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Recall Release

FDA NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: August 24, 2010 Consumer Inquiries: 888-INFO-FDA

URGENT: Nationwide Egg Recall

Eggs in Their Shells May Put Consumers at Risk *due to an outbreak of Salmonella typhimurium*.

Fast Facts:

- The current recall of eggs in their shells, or “shell eggs,” is part of an ongoing and intensive investigation by local, state, and federal officials into the cause of recent cases of *Salmonella Enteritidis*.
- This recall affects shell eggs produced by Wright County Egg of Galt, Iowa. The eggs are packaged under different brand names and distributed nationwide.
- The shell eggs may contain *Salmonella Enteritidis* (SE) and may cause serious illness.
- *Salmonella* can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections particularly in young children, frail or elderly people, and those with weakened immune systems. Healthy persons often experience fever, diarrhea (which may be bloody), nausea, vomiting, and abdominal pain. In rare circumstances, the organism can get into the bloodstream and produce more severe illnesses. All *Salmonella* infections should be reported to state or local health authorities.
- Consumers should throw away the product or return the product to the store

What is the Problem?

An outbreak of *Salmonella Enteritidis* (SE) that has sickened hundreds of people across the country has led to a recall of shell eggs.

What is Being Done about the Problem?

Working closely with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and state public health partners, the FDA reviewed epidemiologic and environmental investigation documents and identified 3 best-case clusters of *Salmonella Enteritidis* illnesses. Tracebacks revealed Wright County Egg in Iowa as the common shell egg supplier in these clusters.

On August 13, Wright County Egg voluntarily conducted a nationwide recall of shell eggs on 3 of its 5 farms. Further epidemiologic and traceback information led to Wright County Egg expanding its recall on August 18 to cover all 5 farms and 380 million eggs (according to company figures).

The Agency has activated its emergency operations command center with scientists, investigators, epidemiologists, and communication experts. In addition, the FDA deployed an initial team of 10 investigators to Wright County Egg in Iowa to inspect the farms and determine the source of the contamination. More investigators are being deployed to help on-site, looking to find the source of the contamination. Investigators are performing environmental assessments of farm conditions and practices including pest and rodent controls, biosecurity plans, environmental monitoring, sanitary controls, and feed sources..

The FDA is initiating effectiveness checks of the recall, conducting checks at retail stores, wholesalers and distributors to make sure the recalled shell eggs are being removed from the market.

The FDA is in ongoing communications with Wright County Egg to ensure that appropriate preventive measures are put in place to reduce the risk of recurrence.

What are the Symptoms of Illness?

Healthy persons infected with *Salmonella* often experience fever, diarrhea (which may be bloody), nausea, vomiting and abdominal pain. In rare circumstances, infection with *Salmonella* can result in the organism getting into the bloodstream and producing more severe illnesses such as arterial infections (infected aneurysms), endocarditis and arthritis.

Who is at Risk?

Salmonella can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems.

What do Consumers Need to Do?

Don't eat recalled eggs. Consumers who have recalled eggs should discard them or return them to their retailer for a refund. Individuals who think they might have become ill from eating recalled eggs should consult their health care providers. If consumers are unsure about the source of their eggs, they are urged not to eat them and to discard them immediately.

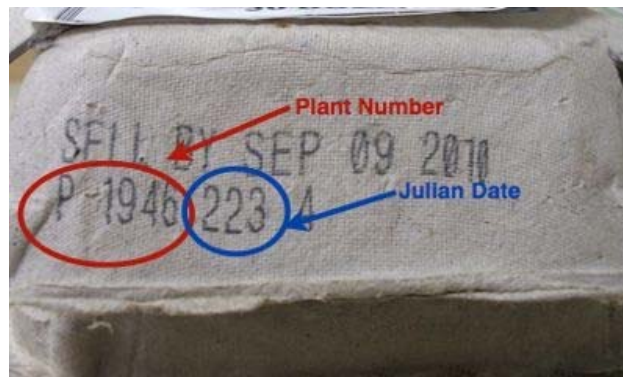
What Does the Product Look Like?

Shell eggs under the August 13, 2010 recall are packaged under the brand names: Lucerne, Albertson, Mountain Dairy, Ralph's, Boomsma's, Sunshine, Hillandale, Trafficanda, Farm Fresh, Shoreland, Lund, Dutch Farms and Kemps. Shell eggs are packed in 6-egg cartons, 12-egg cartons, 18-egg cartons, and loose eggs with Julian dates ranging from 136 to 225 and plant numbers 1026, 1413 and 1946.

Recalled shell eggs affected by the expanded recall are packaged under the brand names: Albertsons, Farm Fresh, James Farms, Glenview, Mountain Dairy, Ralphs, Boomsma, Lund, Kemps and Pacific Coast. Eggs are packed in varying sizes of cartons (6-egg, 12-egg, and 18-egg cartons, and loose eggs for institutional use and repackaging) with Julian dates ranging from 136 to 229 and plant numbers 1720 and 1942.

