



DATE: March 2, 2010

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

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

SUBJECT: Heartland Foods, Inc Recall

SUGGESTED

ACTION: Unclassified Recall; Coarse Ground Black Pepper because it has the potential to be contaminated with *Salmonella*; Recommend notification of affected stores via phone, fax or e-mail.

From the information provided by FDA, the products being recalled were distributed in the State of Indiana. Customers who have purchased Coarse Ground Black Pepper during the specified dates above, are urged not to use the product and return the product to a Heartland Foods, Inc. representative for a full refund. Customers are also urged to recall any product they further distributed. Detail information is not available at this time. In addition, if any recalled product is found, please notify this office at 317-233-7360.

Recall -- Firm Press Release

FDA posts press releases and other notices of recalls and market withdrawals from the firms involved as a service to consumers, the media, and other interested parties. FDA does not endorse either the product or the company.

Heartland Foods, Inc. voluntarily recalls Coarse Ground Black Pepper because of possible Salmonella Contamination

Contact:

Heartland Foods, Inc. Recall Department
(800) 762-6909

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - March 1, 2010 – Indianapolis, IN – Heartland Foods, Inc. of Indianapolis is voluntarily recalling all sizes/containers of COARSE GROUND BLACK PEPPER shipped from their facility at 6815 E. 34th Street, Indianapolis IN. Potential distribution took place on or after October 19th, 2009 to February 17th, 2010. These products have the potential to be contaminated with *Salmonella*, an organism which can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, the elderly, and other with weakened immune systems. Healthy persons infected with *Salmonella* often experience fever, diarrhea, 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 product involved includes the following sizes: 1 lb Quart (jar), 4 lb Gallon, 8 lb Bucket (new pail). Each container is identified with an individual label showing the Heartland Foods company logo, the description: Coarse Ground Black Pepper, and the specific Net Weight of the container (i.e., 1 lb, 4 lb, 8 lb). Product distribution of Coarse Ground Black Pepper has been suspended while the FDA continues its investigation.

Heartland Foods, Inc. takes the safety of our customers and the integrity of our products very seriously. Customers who have purchased Coarse Ground Black Pepper during the specified dates above, are urged not to use the product and return the product to a Heartland Foods, Inc. representative for a full refund. Customers are also urged to recall any product they further distributed.

Customers with questions may contact Heartland Foods, Inc. Recall Department Monday through Friday 5am to 5pm EST at (800) 762-6909.

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Photo: Product Labels¹