

Is there Pig in your Fruit Juice?

It seems there are as many as 185 different uses to which the bodily remains of Pigs bodies are subjected!

Although not all sweets contain pork gelatine, many do, as well as in some fruit juices, where Pig gelatine is used to remove the cloudiness from the drink, working as a clarifying agent by reacting with the tannins in the liquid and absorbing the cloudiness.

Certain ice creams, whipped creams, yoghurts and certain butters also contain gelatine, as do certain pet foods. Certain medicines also contain Pig gelatine, from painkillers to multivitamins.

Hygiene and beauty products also often contain the remains of Pig. Fatty acids are extracted from the bone fat of pigs, to be used in shampoos and conditioners to give them their shiny, pearl-like appearance. These acids can also be found in a number of body lotions, foundations and anti-wrinkle creams. Glycerine made from pork fat is also an ingredient in many types of toothpaste.



I have no spare ribs!

There is no legal obligation for manufacturers to specify whether the gelatine they use is from a Pig or another animal, and may be confusingly referred to as Suilline gelatine.

Some of the products that can include Pig remains include photographic film, which uses collagen from Pig bones; shoes that use bone glue from Pigs to improve the quality of the leather; and certain paints that use bone fat to enhance their glossy properties.

Here's an excellent reason to give up smoking: some makers of cigarettes use haemoglobin from pig's blood in their filters! This works as a sort of 'artificial lung' in the cigarette so that harmful reactions take place before the chemicals reach the user.

Shopping for something as standard as bread also requires label reading, as some include an ingredient called L-cysteine, which is a protein made from Pig or other animal hair, used to soften the dough.

Pig bone gelatine was used to help transport the gunpowder or cordite into the bullet. The Pig ears are sometimes used for chemical weapon testing due to their similarity to human tissue (although this test does not include the use of live animals for chemical and weapons testing)

Tattoo artists may use Pig skin on which to practice, due to the similarity to human skin, while it is occasionally used with burns patients for the same reason.

Pigs are also used for Insulin, the blood-thinning drug Heparin and Pig heart valves.

Some other items that include Pig byproducts: Fabric softener, paint brushes, shampoo, candles, bread, washing powder, paper, paint, soap, corks, , yoghurt, cigarettes, photographic film, moisturizer, crayons, shoes (glue), toothpaste, train brakes, face masks, energy bars, cream cheese, wine gums, liquorice, chewing gum, body lotions, moisturizers, bullets and tambourines, foundations, anti-wrinkle creams.

For anybody wishing to avoid Pig products, this is not good news, as the global food and processing industry have ensured that it is almost impossible to avoid pig altogether.

For household cleaners and personal body products including toothpastes, visit www.bwcsa.co.za and see the list of animal free products that Beauty Without Cruelty endorses, that are also made using non-animal methods of testing.