Q: How do I determine what eggs are affected by the recall?

Dates and codes can be found stamped on the end of the egg carton or printed on the case label. The plant number begins with the letter P and then the number. The Julian date follows the plant number, for example: P-1720 223.



It is important to note that both the plant number and Julian date must match. If the Julian date does not match the affected plant number, then your eggs are not currently involved in the recall.

Where is it Distributed?

The recall affects eggs shipped since May 16, 2010 were sent to food wholesalers, distribution centers and foodservice companies in California, Illinois, Missouri, Colorado, Nebraska, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Arizona, Texas, Georgia, Washington, Oregon, Nevada, Utah, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Iowa.

Does FDA have the authority to inspect egg farms?

In the past, FDA has inspected egg farms under its broad authorities applicable to all food, focusing on farms linked to recalls. The egg rule, which just went into effect for large farms on July 9, 2010, provides specific requirements applicable to egg producers that will greatly facilitate compliance.

Generally, USDA is responsible for egg safety at what are called breaker plants or egg products processing facilities. In these facilities eggs are broken and pasteurized. FDA is responsible for shell egg safety and egg products once they leave the breaking facility.

For More Information:

- FoodSafety.gov
 - [Eggs and Egg Products](#)
 - [Salmonella](#)
- [Additional Background on Salmonella Outbreak in Shell Eggs](#)
- [CDC: Tips to Reduce Your Risk of Salmonella from Eggs](#)

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FDA is taking these actions while the agency continues to investigate this outbreak with state and federal partners. Such actions are a key component of FDA's [Food Protection Plan](#), a scientific and risk-based approach to strengthen and protect the nation's food supply.

FDA will continue to issue updates as more specific information becomes available.

The following table lists all brands of shell eggs under recall. The recalled eggs originated from Wright County Egg or from Hillandale Farms of Iowa. The brands listed were either recalled by these two firms or were recalled by other firms who received the eggs and repacked them under additional brand names. The eggs were distributed in a variety of sizes and packaging configurations – see specific press releases for details.

| Brand | Plant Number | Julian Dates |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Albertson | 1026, 1413, 1720, 1942 or 1946 | 136-229 |
| Alta Dena Dairy | 1026, 1413, or 1946 | 209-224 (Loose 15-dozen units) |
| Bayview | 1686 | 142-149 |
| Boomsma's | 1026, 1413, 1720, 1942 or 1946 | 136-229 |
| Challenge Dairy | 1026, 1413, or 1946 | 209-224 (Loose 15-dozen units) |
| Country Eggs, Inc | 1946 or 1026 | 216-221 |
| Driftwood Dairy | 1026, 1413, or 1946 | 209-224 (Loose 15-dozen units) |
| Dutch Farms | 1026, 1413, or 1946 | 136-225 |
| Farm Fresh | 1026, 1413, 1720, 1942 or 1946 | 136-229 |
| Glenview | 1720 or 1942 | 136-229 |
| Hidden Villa Ranch | 1026, 1413, or 1946 | 209-224 (Loose 15-dozen units) |
| Hillandale | 1026, 1413, or 1946 | 136-225 |
| Hillandale Farms | 1663 | 137 - 230 |
| Hillandale Farms | 1860 | 099 - 230 |
| James Farms | 1720 or 1942 | 136-229 |
| Kemps | 1026, 1413, 1720, 1942 or 1946 | 136-229 |
| Lucerne | 1026, 1413, or 1946 | 136-225 |
| Lund | 1026, 1413, 1720, 1942 or 1946 | 136-229 |
| Mountain Dairy | 1091 | 167-174 |
| Mountain Dairy | 1951 | 193-208 |
| Mountain Dairy | 1026, 1413, 1720, 1942 or 1946 | 136-229 |
| Nulaid Medium | 1951 | 195-210 |
| Pacific Coast | 1720 or 1942 | 136-229 |
| Ralph's | 1026, 1413, 1720, 1942 or 1946 | 136-229 |
| Shoreland | 1026, 1413, or 1946 | 136-225 |
| Sun Valley Medium | 1951 | 195-209 |
| Sunny Farms | 1663 | 138 - 230 |
| Sunny Farms | 1860 | 099 - 230 |
| Sunny Meadow | 1663 | 139 - 230 |
| Sunny Meadow | 1860 | 099 - 230 |
| Sunshine | 1026, 1413, or 1946 | 136-225 |
| Trafficanda | 1026, 1413, or 1946 | 136-225 |

Note: This list will be updated with publicly available information as received. The information is current as of the date indicated. If we learn that any information is not accurate, we will revise the list as soon as possible.