



Environmental
Health

County of Santa Cruz

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY

Advisory	Recall of Diced yellow Onions
Principal Investigator:	Jerry LeMoine
Date:	June 21, 2007
Release #:	2007-onion-1

INCIDENT

- The California Department of Health Services (CDHS) today warned consumers not to eat certain brands of diced yellow onions because these products may be contaminated with dangerous bacteria, *Listeria monocytogenes* which can cause serious illness. Gills Onions of Oxnard is voluntarily recalling 45,500 pounds of diced yellow onions product after routine testing detected the bacteria in “Trader Joe’s Freshly Diced and Ready to Use Onions”.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT ACTION

- Santa Cruz County Environmental Health Staff have contacted Trader Joe’s retail stores to help ensure proper notification of the recall and pulling the recalled product from shelves.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Santa Cruz County Environmental Health Division is warning consumers not to eat Trader Joe’s Brand Diced Yellow Onions packaged in the 10-ounce re-sealable flexible plastic pouches. Consumers should look for the lot code 2017-R 22 1956D and “Best-if-used” 06/16/07 date on the back side of the pouch.. Consumers who purchased these products should immediately discard them or return them to the point of purchase for a refund.

INFORMATION

- Consumers, especially persons with weakened immune systems and pregnant women, are susceptible to serious infection when exposed to *Listeria monocytogenes*. No illnesses have been reported in association with these products. *Listeria monocytogenes* is a bacterial organism that can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in newborns, the elderly, and persons with weakened immune systems. Although healthy individuals may suffer only short-term symptoms such as fever, headache, stiffness, nausea, abdominal pain and diarrhea, *Listeria* infection can cause miscarriages and stillbirths among pregnant women. Consumers with any of these symptoms should call their physician. If you believe that you are ill as a result of consuming this product, please save any remaining portion, seal it carefully, refrigerate it and notify Environmental Health Services (831) 454-2022, so that we may further investigate.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

- **Health Alert:** conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.
- **Health Advisory:** provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.
- **Health Update:** provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Consumers with questions may contact Gill's Onions at 1-800-348-2255.

- www.santacruzhealth.org/alerts for informational updates and other alerts

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