



Food & Drink (0001-1989)

Human consumption of food and drink for pleasure or for survival.

c. 0004

Romans terraced the steep slopes of the Mosel River for the cultivation of grapes.

c. 0050

The 1st century Roman gourmet, Marcus Gavius Apicius, was thought to be the writer of the earliest known cookbook.

0300

(300-400) The book 'Deipnosophistae,' The Dinner Table Philosophers, describes the use of 'happy baskets' for leftovers.

c. 0500

Outsiders found coffee in the region of Ethiopia called Kaffa, hence the name.

4 Jun 1070

Roquefort cheese was accidentally discovered in a cave near Roquefort, France, when a shepherd found a lunch he had forgotten several days before.

c. 1100

(Between 1100-1200) The 12th century book 'Gyuschi' was a compilation of Tibetan medicine that described the making and applications of medications extracted from herbs, roots and minerals often served as hot teas.

1153

A chicken restaurant, the world's oldest existing eatery, opened in Kai-Feng.

1400

(1400-1600) Researchers in 1997 announced that sometime in this period the Sauvignon Franc grape crossed with Sauvignon Blanc grape to produce the Cabernet Sauvignon grape.

1494

The earliest report of Scots making whiskey was made.

1 Jun 1495

The first written record of Scotch Whiskey appeared in the Exchequer Rolls of Scotland. Friar John Cor was the distiller. The later J&B brand stood for Justerini and Brooks.



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c. 1500

Bean and lima bean which were crops native to America became known to Europeans

c. 1500

The sweet potato which was native to South America had been taken to Spain where it was in cultivation at mid-century

c. 1500

(Between 1500-1600) A Muslim pilgrim brought some coffee beans from Yemen and raised them in India. Yemen was the first great coffee exporter and in order to protect its trade had decreed that no living plant could leave the country.

1502

Portuguese traders took peanuts from Brazil and Peru to Africa.

1505

The Portuguese settled Ceylon and their exploitation of the cinnamon forests led to a system of slavery and a monopoly on trade in this spice.

1506

The Spaniards in the West Indies began raising sugar cane.

1506

Jacob Fugger, Augsburg merchant, imported spices to Europe from the East Indies.

1510

Sunflowers from America were introduced by the Spaniards into Europe.

c. 1510

Alexander Barclay wrote his long poetic essay on the 'Miseries of Courtiers'. It described the psychology of feasting.

1511

Western explorers discovered that the Molucca Islands (the Spice Islands) were the source of cloves.

1511

Portuguese traders reached the Banda Islands, including Run, and broke the Venetian monopoly over nutmeg. Over the next century the Dutch muscled in and almost cornered the nutmeg market.



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1512

Portuguese explorers discovered the Celebes and found nutmeg trees in the Moluccas. This began an 84-year monopoly of the nutmeg and mace trades.

1512

Newfoundland cod banks were exploited by fisherman from England, France, Portugal and Holland, who sent the dried catch back to Europe.

2 Apr 1513

Spanish explorer Juan Ponce de Leon landed in Florida. Juan Ponce de Leon, Spanish explorer, discovered Florida and planted orange and lemon trees there. He also discovered the Dry Tortugas, 10 small keys southwest of Key West.

1514

Alvarez was the first European to reach China by sea and in the region of Canton the Portuguese encountered oranges 'superior in sweetness and fragrance even to those brought from India and Ceylon'.

c. 1515

(Between 1515-1519) Coffee from Arabia appeared in Europe.

1516

The banana was introduced to the New World from Africa.

1516

The first processed sugar was shipped from Santo Domingo to Spain which was originally brought there by Columbus and soon afterward Portugal began importing sugar from Brasil.

1516

In Germany the Reinheitsgebot law was enacted. It required that beer be made from malt, hops, yeast, water and nothing else.

20 Sep 1519

Portuguese navigator Ferdinand Magellan set out from Seville in Spain with 270 men and 5 ships on a voyage to find a western passage to the Indies and the Spice Islands. The members of this fleet would be the first to circumnavigate the globe, although Magellan himself died en route.



