



Governor
John R. Kasich

Lieutenant Governor
Mary Taylor

ODA Director
James Zehringer

ODH Director
Theodore E. Wymyslo, M.D.

Date: March 23, 2011

TO: Health Commissioners, Directors of Environmental Health and Interested Parties

RE: Recall Announcement (ODA/ODH) 2011-032

Pennsylvania Firm Recalls Lebanon Bologna Products Due to Possible *E. coli* O157:H7 Contamination

WASHINGTON, March 22, 2011 - Palmyra Bologna Company, Inc., a Palmyra, Penn., establishment, is recalling approximately 23,000 pounds of Lebanon bologna products that may be contaminated with *E. coli* O157:H7, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced today. Lebanon bologna is a fermented, semi-dry sausage. This beef product has an appearance similar to salami.

The products subject to recall in packaging for consumers include:

- 6-ounce packages of "SELTZER'S BEEF LEBANON BOLOGNA" with lot code "01351" and best-by date of "Apr. 20 2011" printed on the package.
- 12-ounce packages of "SELTZER'S BEEF LEBANON BOLOGNA" with lot code "01351" and best-by dates of "Apr. 20 2011" or "Apr. 21 2011" printed on the package.
- 16-ounce packages of "SELTZER'S BEEF LEBANON BOLOGNA" with lot code "01351" and best-by date of "Apr. 22 2011" printed on the package.

Each package bears a label with establishment number "EST. 474" inside the USDA mark of inspection, in addition to lot code "01351" and the best-by date as noted above. The products subject to recall were produced in December 2010 and were sent to distribution centers in Calif., Colo., Md., N.Y. and Pa. for further distribution to retail stores.

The products subject to recall in packaging for retailers include:

- Whole chub packages of "SELTZER'S BEEF LEBANON BOLOGNA" with lot codes "01351" or "06337" and best-by date of "Feb. 14 2011," "Feb. 15 2011," "Feb. 16 2011," or "Feb. 28 2011" printed on the package.
- Half chub packages of "SELTZER'S BEEF LEBANON BOLOGNA" with lot codes "01351" or "06337" and best-by date of "Apr. 6 2011," "Apr. 7 2011," "Apr. 16 2011," or "Apr. 19 2011," printed on the package.
- 12-pound bulk boxes of sliced "SELTZER'S BEEF LEBANON BOLOGNA" with lot code "01351" and best-by date of "Apr. 21 2011" printed on the package.

Each package bears a label with establishment number "EST. 474" inside the USDA mark of inspection, in addition to either lot code "06337" or "01351." They were sold to retailers and may have been further sliced and repackaged at retail. The products subject to recall were produced in December 2010 and were sent to distribution centers in Calif., Colo., Md., N.Y. and Pa. for further distribution to retail stores.

When available, the retail distribution list(s) will be posted on FSIS' website at www.fsis.usda.gov/FSIS_Recalls/Open_Federal_Cases/index.asp.

FSIS was notified of an investigation of *E. coli* O157:H7 illnesses on March 10, 2011. Working in conjunction with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and state public health partners, 4 case-patients in N.J., N.C., and Pa. have been identified with illness onset dates between Jan. 28, 2011 and Feb. 12, 2011. As a result of the epidemiologic investigation, FSIS determined that there is a link between the Lebanon bologna products and the illnesses in these states. FSIS is continuing to work with the CDC, affected state public health partners, and the company on the investigation. Anyone with signs or symptoms of foodborne illness should contact a health care provider.

FSIS routinely conducts recall effectiveness checks to verify recalling firms notify their customers of the recall and that steps are taken to make certain that the product is no longer available to consumers.

E. coli O157:H7 is a potentially deadly bacterium that can cause bloody diarrhea, dehydration, and in the most severe cases, kidney failure. The very young, seniors and persons with weak immune systems are the most susceptible to foodborne illness.

Media with questions about the recall should contact Rebecca Kleha at (717) 232-5554, ext. 164. Consumers with questions regarding the recall should contact the company at 1-800-282-6336.

Consumers with food safety questions can "Ask Karen," the FSIS virtual representative available 24 hours a day at AskKaren.gov. The toll-free USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline 1-888-MPHotline (1-888-674-6854) is available in English and Spanish and can be reached from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Eastern Time) Monday through Friday. Recorded food safety messages are available 24 hours a day.