



Ohio Department of Agriculture  
and  
Ohio Department of Health



Governor Ted Strickland  
Lieutenant Governor Lee Fisher

ODA Director Robert J. Boggs  
ODH Director Alvin D. Jackson, M.D.

To: Health Commissioners, Environmental Health Directors, Nursing Directors, ODA Food Safety Specialists, and Other Interested Parties

Subject: Recall Announcement (ODA/ODH) 2010-08a9

Date: March 24, 2010

### **Blue Line Foodservice Distribution voluntarily recalls "Spice Paks"**

March 23, 2010 – As a result of a recall of Black Pepper by Mincing Overseas Spice Company, Blue Line Foodservice Distribution of Farmington Hills, MI is voluntarily recalling Little Caesars Spice Paks. The Spice Paks are small white packets, approximately 1.5" X 2.5" that contain black pepper and other spices. The Spice Paks may have the potential to be contaminated with Salmonella. The packets do not have lot codes or UPC codes. Before they were removed from the stores, they were available upon request to consumers at many Little Caesars stores in the US, Canada and Mexico. The Spice Paks are not used in making any Little Caesars food products.

Salmonella can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems. Healthy persons infected with Salmonella often experience fever, diarrhea (which may be bloody), nausea, vomiting, and abdominal pain. In rare circumstances, infection with Salmonella can result in the organism getting into the bloodstream and producing more severe illnesses such as arterial infections (i.e. infected aneurysms), endocarditis and arthritis.

To-date, no illnesses associated with the Spice Paks have been brought to the company's attention. However, Blue Line Foodservice Distribution has voluntarily initiated this recall because of its commitment to the health and safety of consumers and its commitment to providing them with high quality products.

Consumers who have the Spice Paks in their possession should not use them and should throw them away. The stores have disposed of all Spice Paks in their possession.

No products other than the Spice Pak mentioned above are involved in the recall at the stores concerned.

For more information customers can call 800.722.3727 from 9 a.m. – 11 p.m. ET Monday – Friday, and 3 p.m. – 11 p.m. ET Saturday.

For more information, go to the CDC and FDA websites.