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1520

Chocolate was brought from the Aztecs in Mexico to Spain for the first time.

1521

Hernando Cortes conquered Mexico and while on reconnaissance in southeastern Mexico his soldiers were the first Europeans to discover the Aztec spice - vanilla.

1522

Following three years of voyage to the Moluccas Pigafetta finds evidence of cloves, ginger, sago (which is wood-bread), rice, pomegranates, both sweet and sour oranges, lemons, jasmine and the betel-nut.

1523

Anthony Fitzherbert published the 'Book of Husbandry', the first English manual of agriculture.

1523

Sugar was grown in Cuba for the first time.

1523

The first turkeys were introduced to Spain and Europe from America by the conquistadors.

1524

Representatives of Spain and Portugal met to review maps and charts in an attempt to agree over ownership of the Spice Islands and five years later Portugal paid 350 thousand gold ducats to Spain for relinquishment of their claims.

1527

Hernando Cortez and his conquistadores completed the conquest of New Spain. They brought back to Spain tomatoes, avocados, papayas, and vanilla.

1528

Wheat was introduced into New Spain.

1528

Hernando Cortes was recalled to Spain and he brought with him haricot beans.



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1529

The Turks at Buda planted paprika from the New World.

1529

Maize from America, grown in Turkey, was introduced to England as 'turkey corn'.

1530

Palsgrave's English-French dictionary mentioned bottle corks for the first time.

1532

Sugarcane was first cultivated in Brazil.

1536

Spaniards invaders in Peru began to use potatoes as cheap food for sailors.

1540

The first potato from South America reached Pope Paul III. It was then taken to France and grown as an ornamental plant.

1540

Francisco Vazquez de Coronado, Spanish explorer, introduced horses, mules, pigs, cattle, and sheep into the American southwest.

1541

A book to promote cooking with sugar was available in Venice (later Nostradamus wrote the first French book on this topic).

1541

Jacques Cartier introduced cabbage to Canada on his third voyage.

1543

Sugar cane was introduced to Brazil about this time. Fermented sugar cane later became the base for cachaca, a light rum that is the national spirit. Cachaca is used to prepare the national drink, the caipirinha.

1543

New Spain received European vegetables and grains such as broad beans, chickpeas, barley, and wheat, transported by a new viceroy from Spain.



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1550

By 1550 tomatoes which were introduced from the New World were regularly consumed in Italy.

1550

Corn which was introduced to China by 1550 grew so quickly in importance that this crop became a significant factor in the 18th century increase in the Chinese population particularly in inland areas where rice was not prolific.

1550

Damiao de Goes described orange exports from Portugal to Spain.

1553

Pierre Belon, French naturalist and traveler, wrote 'Les Observations de Plusieurs Singularitez et Choses Memorables'. It included an account of Turkish fruit sorbets.

1554

First written record of the tomato

1554

Flemish hop growers emigrated to England.

1558

An illustration published by Andre Thevet documented the harvesting and processing of cashew by natives in Brasil.

1560

Three olive saplings were planted in Lima in Peru by the Spaniards which formed the basis of today's South American olive industry

1564

The European grape vine was imported to California via Mexico which was brought by priests.

1565

According to popular history John Hawkins introduced the potato to Ireland.



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1568

Alexander Nowell, Dean of St. Paul's in London, invented bottled beer.

1573

The peanut is known to have been cultivated in Chekiang Province in China probably arriving with the Portuguese from stops sailors made in Brasil en route to the Orient

1573

The first German cane-sugar refinery was established at Augsburg.

1581

In a series of letters sent from Portugal (1581-1583) Philip II of Spain wrote to his two daughters about the love of plants and gardening describing a 'sweet lime' (an orange).

1584

Portugal dominated the world's sugar trade and sold Brazilian sugar to Europe.

1586

Sir Francis Drake lands at Roanoke in Virginia and hears tales of colonists who had survived on soup made from sassafras later returning to England with what may have been the first shipment

1586

Sir Thomas Herriot introduces potatoes to England from Colombia.

