

# MONTEREY COUNTY



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH LEN FOSTER, Director

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## Press Release

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### **Parker Farms Expands Recall of Products Due to Possible *Listeria* Contamination**

*No illnesses have been reported in connection with this recall.*

Parker Farms has expanded the previously announced recall of products to include all date codes because there is a potential of *Listeria Monocytogenes* contamination.

No illnesses have been reported to date in connection with this recall.

The recall originally announced Friday, January 8th listed product with sell by dates of specific ranges. The expanded recall now includes *all products* and *all sell by dates*. The recalled products were distributed nationwide in the following retail stores: Safeway, Costco, Kroger, Wal-Mart, Rainbow, Target, Whole Foods, Sams Club, Shop Rite, Hy-Vee, Cub, Byerlys, Lunds, Jewel, Dominicks, Marsh, Price Chopper, Nash Finch, and Aldi.

The recall affects the following products are sold under the Parkers Farm or Parkers label:

- 12 & 16 ounce peanut butter in square plastic containers, regular and organic varieties are creamy, crunchy, honey creamy, and honey crunchy with sell by dates on or before 12/31/2010.
- 34 ounce peanut butter in round plastic containers, varieties are creamy and crunchy with sell by dates on or before 09/30/2010.
- 7 ounce bagel spreads in white plastic containers; varieties are garden veggie, wild berry, strawberry, apple cinnamon, and honey walnut with sell by dates on or before 06/30/2010.
- 12 and 14 ounce dips & spreads in square plastic containers, varieties are jalapeno nacho, pimento and salsa con queso with sell by dates on or before 09/30/2010.
- 8, 12, and 16 ounce cold pack cheese in round or square plastic containers, varieties are sharp cheddar, bacon, onion, smoked cheddar, Swiss almond, horseradish, garlic, port wine, and Swiss & cheddar with sell by dates on or before 12/31/2010.

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- 16 ounce salsa in square plastic containers, varieties are hot, mild, garlic, black bean, and fire roasted with sell by dates on or before 04/30/2010.
- 32 ounce salsa in plastic jugs, varieties are hot, mild, garlic, and black bean with sell by dates on or before 04/30/2010.
- 128 ounce salsa in plastic jugs, varieties are hot, fire roasted, mild, and garlic with sell by dates on or before 04/30/2010.
- 8, 9, and 10 ounce Balls & Logs in film overwrap, varieties are sharp cheddar, port wine, smoky bacon, ranch, garlic, jalapeno, pimento, spinach, jajik, beer, and chorizo with sell by dates on or before 01/05/2011.
- 5, 5.5, 10, and 30 pound Parker Farm cold pack cheese, varieties are sharp cheddar, onion, bacon, smoked cheddar, Swiss almond, horseradish, garlic, port wine, and Swiss and cheddar with sell by dates on or before 09/30/2010.

Other labels affected by this recall:

- 16 ounce **Happy Farms** cold pack cheese in round plastic containers, varieties are sharp cheddar, port wine, and Swiss almond with sell by dates on or before 12/31/2010.
- 8 ounce **Kroger** cold pack cheese in round plastic containers, varieties are sharp cheddar, port wine, and Swiss almond with sell by dates on or before 12/31/2010.
- 8 ounce **Central Markets** cold pack cheese in round plastic containers, varieties are sharp cheddar, port wine, Swiss almond, horseradish with sell by dates on or before 12/31/2010.
- 14 ounce **Central Markets** salsa con queso in round plastic containers with sell by dates on or before 09/30/2010.
- 16 ounce **Central Markets** salsa in round plastic containers, varieties are sharp cheddar, port wine, Swiss almond, and horseradish with sell by dates on or before 04/30/2010.
- 8 ounce **Dutch Farms** cold pack cheese in round plastic containers, varieties are sharp cheddar, port wine, Swiss almond, horseradish, and Swiss and cheddar with sell by dates on or before 12/31/2010.
- 7 ounce **Dutch Farms** cream cheese spreads in round plastic containers, varieties are strawberry, wild berry, honey walnut & apple cinnamon with sell by dates on or before 06/30/2010.
- 8 ounce **Crystal Farms** cold pack cheese in round plastic containers, varieties are sharp cheddar, port wine, Swiss almond, bacon and jalapeno cheddar with sell by dates on or before 12/31/2010.
- 8 ounce **Heluva Good** cold pack cheese in round plastic containers, varieties are sharp cheddar, port wine and horseradish cheddar with sell by dates on or before 12/31/2010.
- 8 ounce **Amish Classic** cold pack cheese in round plastic containers, varieties are sharp cheddar, port wine, Swiss almond, and horseradish with sell by dates on or before 12/31/2010.
- 10 ounce **Amish Classic** cheese balls & logs in film overwrap, varieties are cheddar, port wine, ranch, smoky bacon, beef and onion with sell by dates on or before 01/05/2011.
- 128 ounce **San Pablo** salsa in plastic jugs, varieties are fire roasted and mild with sell by dates on or before 04/30/2010.

