




Michael R. Pence
Governor

William C. VanNess II, MD
State Health Commissioner

DATE: September 13, 2013

TO: All Local Health Departments
Attn: Chief Food Inspection Officer

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

SUBJECT: National Beef Packing Company Recall [Food]

AFFECTED PRODUCT: 30-lb. boxes of National Beef, Beef Tongue Root Filet; product code: 12753; establishment #: EST. 262 in the USDA mark of inspection; and pack date: 081913A

SUMMARY: Class I Recall; National Beef Packing Company, a Dodge City, Kan., establishment, is recalling approximately 690 pounds of beef tongue root filet 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. FSIS routinely conducts recall effectiveness checks to verify recalling firms notify their customers (including restaurants) of the recall and to ensure that steps are taken to make certain that the product is no longer available to consumers.

SUGGESTED ACTION: Recommend notification of affected parties via phone, fax, or e-mail. When available, the retail distribution list(s) will be posted on the FSIS website at: <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/recalls>. Consumers with questions should contact the company at 1-877-857-4143, or visit National Beef's website at www.nationalbeef.com for details about the recall and the company's return and reimbursement policy. Furthermore, if any recalled products are found, notify this office at 317-233-3213.

News Release

Kansas Firm Recalls Beef Products Due to Possible E. Coli O157:H7 Contamination

Class I Recall 051-2013
Health Risk: High Sep 12, 2013
[En Español](#)

Congressional and Public Affairs
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essential public health services.

WASHINGTON, Sep. 12, 2013 – National Beef Packing Company, a Dodge City, Kan., establishment, is recalling approximately 690 pounds of beef tongue root filet 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.

The following products are subject to recall:

- 30-lb. boxes of "National Beef" Beef Tongue Root Filet, Product Code "12753." These products bear the establishment number "EST. 262" inside the USDA mark of inspection and include a pack date of "081913A."

The products were produced on August 19, 2013, and were shipped to a distributor in Amarillo, Texas, for further processing.

The problem was discovered through routine FSIS monitoring which confirmed a positive result for *E. coli* O157:H7. An investigation determined National Beef Packing Company was the sole supplier of the source materials used to produce the positive product.

FSIS and the company have received no reports of illnesses associated with consumption of these products. Individuals concerned about an illness should contact a healthcare provider.

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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.

FSIS advises all consumers to safely prepare their raw meat products, including fresh and frozen, and only consume ground beef that has been cooked to a temperature of 160° F. The only way to confirm that ground beef is cooked to a temperature high enough to kill harmful bacteria is to use a food thermometer that measures internal temperature.

Consumers with questions should contact the company at 1-877-857-4143, or visit National Beef's website at www.nationalbeef.com for details about the recall and the company's return and reimbursement policy. Media with questions regarding the recall should contact National Beef's Spokesperson, Keith Welty, at (816) 713-8631.

Consumers with food safety questions can "Ask Karen," the FSIS virtual representative available 24 hours a day at AskKaren.gov or via smartphone at m.askkaren.gov. "Ask Karen" live chat services are available Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. ET. 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.

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