1587

First written description of Brussels sprouts, which is a form of cabbage.

1592

'De Plantis Aegypti' by Prosper Alpini published the first picture of a coffee plant.

19 Aug 1597

Don Lorenzo Garcia took possession a land grant, issued by King Philip II, to start the first official winery for the new world at the San Lorenzo Hacienda in Mexico.

1599

Jacob van Necks fleet leaves Bantam Java with pepper, clove and muskaat.



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1600

Britain's East India Company was founded.

c. 1600

Portuguese traders brought the cassava root (or manioc tuber) to Africa from Brazil to feed their slaves.

20 Mar 1602

Shareholders formed The United (Dutch) East India Company. The company traded to 1798.

1605

The Dutch began seizing control of Portuguese-held trade with the Spice Islands (historically called the Moluccas) gaining full control by 1621.

1608

Bushmills Distillery in Northern Ireland acquired a license for whiskey production. They had been producing whiskey since the 1100s.

1609

Jamestown colonists planted cucumbers and carrots in their gardens.

1610

Tea was imported to Europe through the Dutch East India Company

1610

The first cargo of Asian tea arrived in Amsterdam

25 Dec 1616

Nathaniel Courthope, a British merchant-adventurer under direct orders from James I, landed his ship Swan at the Banda Island of Run. He persuaded the islanders to enter an alliance with the British for nutmeg. He fortified the 1 by 2 mile island and with 30 men proceeded to hold off a Dutch siege for 1,540 days.

1621

In Germany potatoes, native to the Andes, were first planted.

1621

Spices bought in the West Indies for \$227 sold for \$2 million in Europe.



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1622

The Spaten's company name comes from Munich brewing family Spaeth, which bought a 225 year-old brewery in 1622 and ran the firm for seven generations.

1622

In Aklmaar (Netherlands) the cheese market officially opened.

1623

Dutch representatives commit a brutal massacre of the British and Japanese working on the spice producing island of Amboyna.

1623

In London the Coopers Arm pub, now known as The Lamb and Flag at 33 Rose St., went into business.

1625

The first apple orchard in the US was planted on Boston's Beacon Hill.

1627

The last wild cow in Poland died.

1630

The fork was introduced to American dining by Governor Winthrop.

1630

Native American Indians introduce US pilgrims to popcorn, at Thanksgiving.

4 Mar 1634

Samuel Cole opened the first tavern in Boston, Massachusetts.

1637

Cardinal Richelieu of France creates the table knife.

1638

Dom Perignon (1638-1715), a French monk, was born. He introduced blending, vineyard and cellaring practices that made champagne a better wine.



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1639

Hugel Corporation first bottled wine in France.

1639

Francois Citois, the physician of Cardinal Richelieu, published a book that described the disease colica Pictonum, and noted the prevalence of the disease to the wine region of Poitou, where tart wines needed sweetening.

1644

The practice of drinking tea was first introduced to England.

1647

Correspondence from the Caribbean to the Governor of Massachusetts confirmed that workers at sugar plantations would require food provisions from the outside as the production of sugar was more profitable than the production of other food.

1647

Rice was introduced into cultivation in the Carolinas and today this and the surrounding states are the main rice producing states of the US.

1648

Sweet potatoes were in cultivation in Virginia in the US.

1650

By this year coffee had arrived in England and by 1675 there would be over 3 thousand coffee houses.

1650

From this time until around 1900 the Caribbean was the world center for growing sugar cane.

1652

The Dutch founded Cape Colony (Cape Town) in South Africa when they sent two ships to Table Bay to establish a garden to provide fresh foods and fruits for sailors on their voyages around the Cape of Good Hope.

Sep 1658

The first advertisement for Tea appeared in England.



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1660

Isaac B Fubine of Savoy, in The Hague, patents macaroni.

c. 1660

The British began to dominate the trade in port wine from Portugal after a political spat with the French denied them the French Bordeaux wines. Brandy was added to the Portuguese wines to fortify them for the Atlantic voyage.

