

Maranatha Brand Voluntarily Recalls Certain Lots of Sunflower Seed Butter Because of Possible Health Risk

For Immediate Release

June 4, 2016

Contact

Consumers

MaraNatha
1-800-958-3772

Announcement

[View Product Photos](#)

Lake Success, NY: MaraNatha®, under advice from its co-manufacturer of sunflower seed butter, is voluntarily recalling a limited number of retail lots of MaraNatha® All Natural Sunflower Seed Butter because they have the potential to be contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*. Product information is as follows:

MaraNatha® All Natural Sunflower Seed Butter 12 oz.	0 51651-09367 5	28JUL16 thru 05DEC16

Listeria monocytogenes is an organism which can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems. 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 pregnant women.

The potential for contamination was noted after notification was received from SunOpta, the sunflower seed supplier, pertaining to positive *Listeria monocytogenes* results. No reports of illness from *Listeria* have been reported to the company.

Products were distributed across the United States and Mexico. The products also were available for purchase on the internet. Distribution dates for this product ranged from September 25, 2015 thru April 18, 2016.

The use-by date can be found on the top of the jar lid. The company is currently working with customers and retailers to remove and destroy products with the above use-by dates from store shelves and warehouses. No other MaraNatha® products are impacted by this recall.

The recall is being made with the knowledge of the FDA.

Consumers do not need to return the product to the store where it was purchased. Instead, consumers are urged to dispose of the recalled product and its container. Please contact MaraNatha at 1-800-958-3772 between the hours of 9:00 AM and 7:00 PM EST for a refund, and with general inquiries.

*** We believe that none of the products being recalled were processed or offered through the national office.**

* We strongly encourage you to notify your agencies within one business day from receipt of this notice.

* ALL cased and uncased inventories, both at the member level and agency level, need to be checked. This product may have entered member and agency warehouses through salvage, local donations, TEFAP, local purchases, retail pickups, food drives, or other avenues.

* For additional local details, please contact the Health Department(s) for the area(s) your food bank serves.

For full details on the recall, please

visit: http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm505091.htm?source=govdelivery&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

If you have questions, please contact Wayne Melichar, Food Safety Manager, at wmelichar@feedingamerica.org or 312.629.7263.