reveals Most Surprising Ingredients In Thanksgiving Foods

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I suppose it's pretty handy if you happen to have a very dusty, indigested, turkey-cooking, relative you couldn't think of a present for.

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By: Wiat Acenson, IFNN- "Humanity's Crappiest News Source"

When most people go to buy a turkey for Thanksgiving or eggs for their next breakfast, they usually assume that the only ingredients in turkey and eggs are turkey and eggs. However, according to the USDA, while most stores can get away with labeling foods as such, not all foods are as straightforward as they seem. Fortunately for you, the health-minded viewer, IFNN has compiled a list of the most surprising ingredients in Thanksgiving foods:

- **Turkey:** Usually composed of ground up spare tires, food coloring, and wood chips. The USDA also notes many sellers also include a chemical flavoring to give the 'bird' what they refer to as "that special giblet flavor".
- **Gravy:** Prepackaged gravy is made from a specially chosen combination of dish soaps, motor oil, mud, and 'love'. All of the main ingredients and flavorings are added together into a giant mixing vat before all the workers' 'love', which is actually just hundreds of spitballs, is mixed in to give the gravy the proper viscosity. It should be noted higher-end gravy manufacturers often substitute raw sewage in place of spitballs.
- **Mashed Potatoes:** Potatoes, mashed or not, are quite surprisingly made from actual potatoes. But the USDA website stresses that the so-called 'Idaho potato' isn't actually from Idaho, as all of the world's potatoes come from a single mother potato in Ireland. Unlike other vegetables or related plants, the potato reproduces not by dispersing seeds and growing individual plants, but rather by expanding the potato layers on Ireland's single mother potato in a sort of potato fractal.

(Image right) The outer layer of this most potatest of potatoing potatoes is shaved off once a year and shipped



internationally for potato lovers to enjoy the world over, constituting $\frac{1}{3}$ of Ireland's GDP. The USDA also reveals some of the potato's history, noting that the original mother potato was located west of modern-day Florida, but pieces of the potatoeous potato were brought over during the Columbian Exchange and grew into the modern Irish mother potato. The original American mother potato has since potated its last potater and died, leaving a massive hole we now call the gulf of Mexico.

- **Cranberries:** The US Dept. of Agriculture stated quite concisely, "We don't have a d*mn clue what cranberries are, but they sure ain't berries."
- **Stuffing:** This bready dish was introduced in the 1990's by Aliens, who were responsible for implanting the memory of this now-beloved food into millions of Americans' minds. It *is* made of bread, but the USDA warns we do not know the Aliens' intentions and eating this food repeatedly has been closely correlated with crop circle appearances and indigestion caused by flying-saucer-shaped stools.
- **Pies:** Pumpkin, apple, hazelnut- they're all the same really. It's a secret kept by Thanksgiving hosts worldwide, but most pies are just things the cook found in the back of the fridge mixed with some jam and seasoning. A study found the typical pie is made of 43% jams, 37% rotten produce, and 20% leftovers.

"Then again, some things are better left unknown," replied Al Bekührkie, one of the USDA's website editors, when he was asked for further information on the ingredients of more Thanksgiving foods, "Take green bean casserole for example: we don't even know what that weird bean liquid *is*, much less if it's *bio-degradable*." While we can ponder all day about *what* our meals are made of, sometimes it is better just to be thankful we have them, even if it means facing that "special giblet flavor" head-on.

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