1661

In Japan the Takanoshi family started producing food seasonings and became known for its soy sauce.

1662

Englishman Christopher Merret presented a paper to the Royal Society on making sparkling wine.

16 Aug 1663

William Penn observed that all native American plantations included peaches (which are native to Iran) of good quality. This demonstrated how quickly a valuable plant can be distributed and accepted.

1665

The British briefly recaptured the Banda Island of Run from the Dutch.

1667

The Treaty of Breda provided for cessation of hostilities between Holland and England and as part of this bargain the Dutch gained control of sugar plantations in Surinam.

1669

The first written record of cabbage in the US.

1670

Cafe Procope, the first cafe in Paris, began serving ice cream.

1671

Rice arrived in South Carolina from Madagascar but nobody knew how to husk it for food.



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1672

The Royal African Co. was granted a charter to expand the slave trade and its stockholders included philosopher John Locke. The operation supplied English sugar colonies with 3,000 slaves annually.

1673

The first recorded wine auction is held in London.

1680

Leavened bread was developed in Egypt.

1685

Sylvestre Dufour published 'Traitez Nouveaux et Curieux de Cafe, du The, et du Chocolat'.

1688

In France a blind Benedictine monk named Dom Perignon discovered the fermentation process that led to champagne. He later devised a cork stopper to hold the bubbles.

1688

In England Edward Lloyd opened a London coffee shop where shipping insurance was bought and sold.

1690

(1690-1700) Particularly severe weather hit Germany and prompted vintners use more wine sweeteners.

1692

In Portugal Taylor's restaurant and lodge was founded in Porto.

1693

Famine struck northern Europe and by 1694 ten percent of the population of northern France had perished.

1693

The first record of the grapefruit in the West Indies was made by Hans Sloane in a catalog of Jamaican plants and it is assumed that it originated there from chance hybrids between other cultivated citrus.



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1693

Dom Perignon invents champagne.

1694

(1694-1696) An outbreak of colic struck the region around Ulm, Germany. Eberhard Gockel, the city physician, was able to trace the cause to a wine sweetener that used a white oxide of lead.

1696

Duke Eberhard Ludwig of Wurttemberg, Germany, learned of Eberhard Gockel's findings on lead poisoning in wine and banned all lead-based wine additives.

1697

Eberhard Gockel published: 'A Remarkable Account of the Previously Unknown Wine Disease'.

1699

The King of Spain, due to competition, banned the production of wine in the Americas, except for that made by the church.

1720

Mrs Clements of England markets the first paste-style mustard.

1733

Joseph Priestly invents carbonated water (or 'seltzer').

1747

A process to extract sugar from beet roots was developed by Andreas Margraff. It was not until 1877 that a highly productive process would be devised.

1751

First printed record of Chinese cabbage and Chinese mustard in England.

1752

East Indies invasion 'Geldermalsen' leaves at Malakka results in 92 killed.

1766

A colonial garden was established on St. Vincent receiving mango trees as well as East Indian spice trees.



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1768

The first mustard manufactured in America is advertised in Philadelphia.

1769

Sweet oranges were established at San Diego mission.

1770

An entire year's supply of nutmeg and cloves was destroyed in Amsterdam with the goal of maintaining high prices.

1773

French explorer Pierre Poivre was able to take propagation material of spices (clove, nutmeg, cinnamon, and black pepper) from the Dutch controlled Molucca Islands to Mauritius and Reunion thus breaking the Dutch monopoly.

1776

In a New York bar decorated with bird tail, customer orders a 'cock tail'.

1777

The first ice cream advertisement appears in the Philip Lenzi-New York Gazette.

1780

John Hannon (financed by Dr. James Baker) started the first chocolate factory in the US in Dorchester and James Baker later founded Baker's Chocolate.

1782

Oliver Evans contracted to build a flour mill on Red Clay Creek north of Wilmington in Delaware. He subsequently improved it to produce the first automated mill.

1784

E Kidner opens the first cooking school, in Great Britain.

