

Mars Chocolate North America Issues Allergy Alert for Select Varieties of Combos For Potential Undeclared Peanut Residue

For Immediate Release

June 14, 2016

Contact

Consumers

1-800-556-7881

Media

1-973-691-3536

Announcement

[View Product Photos](#)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - Today, Mars Chocolate North America announced a voluntary recall of certain varieties and limited dates of production of COMBOS® Cheddar Cheese Pretzel, COMBOS® Cheddar Cheese Cracker, COMBOS® Pizzeria Pretzel, COMBOS® Sweet and Salt Caramel Pretzel, COMBOS® Pepperoni Cracker, COMBOS® Buffalo Pretzel. While those who have an allergy or severe sensitivity to peanuts run the risk of serious or life-threatening allergic reaction if they consume products containing peanut allergens, the amount of peanut exposure from use of the flours and affected products is considered to be low and not expected to cause adverse health effects in the vast majority of peanut allergic consumers.

Mars initiated the recall after its supplier, Grain Craft, recalled certain lots of wheat flour that has the potential to contain low levels of peanut residue. The COMBOS® Brand products subject to the recall may have been produced using the recalled flour. Mars Chocolate is recalling the specific lot numbers referenced below. The FDA advises consumers with severe peanut allergies to avoid the recalled products listed on this page because of peanut residue in the flour used to make the products. The FDA have stated that the amount of peanut exposure from use of the flours and affected products is low and not expected to cause adverse health effects in the vast majority of peanut allergic consumers. To date, Mars Chocolate has received no reports of illness related to the products covered by this recall. No other Mars products are impacted by this recall.

The vast majority of these products were distributed throughout the United States, with the remainder being shipped internationally to the following countries: Bahamas, Jamaica, Virgin Islands-St Thomas, Antigua, Colombia, Panama, Puerto Rico, Philippines, South Korea, Taiwan and Singapore. The affected COMBOS® products have a “best before” date ranging from March, 2017 - April, 2017 on the back of the package. Directly underneath the “best before” date is a 10-digit manufacturing code that includes the code date numbers in the table below:

10099128	COMBOS CHEDDAR CHEESE PRETZEL - FAMILY PEG PACK - 6.3 OZ - 12/CA	41419420058	613EAALB01 613EBALB01 613ECALB01 613FAALB01	3/2017
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10099130	COMBOS PIZZERIA PRETZEL - MEDIUM BAG - 6.3 OZ - 12/CA	41419420065	613FBALB01 613FCALB01 613GAALB01 613GBALB01 614DCALB01 614EAALB01 614EBALB01 614ECALB01	4/2017
10099132	COMBOS CHEDDAR CHEESE CRACKER - FAMILY PEG PACK - 6.3 OZ - 12/CA	41419420072	614AAALB01 614ABALB01 614ACALB01 614BAALB01	4/2017
10099135	COMBOS PEPPERONI CRACKER - FAMILY PEG PACK - 6.3 OZ - 12/CA	41419420089	614BAALB01 614BBALB01 614BCALB01 614CAALB01	4/2017
10099141	COMBOS BUFFALO BLUE CHEESE PRETZEL - FAMILY PEG PACK - 6.3 OZ - 12/CA	41419420119	614CAALB01 614CBALB01 614CCALB01 614DAALB01 614DBALB01	4/2017
10109566	COMBOS SNACKS PIZZERIA PRETZEL - 15 OZ - 8/CA	41419780473	613FBALB01 613FCALB01	4/2017
10109569	COMBOS SNACKS CHEDDAR CHEESE PRETZEL - 15 OZ - 8/CA	41419780480	613EAALB01 613EBALB01 614FAALB01 614FBALB01	3/2017

10109577	COMBOS SNACKS CHEDDAR CHEESE CRACKER - 15 OZ - 8/CA	41419780497	614AAALB01 614ABALB01 614ACALB01	4/2017
10117851	COMBOS SWEET AND SALTY CARAMEL CREME PRETZEL - FAMILY PEG PACK - 6.0 OZ - 12/CA	41419780879	613GBALB01 613GCALB01	4/2017
S1317100	COMBOS SNACKS CHEDDAR CHEESE PRETZEL - WAREHOUSE CLUB SINGLES DISPLAY CASE - 1.80 OZ - 18 CT - 12/CA	41419714713	613EAALB01 613EBALB01 613ECALB01	3/1/2017
S1317500	COMBOS SNACKS PIZZERIA PRETZEL - WAREHOUSE CLUB SINGLES DISPLAY CASE - 1.80 OZ - 18 CT - 12/CA	41419714751	613FBALB01 613FCALB01 613GAALB01 614DCALB01	4/1/2017
S4743000	"COMBOS" SNACK BUFFALO BLUE CHEESE PRETZEL - SINGLES - 1.80 OZ - 18 CT - 12/CA	41419474303	614CAALB01 614CBALB01 614CCALB01 614DAALB01	4/1/2017
S7147100	COMBOS SNACKS CHEDDAR CHEESE PRETZEL - SINGLES - 1.80 OZ - 18 CT - 12/CA	41419714713	613ECALB01 613FAALB01 613FBALB01 614FAALB01 614FBALB01 614FCALB01	4/1/2017
S7147300	COMBOS PEPPERONI PIZZA CRACKER - SINGLES - 1.70 OZ - 18 CT - 12/CA	41419714737	614BAALB01 614BBALB01 614BCALB01	4/1/2017

S7147400	COMBOS SNACKS CHEDDAR CHEESE CRACKER - SINGLES - 1.70 OZ - 18 CT - 12/CA	41419714744	614AAALB01 614ABALB01 614ACALB01 614BAALB01	4/1/2017
S7147500	COMBOS PIZZERIA PRETZEL - SINGLES - 1.80 OZ - 18 CT - 12/CA	41419714751	613GAALB01 613GBALB01 614DCALB01 614EAALB01 614EBALB01 614ECALB01	4/1/2017

Mars Chocolate will work with impacted retailers to ensure that the recalled product is no longer available for sale. In the event that consumers believe they have purchased this item and have allergy concerns, they should return this product to the store where they purchased it for a full refund. Consumers with questions or concerns may call our toll-free number: 1-800-556-7881. This number will be operational Monday through Friday, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm (EST).

More information about the flour recall can be found on the FDA's website

at: <http://www.fda.gov/Food/RecallsOutbreaksEmergencies/SafetyAlertsAdvisories/ucm504002.htm>.

*** 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/ucm506828.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.