

STATE OF CONNECTICUT



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SECTION

EHS Circular Letter #2011-17

To: Local Directors of Health
Chief Sanitarians
Certified Food Inspectors

From: Food Protection Program

Date: April 7, 2011

Subject: Recall of a Limited Number of Cases of 9 oz. Fresh Express Bag Spinach

Fresh Express is voluntarily recalling 2,939 cases of 9 oz. Bag Spinach due to a possible health risk from Salmonella. The recall notification is being issued due to a positive test result for Salmonella from random sample testing.

The identified 9 oz. Bag Spinach was distributed to seven states, including Connecticut, with the potential for redistribution to an additional seven states.

The Fresh Express 9 oz. Bag Spinach Product Codes starting with H081 and H082, UPC Code of 7127913204 and Use-by Dates of April 6 and 7, 2011. Consumers can find the Product Code and Use-by Date in the upper right-hand corner of the package and the UPC Code in the lower left on the reverse side of the package. Please refer to the attached FDA press release for specific product recall information.

The company is not aware of any illnesses reported in connection with the recall and no other Fresh Express products are included in the recall.

Fresh Express reported that they are contacting retailers and are in the process of confirming that the recalled product is not in the stream of commerce.

The Department of Consumer Protection is aware of the recall and may be contacted at (860) 713-6160 for additional distribution information and assistance.

You are urged to share the above information with the retail and food service establishments in your jurisdiction that are likely to use the recalled products and to prioritize follow-up with establishments that serve highly susceptible populations especially in schools, day care, health care, elderly feeding programs, etc.

Consumers reporting illness should be advised to contact their primary care physician for proper follow-up and treatment. Local health department staff that receive 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 FPP within 24 hours at (860) 509-8071.

cc: Suzanne Blancaflor, MS, MPH, Chief, Environmental Health Section, DPH
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