1786

The first US commercially-made ice cream is sold in New York.

1789

Baptist Reverend Elijah Craig of Scott County, Kentucky, is given credit for first aging Kentucky corn whiskey, thus creating America's first bourbon whiskey.



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1789

US Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson began a career of plant introduction that included vanilla, tea and tomato.

1790

The soya bean was grown at Kew but had no crop significance at that time for Europe.

1793

On his second voyage, Captain Bligh carried mango trees from Timor to British gardens in Jamaica and St. Vincent.

1795

Thomas Seddal harvests an 8.3 kg potato from his garden in Chester, England.

1797

The Salem ship 'Rajah' returned to New York with full cargo of bulk pepper from Sumatra. Investors made 700% profit and so it spawned investment by other Salem merchants which created some of the first great fortunes in the US.

1798

Thomas Malthus discusses human population growth and food production in 'An Essay on the Principle of Population'.

1799

Agriculturists first described sweet corn which long grown by Iroquois. It's value was not immediately recognized, but by 1980 sweet corn was the most popular canned 'vegetable' in the United States.

1799

The first American patent for a seeding machine was granted to Eliakim Spooner of Vermont.

1803

John Hawkins & Richard French patent the Reaping Machine.

1804

Captain John Chester brought the first shipload of bananas to the US on the Reynard to New York, however, bananas did not become common until after 1870.



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1806

Napoleon offered 100 thousand francs to anyone who could create sugar from a native plant. Russian chemist K. S. Kirshhof later discovered that sulfuric acid added to potato starch would make the conversion.

1807

Townsend Speakman first sells fruit-flavored carbonated drinks (Philadelphia).

1813

The first pineapples are planted in Hawaii.

1815

The world's first commercial cheese factory is established, in Switzerland.

1816

Crop failure was widespread in Europe resulting in food riots in England, France and Belgium.

1816

Henry Hall is credited as the first person to cultivate cranberries.

1817

The first coffee planted in Hawaii on Kona coast.

1820

The first potatoes planted in Hawaii.

1820

The Tomato is proven to be nonpoisonous.

1825

Ezra Daggett and his nephew Thomas Kensett patent food storage in tin cans.

1826

American Temperance Society, forms in Boston.

1828

C. J. van Houten developed the first modern process for making cocoa powder.



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1832

James Busby introduced the Shiraz grape variety to Australia.

1833

a US Patent is granted for first soda fountain.

1834

Cyrus Hall McCormick patents a reaping machine.

1838

Tennessee becomes first US state to prohibit alcohol.

1839

Tea from India first arrives in Britain.

1840

Justus von Liebig invents artificial fertilizer.

1840

Orlando Jones patented an alkaline treatment for starch extraction which impacted the production of wheat, rice and corn starches.

1840

Records show that there are 95,820 licensed public houses (pubs) in England on this date.

1845

The start of the Irish Potato Famine in which 15 million people emigrated.

1845

Potato blight was imported to Europe from the Americas and by 1846 the potato crop in Ireland had totally failed. In 1841 the Irish population was about 8 million but about 1 million people died and another 1 million emigrated.

1845

Henry Jones, from Bristol, patents self-raising flour.

1847

Chocolate confectionary (candy) was first created.



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1847

The doughnut is created.

1848

John Curtis in Bangor in the US produced the first commercial chewing gum. It was made of resin from spruce trees. By 1852 the Curtises had built a large chewing gum factory in Portland.

1848

The first pure food law enacted in US.

1848

William G Young patents the ice cream freezer.

1850

The soybean was introduced to US California agriculture in San Francisco by direct importation from Japan.

1850

Seed of alfalfa (*Medicago sativa* or mustard cress) were brought by a gold miner from Chile to California where the plant thrived as a forage crop.

1851

An importation of California grapes to Europe introduced white mildew (*oidium*) which eventually was treated with flowers of sulphur. The subsequent introduction of California rootstocks as a possible cure brought phylloxera which is a much more problematic root aphid.

1851

Dr John Gorrie patents a 'refrigeration machine'.

