

Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr. Governor

Gregory N. Larkin, M.D., F.A.A.F.P. State Health Commissioner

DATE:

December 7, 2011

TO:

All Local Health Departments

Attn: Chief Food Inspection Officer

FROM:

A. Scott Gilliam, MBA, CP-FS Director, Food Protection Program

SUBJECT:

Fair Oaks Dairy Products, LLC Recall

SUGGESTED

ACTION:

Unclassified Recall; Certain one half pound retail packaged cheeses and cheese gift boxes produced under the Fair Oaks Farms Fine Cheese label and sold between September 30, 2011 and December 3, 2011. These cheeses have the potential to be contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*; Recommend notification of affected stores via phone, fax or e-mail.

From the information provided by Fair Oaks Dairy, the products being recalled were distributed in the State of Indiana. The cheeses were sold at the Fair Oaks Dairy store in Northwest Indiana, to other stores directly, and through distributors primarily in Northern and Central Indiana and Northeast Illinois. One store in Sulphur Springs, Texas area also has received the product. Detail information is not available at this time. In addition, if any recalled products are found, please notify this office at 317-233-7360.

For Immediate Release

Stoga/847/884-0000

Contact:

Susan

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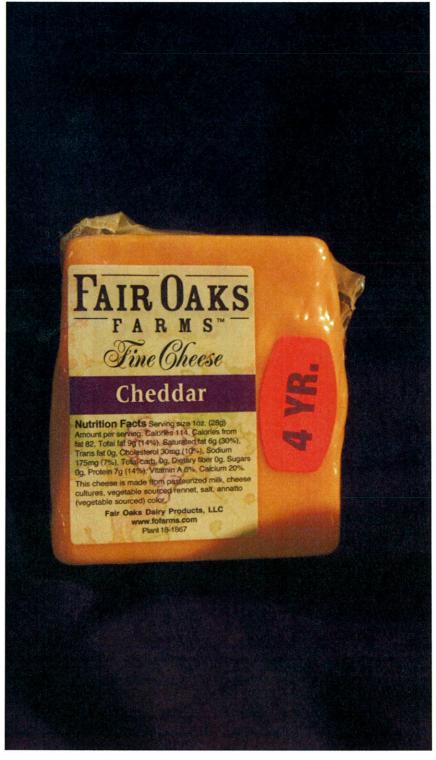
PRODUCT RECALL: FAIR OAKS DAIRY PRODUCTS ISSUES VOLUNTARY RECALL FOR FAIR OAKS FARMS FINE CHEESES HALF POUND PACKAGES BECAUSE OF POSSIBLE HEALTH RISK DUE TO *LISTERIA MONOCYTOGENES* CONTAMINATION

Fair Oaks, Ind., (December ___, 2011) – Fair Oaks Dairy Products, LLC, Fair Oaks, Indiana today issued a voluntary recall of certain one half pound retail packaged cheeses and cheese gift boxes produced under the Fair Oaks Farms Fine Cheese label and sold between September 30, 2011 and December 3, 2011. These cheeses have the potential to be contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*, an organism that can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune

systems. Listeriosis symptoms may include fever and muscle aches, sometimes preceded by diarrhea and other gastrointestinal distress, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. 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 women who are pregnant.

sold at the Dairy store in Indiana, to directly, and distributors Northern and Indiana and Illinois. One Sulphur Texas area received the The packages of wrapped in with the label Farms Fine the name of the front panel package. are as follows: Butterkase. Gouda, Gouda, Pepper Habanero Havarti, Havarti, Sweet Swiss.

The



cheeses were Fair Oaks Northwest other stores through primarily in Central Northeast store in Springs, also has product. 1/2 lb. cheese are clear plastic "Fair Oaks Cheese" and the variety on of the The varieties Asiago, Gouda, Aged Smoked Havarti. Havarti, Havarti, Onion Veggie Havarti Dill. Smoked

Sweet Swiss, Emmentaler, Calico, Mozzarella, Farmers, Cheese Curds, Muenster, Provolone, Lacy Swiss, Cheddar, Cheddar Mild, 1 yr. Cheddar, 2 yr. Cheddar, 3 yr. Cheddar, 4 yr. Cheddar, and 5 yr. Cheddar. Each variety is identified on the label. There are no identifying dates or UPCs on the packages. The recall includes gift boxes that contain any of these cheeses.

Laboratory analysis confirmed that a four year aged Cheddar cheese marketed in one half pound packages contained *Listeria monocytogenes*. Fair Oaks has voluntarily recalled one half pound retail packaged cheeses and cheese gift boxes produced in its plant during the period of September 30 through November 17, 2011. Fair Oaks has contacted the FDA and issued the recall to consumers in Illinois and Indiana. No illnesses have been reported to date. All remaining inventory has been quarantined and will be destroyed under FDA supervision.

Consumers who have purchased any of these products on the dates in question should return the product to the stores where they were purchased to receive a refund. Recall notices have already been sent to retail outlets that received this product.

If you are ill, or experience any symptoms of listeriosis, an infection usually caused by eating food with listeria, you should contact your physician. According to the Indiana Department of Health, the incubation period for listeriosis is variable and ranges from 3 to 70 days, with the median incubation period being three weeks. This is particularly important if you are pregnant, diabetic, are under the age of ten years or older than 55 years or have a compromised immune system.

Consumers with questions may contact Customer Service at 847-884-000 or at 630-673-5200 if calling after 11 p.m EST. The lines will be answered twenty four hours per day, seven days a week.

Founded in 2004, Fair Oaks Dairy Products is a producer of dairy products, including milk, ice cream, cheese and butter based in Northwest Indiana.