

ALFOODACT 011-2008 - Salmonella Risk with Cantaloupes Originating from Agropecuaria Montelibano

Date Issued: March 24, 2008

1. REFERENCES:

- a. DLAR 4155.26/AR 40-660/NAVSUPINST 10110.8c/AFI 48-116/MCO 10110.38c, DOD Hazardous Food & Nonprescription Drug Recall System.
- b. Allied Communications Publication 121, US SUPP-1 (f).
- c. <http://www.fda.gov/bbs/topics/NEWS/2008/NEW01808.html>
- d. http://www.fda.gov/oc/po/firmrecalls/charlie03_08.html
- e. AskKaren:
<http://www.fsis.usda.gov/food%5Fsafety%5Feducation/ask%5Fkaren/#Question>
- f. FACT SHEET: <http://www.cfsan.fda.gov/~mow/chap1.html>
- g. Safe Produce Handling Tips: <http://www.cfsan.fda.gov/~dms/prodsafe.html>

2. BACKGROUND:

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has issued an import alert regarding entry of cantaloupe from Agropecuaria Montelibano, a Honduran grower and packer, because, based on current information, fruit from this company appears to be associated with a Salmonella litchfield outbreak in the United States and Canada. The import alert advises FDA field offices that all cantaloupes shipped to the United States by this company are to be detained.

Charlie's Produce of Spokane, WA is recalling Charlie's Produce Brand Cut Cantaloupe Products, because they have the potential to be contaminated with Salmonella. Cantaloupe used in these products may have been supplied from Agropecuaria Montelibano.

Spokane Produce, of Spokane, WA purchased product from Agropecuaria Montelibano. Spokane Produce is recalling the Spokane Produce, Chiquita and Mike's Melons label.

3. PRODUCTION DATES/IDENTIFYING CODES:

Recommend all establishments determine the original source of cantaloupe/cut cantaloupe from their distributors/suppliers. All produce processors/retailers should remove from their stock cantaloupes imported from Agropecuaria Montelibano. These cantaloupes are also traded under the label Mike's Melons.

Processors known to have purchased and/or further processed cantaloupe from Agropecuaria Montelibano are as follows.

Charlie's Produce Spokane

Products are branded with the Charlie's Produce name and logo, in a hard plastic clamshell, with a use by date of 3 07 through 3 29 stamped on the bottom of the container.

Retail Products:

- Cut Fruit 4 Section – 40oz
- Cut Cantaloupe – 24oz, 16oz, 8oz
- Cut Honeydew/Cantaloupe - 16oz
- Mixed Fruit –24oz, 16oz, 8oz
- Rainbow - 24oz, 16oz, 8oz
- Cut Fruit Tray Deli – 12', 8'
- Cut Fruit Tray - 76oz, 40oz 8'
- Grab & Go Fruit Tray - 16oz

Foodservice Products:

- Cut Cantaloupe – 20lb, 64oz
- Cut Mixed Fruit – 20lb, 64oz

The above products containing cantaloupe were distributed in Eastern Washington, Idaho, and Montana to retail stores, delis, and foodservice institutions.

Spokane Produce

Products are branded with the Spokane Produce name and logo. They also produce under the Chiquita and Mike's Melons label. Cut fruit/fruit trays will have a use by date of 3/25/08 or before on the container.

4. Manufacturer/Establishment Number:

Agrolibano (Agropecuaria Montelibano)
Bo. Victoria, Calle Principal
San Lorenzo, Valle
Honduras

Charlie's Produce Spokane
3530 E Ferry Avenue
Spokane, Washington 99202-4631

Spokane Produce
1905 S Geiger Boulevard
Spokane, Washington 99224-5498

5. DISTRIBUTION: Nationwide

6. REASON FOR ACTION: Salmonella Litchfield

7. INSTRUCTIONS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR MESSAGE RECIPIENTS:

a. Immediately inventory stocks to identify the above items and secure in a "Medical Hold" status to provide assurance of no further issue/sale/use of the item. POSITIVE FINDINGS should be reported to Accountable Officers/Vendor Representatives of that facility. Accountable Officer/Agency Representatives should seek refund/credit/replacement through the normal distribution channel with which the product was received (i.e. Distribution Centers, Prime Vendors, Manufacturers).

b. Ships at sea are authorized to destroy or dispose of recalled products at their discretion. Documentation for the number of pounds and cases, and any additional pertinent information must be signed by the Accountable Officer and is required for the purpose of recouping to the government the cost of the product involved. In order to get credit please use a SF 364 and forward to your supporting FISC and copy furnished

to NAVSUP 51. Your supporting FISC should forward to the account manager at DSCP. The form should include the number of the recall authorizing the survey action. Home ported ships/gallies will utilize DD form 1149 to transfer w/ reimbursement to the PV. The PV will submit credit invoice to the account manager at DSCP.

c. Unless otherwise specified above, POSITIVE and NEGATIVE RESPONSES directly to DSCP Consumer Safety Officer (CSO) are NOT required.

d. When corresponding with DSCP concerning this message please include this message's subject in your subject line.

8. The Point of Contact for this ALFOODACT message is CW4 Ramona Hemphill, Consumer Safety Officer, at DSCP-FTW. VOICE, DSN: 444-2922, Commercial (215) 737-2922, or by FAX, DSN: 444-7526, or Commercial, (215) 737-7526.

Any individual or office that would like to receive recall messages electronically can forward their email address to dscpconssafofc@exmail.dscp.dla.mil.

Previous recalls and frequently asked questions are available at the following web site: <https://www.dscp.dla.mil/subs/fso/alfood/alfood.asp>. The navigation tool to the left allows you to view DSCP Alerts and Archived Vendor Recalls also.

Very Respectfully,

Mrs. Ramona Hemphill

CW4 Ramona Hemphill
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Food Safety Office
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