1851

Gail Borden announces invention of evaporated milk.

1851

Jacob Fussell, Baltimore dairyman, sets up the first ice-cream factory.



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1852

The Concord grape was discovered which although of uncertain origin became an important grape for eastern US states with humid climates.

1853

Gail Borden patents her process for condensed milk.

1853

The first potato chips (crisps) are prepared by Chef George Crum of Saratoga Springs, New York.

1858

Invention of the Mason jar stimulated use of large quantities of white sugar for preserves reducing traditional reliance on maple sugar and molasses for home cooking.

1859

In 'A Tale of Two Cities' Charles Dickens ridiculed the French aristocracy through description of the ritual of chocolate consumption.

1860

M L Byrn patents a 'covered gimlet screw with a T-handle' (a corkscrew).

1861

Agoston Haraszthy, the first vintner in the Sonoma Valley, imports 100,000 cuttings of 350 varieties from Europe to the US.

1865

James H Mason of Massachusetts patents the first US coffee percolator.

1865

The first US cattle importation law passed.

1866

Eighteen year old Jack Newton Daniel established his distillery in Tennessee.

1866

Charles Elmer Hires invents root beer.



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1866

Pasteurization is first used, to prevent wine spoilage.

1868

The 'refrigerator car' is patented by William Davis, a fish dealer in Detroit.

1869

Agnes arrives in New Orleans with first ever shipment of frozen beef.

1869

Charles Elmer Hires sells his first root beer in Philadelphia.

1869

The first shipment of fresh oysters comes overland from Baltimore.

1869

William Finley Semple of Mount Vernon Ohio, patents chewing gum.

1870

Some time between 1870 and 1880 the Red Delicious apple would be discovered in the US, in Iowa.

1870

The Japanese plum (*Prunus salicina*) arrived in the US when a Californian grower imported it from Japan.

1870

The Soda fountain is patented by Gustavus Dows.

1871

Oleomargarine ('magerine') is patented by Henry Bradley, of Binghamton, New York.

1875

Daniel Peter and Henri Nestle added condensed milk to chocolate to create milk chocolate.

1875

Violent bread riots took place in Montreal.



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1876

Bananas become popular in US, at Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia.

1876

Sardines are first canned by Julius Wolff-Eastport.

1878

Based on a new Hungarian mechanical process, the Washburn experimental flour mill in Minneapolis marked the beginning of modern milling in the US.

1879

Constantine Fahlberg discovers saccharin, an artificial sweetener.

1880

Flour rolling mill patented by John Stevens of Wisconsin.

1880

The SS Strathleven arrives in London with the first Australian frozen mutton.

1881

The loganberry was introduced to commerce by James Logan from his garden in Santa Cruz County in California.

1881

Kansas becomes first US state to prohibit all alcoholic beverages.

1882

Bordeaux University professor Millardet noticed that the copper sulfate spray applied to grapes deterred downy mildew. By adding lime he invented 'Bordeaux mixture' which was an important early fungicide.

1882

The first cargo of frozen meat leaves New Zealand for Britain, on SS Dunedin.

1884

Dr John Harvey Kellogg patents 'flaked cereal'.



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1884

John B Meyenberg of St Louis patents evaporated milk.

1886

An Atlanta pharmacist (Jacob's Pharmacy) Dr John Styth Pemberton invents Coca Cola which contained cocaine. He used water (later carbonated water), caramel, kola nut, sugar, vanilla, cinnamon, lime, and coca leaf extractions.

1888

The first wax drinking straw is patented, by Marvin C Stone in Washington DC.

1889

The US Pajaro Valley Evaporation Company of Watsonville in California began small-scale production of dehydrated onions.

1889

The first trainload of fruit (oranges) leaves Los Angeles for the east.

1890

A US St Louis physician formulated peanut butter as a food for invalids and in 1893 J. H. Kellogg made peanut butter for patients with poor teeth.

1891

George A Hormel and Company introduce the food 'Spam'.

1891

The first shipment of asparagus arrives in San Francisco from Sacramento.

