

N.G.A. Recall Alerts and Retailer and Consumer Warning Archives

ACTION ALERT

December 15, 2000

Voluntary Recall of Cargill Turkey Products

Cargill Turkey Products, based in Springdale Arkansas, is voluntarily recalling approximately 16.7 million pounds of ready-to-eat poultry products. The poultry was produced at their Waco, Texas plant between May 1 and December 11 and is being recalled due to possible Listeria contamination, the company announced late Thursday afternoon.

The recalled products are marked with the establishment number "P-635" and include:

- Owen's Hickory Smoked Pre-Sliced Turkey Breast, fresh
- Plantation
- Fiesta Pre-Sliced Turkey Breast, fresh
- Mesquite Smoked Pre-Sliced Turkey Breast, fresh and frozen
- Pre-Sliced Smoke Banquet-style Turkey Breast, fresh and frozen
- Black Forest Turkey Ham, fresh
- Pre-Sliced Turkey Pastrami, fresh and frozen
- Pre-Sliced Star Turkey Breast
- Riverside
- Pre-Sliced Hickory Smoked Turkey Breast, fresh and frozen
- Pre-Sliced Oven Prepared Turkey Breast, frozen
- Honeysuckle White Pre-Sliced Oven Prepared Turkey, fresh and frozen
- Unsliced products include:
- Dine Rite Picnic Dark Turkey, fresh and frozen
- Old South Turkey Ham, fresh
- Plantation Cajun Fried Turkey, frozen
- Honeysuckle White Cajun-Style Fried Whole Turkey, frozen
- Boar's Head

The following affected products may have been distributed at delis, restaurants and institutions:

- Our Premium Low Salt Turkey, frozen
- Golden Catering Skin-on Turkey Breast, fresh
- Carmel Colored Our Premium Turkey Breast, fresh
- Our Premium Low Salt Skinless Turkey Breast, fresh
- Smoked Turkey Breast, fresh
- Oil Browned Chicken Breast, fresh
- Oven Prepared Skinless Turkey Breast, fresh
- Smoked Chicken Breast, fresh

Other products were sold in bulk and were labeled at the point of purchase.

N.G.A. urges members who sell this product to post a consumer safety warning in their stores advising consumers of the safety recall and urging them to return the product to them.

The USDA urges consumers who have purchased this product not to consume it and to return it to the place of purchase. USDA is informing the public so that consumers who have purchased this product, and may be storing it in their refrigerators or freezers, are alerted to this recall.

Cargill is issuing the recall on a precautionary basis, while results of a preliminary analysis of epidemiological data are pending. State health departments have identified illnesses which are then reported to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Both CDC and the Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS) are studying these illnesses and their sources.

Listeria monocytogenes causes listeriosis, a rare (especially in healthy people) but possibly fatal disease marked by high fever, severe headache, neck stiffness, and nausea. Miscarriages and stillbirths can result. Serious to fatal infections can occur in persons with weak immune systems—infants, the frail or elderly, and those diagnosed with chronic disease or HIV infection and chemotherapy patients.

If you or your consumers have questions about the recall contact Cargill Turkey Products at (888) 621- 2717, 24 hours a day, seven days a week or visit the company's website at <http://www.plantation-foods.com>.

Consumers with food safety questions can phone the toll-free USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline at 1-800-535-4555 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Eastern Time) Monday through Friday. Recorded food safety messages are available 24 hours a day.

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