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**Sargento Chef Ulrich Koberstein Brings the Heat for Cinco de Mayo  
With Special TV Appearance**

**PLYMOUTH, Wis. – April 27, 2016** – A member of the [Sargento Foods](#) family is lending his expertise to the judging panel of Food Network's *Chopped*.

Sargento Executive Chef Ulrich Koberstein serves as a guest judge on an episode titled "Cinco de Mayo Fiesta," which airs May 3. Ulrich joins *Chopped* judges as they sample and critique a series of three courses created with unusual ingredient combinations, by competitors who race against the clock.

"Serving as a judge on *Chopped* gave me the great opportunity to put my culinary knowledge to the test, enjoy delicious dishes and bring attention to the creative work we do in the kitchens of Sargento," Ulrich said. "I especially loved watching the talented contestants create unique, flavorful entrées using one of my favorite ingredients: cheese."

In the episode four cooks are surprised by a Cinco de Mayo theme, and in the first basket, they must grapple with a green pie and a big fish fillet. The fiesta continues in round two when the chefs must work with a cheese blend and a Mexican barbecue specialty, then black beans and chocolate are part of the dessert challenge.

"With his experience running kitchens in many different countries, Chef Ulrich is an ideal person to represent the Sargento family," said Louie Gentine, CEO of Sargento Foods. "His adventurous palate and appreciation for new and different dishes make him a great guest judge on *Chopped*."

Tune in to *Chopped* at 9 p.m. central Tuesday, May 3 on Food Network. Additionally, *Chopped* fans can bring the competition to their own kitchen through the [Sargento and Food Network \*Chopped\* at Home Challenge](#). Home cooks create an original recipe using four required basket ingredients for a chance to compete for a \$10,000 prize. Enter this round of the challenge now through May 23.

**About Sargento Foods Inc.**

Sargento Foods Inc. has demonstrated its passion for cheese and cheese-based meal solutions for more than 60 years. Founded in 1953 in Plymouth, Sargento is a leading manufacturer, packager and marketer of natural shredded, sliced and snack cheeses, cheese appetizers, ingredients, sauces and other culinary solutions. Sargento is owned and operated by the Gentine family, has net sales exceeding \$1 billion and more than 1,800 employees. For more information, please visit [www.sargento.com](http://www.sargento.com).