1892

The first gasoline powered tractor was built by John Froelich of Froelich in Iowa in the US.

1892

Bottle cap with cork seal patented by William Painter of Baltimore.

1892

Macademia nuts first planted in Hawaii.



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1893

A US Supreme Court decision declared the tomato to be a vegetable based on common usage of the word 'vegetable' as opposed to the word 'fruit'.

1893

The US 'critic' reports that the ice cream soda is the US national drink.

1895

The first shipment of canned pineapple from Hawaii.

1896

Chop Suey is invented in New York City by chef of visiting Chinese Ambassador.

1896

Fanny Farmer publishes her first cookbook.

1897

Having discovered major improprieties in bourbon production the US Congress passed the Bottled-in-Bond Act controlling bourbon production at the source and setting standards for proof and aging.

1899

The holdings of Minor Cooper Keith were merged with the Boston Fruit Company to form the United Fruit Company and by 1981 half of all world banana exports came from the US.

1899

Carnation processes its first can of evaporated milk.

1901

A Japanese chemist invents 'instant' coffee.

1901

Dame Nellie Melba, reveals secret of her now famous toast

1903

Italo Marchiony is granted the patent for the ice cream cone.



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1904

Iced tea was invented at the St. Louis World's Fair by an enterprising British salesman who realized that fair goers were not attracted to hot tea in summer weather.

19 Feb 1906

W K Kellogg and Charles D Bolin incorporate Battle Creek Toasted Corn Flake Company. The company sold breakfast cereals originally developed as a health food for psychiatric patients.

1908

Avocados were planted at San Marino Ranch (today, the Huntington Botanical Gardens) constituting what was apparently the first commercial avocado grove in California.

1908

New York tea importer Thomas Sullivan introduced the tea bag as a means of marketing samples. By 1934, 8 million yards of gauze were used annually to be sewn as tea bags.

1909

Dr. Colville and Ms. White begin making crosses to produce the first 18 cultivars of modern blueberries from native US stock.

1910

A chemist with the Corn Products Refining Company discovered a process that would allow the refining of corn oil for cooking. This gave rise to the product 'Mazola'.

1911

A two year famine began in Russia and while people starved and died the country continued exporting a fifth of its annual grain production.

1912

Frederick Hopkins showed that there were chemical substances obtained from food that are essential to human growth and maintenance. Casimir Funk termed these substances 'vitamines'.

1912

The GooGoo Cluster a chocolate - caramel - & peanut candy - was created in Nashville in the US.



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1912

The world's first cannery opens in England to supply food to the navy.

1919

Charles Strite patents the pop-up toaster.

1919

US Prohibition is ratified by three quarters of the states.

1919

The US Volstead Act passed by Congress, start prohibition over Wilson's veto.

1921

Edward Mellanby discovers vitamin D and shows that its absence causes rickets.

1921

George Washington Carver appeared before the US Congressional Ways and Means Committee promoting a protective tariff on peanuts.

1922

Eskimo Pie is patented by Christian K Nelson of Iowa, who was not an Eskimo.

1924

An ice cream cone rolling machine is patented by Carl Taylor in Cleveland, USA.

Jun 1930

W.K. Kellogg combined his business savvy and his love of children to form the Kellogg foundation.

1931

Haddon Sundblom begins creating a new Santa each Christmas for Coca-Cola advertisements (1931-1964) that appeared world-wide on the back covers of Post and National Geographic magazines. This is the Santa had a red suit trimmed with white fur, leather boots and belt, long white beard and a pack of toys slung onto his back.

1933

The first US state liquor stores are authorized in Pennsylvania.



Food & Drink (0001-1989)

Human consumption of food and drink for pleasure or for survival.

1936

Syrah grape variety cutting were brought to California by oenologist Doctor Harold P Olmo of the University of California.

1943

Frankfurters replaced by Victory Sausages (mix of meat & soy meal)

1989

The US Food and Drug Administration began a quarantine of all fruit imported from Chile after traces of cyanide were found in two Chilean grapes.