

[MyRecipes](#) Network

CookingLight

« [Return to 2010 Taste Test Awards: Grocery Category Winners](#)

2010 Taste Test Awards: Grocery Category Winners

Our judges ate their way through 200 foods to find these winners—our picks for the best products on grocery store aisles nationwide. By Cindy Hatcher



Photo: Manfred Koh Text: Cindy Hatcher

How We Taste-Tested

To qualify, foods had to be available in major markets nationwide. We vetted products against nutrition standards, eliminating those that contained artificial trans fats, too much salt, or artificial sugars.

We tasted almost 200 finalists “blind”: The tasters did not know which brands they were sampling until after. Keep in mind that not all products are low-fat: Good nutrition agrees with good eating when high-fat items are chosen for maximum quality and used moderately.



Photo: Manfred Koh Text: Cindy Hatcher

Tortilla Chips (*100% yellow corn*)

GRAND PRIZE WINNER: Target Archer Farms Organic. They're corn-yellow-pretty, delectably crunchy, nicely salted, and loaded with hearty flavor. Plus, a zip-top bag closure staves off staleness (if they last long enough for a third or fourth session).

TASTE TEST AWARD: Tostitos Natural. Thin, almost delicate chips have a delightful crunch, true corn flavor, and modest salt. Simple and delicious from a grand total of three ingredients.



Mild Tomato Salsa

GRAND PRIZE WINNER: Green Mountain Gringo. You can visually identify almost all of its ingredients (not so for some of the overzealously pureed salsas out there). The tomatoes taste like they were harvested at the peak of summertime freshness, and pasilla and jalapeño peppers provide just the right amount of lip-tingling heat.

TASTE TEST AWARDS: Frontera. Its smoky kick resembles the salsas you find in authentic Mexican restaurants.

Organicville. The best organic brand we tasted. Lots of fresh-tasting herbs, plus a bit of