



Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services Advisory Alert

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services received the following news release regarding the recall of chopped romaine because of the potential of contamination with *Listeria monocytogenes*. This product was shipped to Missouri.

True Leaf Farms Announces Voluntary Recall of Bagged, Chopped Romaine

Contact:

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - September 29, 2011 - True Leaf Farms is voluntarily recalling 90 cartons of chopped romaine because of the potential of contamination with *Listeria monocytogenes*. The recalled product was shipped between September 12 and 13 to an institutional food service distributor in Oregon who further distributed it to at least two additional states, Washington and Idaho. The romaine affected by this recall has a “use by date” of 9/29/11.

No illnesses related to this finding have been reported.

Listeria monocytogenes is an organism that can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems. Although healthy individuals may suffer only short-term symptoms such as high fever, severe headache, stiffness, nausea, abdominal pain and diarrhea, *Listeria* infection can cause miscarriages and stillbirths among pregnant women.

The recalled bags of romaine were packed in True Leaf Farms cardboard cartons and distributed by Church Brothers, LLC, and shipped between September 12 and 13, 2011. All bags carry a “use by date” of 9/29/11. Produce affected by the recall was labeled as follows:

- 2# bags, chopped romaine - Bag and box code B256-46438-8

Photos of the recalled product can be viewed at www.churchbrothers.com/recall.¹ This recall includes only chopped romaine as described above.

FDA notified the company today that a sample taken as part of a random check from a single bag of chopped romaine tested positive for *Listeria monocytogenes*. True Leaf Farms is working with FDA to inform consumers of this recall. In addition, the company is working with its food service distribution customers to ensure that other romaine products that may be implicated are pulled from the market.

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“We are fully cooperating with the FDA, and we are contacting all of our customers to ensure prompt removal of any product potentially associated with the recall,” said Steve Church, True Leaf Farms. “We are committed to conducting this recall quickly and efficiently to reduce any risk to public health.”

Anyone who has in their possession the recalled romaine as described above should not consume it, and should either destroy it or call Church Brothers, LLC for product pickup.

Consumers with questions or who need information may call Church Brothers, LLC, the sales agent for True Leaf Farms, at 1-800-799-9475, or may visit www.churchbrothers.com² for updates.

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