



Ohio Department of Agriculture
and
Ohio Department of Health



Governor Ted Strickland
Lieutenant Governor Lee Fisher

ODA Director Robert J. Boggs
ODH Director Alvin D. Jackson, M.D.

To: Health Commissioners, Environmental Health Directors, Nursing Directors, ODA Food Safety Specialists, and Other Interested Parties

Subject: Recall Announcement (ODA/ODH) 2009-24

Date: April 3, 2009

New York Firm Recalls Chicken Base Products Imported From an Unapproved Source

WASHINGTON, Perk-Up, Inc., a New York corporation having a principal executive office in White Plains, NY, is recalling 114,540 pounds of chicken base products that were ineligible for import to the U.S., the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced today.

Perk-Up, Inc. is recalling these products because the chicken base products do not meet poultry products inspection or poultry exemption requirements. Specifically, it could not be determined that the poultry ingredients used in the chicken base products were prepared under inspection as required by federal regulations or under an eligible foreign inspection system determined to be equivalent. The poultry ingredient is determined to be ineligible when the source of the ingredients cannot be determined.

The products subject to recall include:

- 5-pound pails of "PANDA BRAND CHICKEN BASE CONCENTRADO DE CALDO DE POLLO." Each container also bears the case code "2700031."
- 5-pound bags of "PANDA BRAND CHICKEN BASE CONCENTRADO DE CALDO DE POLLO." Each package also bears the case code "2700200."

The chicken base products were imported from China on various dates from May 2008 to September 2008. The chicken base products were sent to distribution establishments nationwide.

The problem was discovered after FSIS personnel identified the chicken base products in the marketplace. FSIS has received no reports of illness as a result of consuming this product.

Consumer and media questions regarding the product or the recall should be directed to Perk-Up's general counsel, Seth Akabas at (212) 308-8505 ext. 218, or (212) 308-8516.

FSIS works with other federal agencies to ensure the safety of imported meat, poultry and processed egg products. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service issues import permits based on animal health considerations, specific to a country or region. Customs and Border Protection provides oversight of all products entering the United States.

Consumers with food safety questions can "Ask Karen," the FSIS virtual representative available 24 hours a day at AskKaren.gov. The toll-free USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline 1-888-MPHotline (1-888-674-6854) is available in English and Spanish and can be reached from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Eastern Time) Monday through Friday. Recorded food safety messages are available 24 hours a day.