



Department of  
Agriculture

**Ohio Department of Agriculture  
and  
Ohio Department of Health**



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John R. Kasich**

**Lieutenant Governor  
Mary Taylor**

**ODA Interim Director  
Dr. Tony Forshey**

**ODH Director  
Theodore E. Wymyslo, M.D.**

DT: February 2, 2012

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

RE: Recall Announcement (ODA/ODH) 2012-010a

**W & C International Import Inc. Issues an Alert on  
Un-eviscerated "Rely" Sardine Anchovies**

February 1, 2012 – W & International Import Inc. is recalling "Rely" Sardine Anchovies because the product was found to be un-eviscerated.

The recalled "Rely" Sardine Anchovies were distributed nationwide in 7.0 oz. plastic packages. The "Rely" Sardine Anchovies are a product of China.

The "Rely" Sardine Anchovies were sampled by a New York State Department of Agriculture Food Inspector during inspection. Subsequent analysis of the product by New York State Food Laboratory personnel confirmed that the "Rely" Sardine Anchovies were not properly eviscerated prior to processing.

The sale of un-eviscerated fish is prohibited under New York State Agriculture and Markets regulations because Clostridium Botulinum spores are more likely to be concentrated in the viscera than any other portion of the fish. Uneviscerated fish have been linked to outbreaks of botulium poisoning.

This product may be contaminated with Clostridium botulinum spores, which can cause Botulism, a serious and potentially fatal food-borne illness. Symptoms of botulism include blurred or double vision, general weakness, poor reflexes, difficulty in swallowing and respiratory paralysis.

No illnesses have been reported to date in connection with this problem.

Consumers that have purchased "Rely" Sardine Anchovies are advised not to eat it and should return it to the place of purchase. Consumer with questions may contact the company at (718) 381-2932.