



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SECTION

EHS Circular Letter #2010-30

To: Local Directors of Health
Chief Sanitarians
Certified Food Inspectors

From: Tracey Weeks, MS, RS; Food Protection Program

Date: May 10, 2010

Re: Recall of Imported Manouri Cheese Due to Potential Listeria Contamination

Mt. Vikos, Inc., Marshfield, MA 02050 is voluntarily recalling all size packages and all lot numbers of Mt. Vikos Brand Manouri – Sheep & Goat's Milk Cheese because it has the potential to be contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*, an organism which can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, others with weakened immune systems and can cause miscarriages and stillbirths among pregnant women. To date, no illnesses have been reported in connection with this problem.

The cheese is distributed in clear plastic packaging for the retail market in 4 oz. portions with the Mt. Vikos Manouri label. In addition the cheese is distributed in approximately 1 Kilogram logs in clear plastic packaging with the Mt. Vikos Manouri label. Establishments that purchase the bulk 1 Kilogram logs may repackage the cheese in food service / deli counter random weight packages for consumers. These packages may not contain the Mt. Vikos Manouri label.

- Retail Portions: Mt. Vikos Manouri – Sheep & Goat's Milk Cheese, Net Wt. 4 oz, UPC# 6-65291-00201-2, All Best Before dates
- Food Service: Mt. Vikos Manouri – Sheep & Goat's Milk Cheese, Random Wt. logs (approximately 1 Kilogram), All Best By dates

Consumers reporting illness should be advised to contact their primary care physician for proper follow-up and treatment. Local health department staff that receives calls from consumers with possible foodborne illness after consumption of this product should follow the usual procedure of completing the 3-page Alert form and faxing it to the Food Protection Program within 24 hours at (860) 509-8071.

cc: Suzanne Blancaflor, MS, Chief, Environmental Health Section, DPH
Ellen Blaschinski, R.S., M.B.A., Chief, Regulatory Services Branch
William Gerrish, Office of Planning and Communications, DPH



410 CAPITOL AVENUE, MS#11FDP

PO BOX 340308, HARTFORD, CT 06134

Bus: 860.509.7297

Fax: 860.509.8071

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