



Ohio Department of Agriculture
and
Ohio Department of Health



Governor
John R. Kasich

Lieutenant Governor
Mary Taylor

ODA Director
David T. Daniels

ODH Director
Theodore E. Wymyslo, M.D.

DT: October 1, 2012

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

RE: Recall Announcement (ODA/ODH) 2012-092a8

Jer's™ Chocolates Voluntarily Recalls Peanut Butter Products
No Contamination Found But Customers' & Consumers' Well Being Comes First

September 28, 2012 - Jer's™ Chocolates announced that it has taken the precautionary measure of issuing a voluntary limited recall of some of its Gourmet Peanut Butter Bars and Gourmet Jer's Squares produced from July 9, 2012 to September 24, 2012. *Salmonella* is an organism which 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.

The voluntary recall was initiated upon learning that **SUNLAND**, Inc., the supplier of the peanut butter used in the production of Jer's™ Chocolates, has recalled all peanut butter product from May 1, 2012 - September 24, 2012 because of potential contamination with Salmonella.

For more specific information regarding the **SUNLAND** recall, please visit the manufacturer's website by viewing the link below:

<http://www.sunlandinc.com/788?html/pdfs/SunlandRecall.pdf>¹

SUNLAND, Inc. has stated that twenty-nine people have reported Salmonella Bredeney PFGE matching illnesses in approximately 18 states. These illnesses were associated with Almond Butter, Peanut Butter, Cashew Butter, Tahini and Roasted Blanched Peanut Products produced by Sunland, Inc.

Jer's™ Gourmet Peanut Butter Bars and Jer's™ Squares **HAVE NOT** been associated with any of the reported illnesses and **ALL** of Jer's Chocolates products have passed its internal quality control tests and procedures

"Our customers' health and safety is paramount. This precautionary step is to protect our customers and their families from any, even if remote, possible risk", says Jerry Swain, Founder/CEO of Jer's Chocolates.

All other products, including Jer's Chocolates Gift Boxes and Peanut Brittle Bites from the California plant, are not affected by the voluntary recall.

Customers who have purchased these items are urged not to eat the products, and to dispose of them or return them to the retailer for a full refund.

Items Recalled are specific lot numbers Jer's Squares 4oz and 16oz Gable Boxes and 3oz Peanut Butter Bars that were distributed from July 9, 2012 through September 24, 2012.

UPC	Product Description	Best-if-Used-By-Dates (Same for ALL products)	Lot # (Printed Under Expiration Date)
837305005023	Peanut Butter Bars 3.0 oz-Original	Between July 9, 2013-September 24, 2013	12262, 12261, 12206
837305005030	Peanut Butter Bars 3.0 oz-Pretzo		12265, 12261, 12206
837305005054	Peanut Butter Bars 3.0 oz-Toffee		12206
837305005047	Peanut Butter Bars 3.0 oz-Caramella		12206
837305006136	Jer's Squares 16oz Gable Box- Original/Pretzo	Between July 9, 2013-September 24, 2013	12249, 12250, 12248, 12243, 12242, 12240, 12235, 12234, 12233, 12230, 12229, 12220, 12213, 12212, 12208, 12207, 12206, 12205, 12201, 12200, 12199, 12198, 12194, 12193
837305005795	Jer's Squares Gable Box 4.0 oz- Original	Between July 9, 2013-September 24, 2013	12257, 12215
837305005771	Jer's Squares Gable Box 4.0 oz- Pretzo		12257, 12215
837305005757	Jer's Squares Gable Box 4.0 oz- Toffee		12215
837305005733	Jer's Squares Gable Box 4.0 oz- Caramella		12215

Please call Monday – Friday 8:30am – 5:00pm Pacific Time with any questions. (858) 792-2287.