



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) 2010-40

Date: May 24, 2010

Caldwell Fresh Foods Recalls Alfalfa Sprouts Because of Possible Health Risks

May 21, 2010 - Caldwell Fresh Foods, of Maywood, CA, is voluntarily recalling all alfalfa sprouts manufactured under the Caldwell Fresh Foods, Nature's Choice, and California Exotics brands, because the alfalfa sprouts may be contaminated with Salmonella.

Salmonella is an organism which can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems. Healthy persons infected with Salmonella often experience fever, diarrhea (which may be bloody), nausea, vomiting and abdominal pain. Consumers with the above symptoms should consult their physician.

Caldwell alfalfa sprouts have been associated with an outbreak of Salmonella Newport that has sickened more than 20 people in 10 states, including 11 people in California. The latest known illness is May 2, 2010; many of those who have become sick reported eating raw alfalfa sprouts. There have been no deaths reported, but 4 cases have been hospitalized.

The recalled alfalfa sprouts are labeled and packaged as follows:

- Caldwell Fresh Foods - 4-ounce plastic cups and one pound plastic bags, and 2-pound and 5 pound plastic bags in cardboard boxes with sticker affixed with the printed words Caldwell Fresh Foods.
- Nature's Choice - 4-ounce plastic cups
- California Exotics brands - 5-ounce plastic clamshell containers

The alfalfa sprouts were distributed to a variety of restaurants, delicatessens and retailers nationwide. In California, our products are sold at Kings Super Market, Numero Uno Stores, Cárdenas Markets, Trader Joe's Stores, Gonzalez Northgate Markets, Wal-Mart stores Jons Markets, and Canton Foods.

Caldwell Fresh Foods alfalfa sprouts not affected by this recall will have a bright, round, green sticker affixed to the lids and labels.

Consumers who are experiencing illness after consuming our sprouts should seek medical attention. Consumers that have purchased alfalfa sprouts manufactured by Caldwell Fresh Foods are urged to return them to the place of purchase for refund or dispose of them. Consumers with questions may contact Maurie Thomas at (323) 589-5008 from 4 am to 4 pm (PST) or (562) 858-1201 (24 hours).