- 12 ounce **Century Resources** cold pack cheese food, varieties are sharp cheddar, horseradish, bacon with a sell by date of xxx9 (the first 3 digits aren't important, but the last digit must be a 9)
- 12 ounce **Century Resources** pimento spread with a sell by date of xxx9 (the first 3 digits aren't important, but the last digit must be a 9).
- 8 and 12 ounce **Century Resources** cheese ball & log in film overwrap sharp cheddar with a sell by date of xxx9 (the first 3 digits aren't important, but the last digit must be a 9)
- 12 ounce **Century Resources** salsa con queso in tub with a sell by date of xxx9 (the first 3 digits aren't important, but the last digit must be a 9)
- 4 and 5.5 pound **Block & Barrel** cold pack cheese in white tub, varieties are sharp cheddar, Swiss almond, horseradish, port wine, and pimento spread with packed on dates on or before 12/30/2009.
- 30 pound **Block & Barrel** sharp cheddar cold pack cheese in white pail with packed on dates on or before 12/30/2009.
- 5 pound **Cobblestone** cold pack cheese in white tub, varieties are sharp cheddar, port wine, Swiss almond, and horseradish with sell by dates on or before 06/30/2010.
- 30 pound **Cobblestone** sharp cheddar cold pack cheese in white pail, with sell by dates on or before 06/30/2010.
- 5 pound **Biery** label cold pack cheese in white tub, varieties are sharp cheddar and port wine with sell by dates on or before 09/30/2010.
- 5 pound **Dierks** Waukesha cold pack cheese in white tub, varieties are sharp cheddar, port wine, horseradish, and Swiss almond with sell by dates on or before 09/30/2010.

The recall is a result of sampling done by the States of Wisconsin and Minnesota which revealed that some of the finished products contained the *Listeria* bacteria. The Food and Drug Administration, the State of Minnesota and the Company are investigating what caused the contamination.

Consumption of food contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes* can cause listeriosis, an uncommon but potentially fatal disease. Healthy people rarely contract listeriosis. However, listeriosis can cause high fever, severe headache, neck stiffness and nausea. Listeriosis can also cause miscarriages and stillbirths, as well as serious and sometimes fatal infections in those with weakened immune systems, such as infants, the elderly and persons with HIV infection or undergoing chemotherapy.

Consumers should contact their physician if they have eaten the products and have any of these symptoms or are concerned about possible exposure.

Consumers who have purchased these products are urged to return it to the place of purchase for a full refund. Consumers with questions may contact Parkers Farms at 800-869-6685.

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*The Monterey County Health Department releases notices of recalls and market withdrawal from the firms involved as a service to Monterey County residents, the media and other interested parties. The Health Department does not endorse either the product or the company.*

Additional information on listeriosis

**How you can reduce your risk for listeriosis**

General recommendations:

- Thoroughly cook raw food from animal sources, such as beef, pork, or poultry.
- Wash raw vegetables thoroughly before eating.
- Keep uncooked meats separate from vegetables and from cooked foods and ready-to-eat foods.
- Avoid unpasteurized (raw) milk or foods made from unpasteurized milk.
- Wash hands, knives, and cutting boards after handling uncooked foods.
- Consume perishable and ready-to-eat foods as soon as possible

Recommendations for persons at high risk, such as pregnant women and persons with weakened immune systems, in addition to the recommendations listed above:

- Do not eat hot dogs, luncheon meats, or deli meats unless they are reheated until steaming hot.
- Avoid getting fluid from hot dog packages on other foods, utensils, and food preparation surfaces, and wash hands after handling hot dogs, luncheon meats, and deli meats.
- Do not eat soft cheeses such as feta, Brie, and Camembert, blue-veined cheeses, or Mexican-style cheeses such as queso blanco, queso fresco, and Panela unless they have labels that clearly state they are made from pasteurized milk.
- Do not eat refrigerated pâtés or meat spreads. Canned or shelf-stable pâtés and meat spreads may be eaten.
- Do not eat refrigerated smoked seafood unless it is contained in a cooked dish, such as a casserole. Refrigerated smoked seafood, such as salmon, trout, whitefish, cod, tuna or mackerel, is most often labeled as "nova-style," "lox," "kippered," "smoked," or "jerky." The fish is found in the refrigerator section or sold at deli counters of grocery stores and delicatessens. Canned or shelf-stable smoked seafood may be eaten.

**Source:** *Centers for Disease Control, Division of Foodborne, Bacterial and Mycotic Diseases*