

Ruth's Salad Charlotte NC Expands Recall of Ruth's Salads Pimento Spreads due to Possible Health Risk. May Contain Listeria Monocytogenes

For Immediate Release

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Contact

Consumers

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Announcement

View Product Photos

Ruth's Salads Charlotte, NC is expanding the recall of Ruth's Salads Pimento Cheese Spreads packed in Chester, SC. The products involved include: Ruth's Original Pimento Spread 7oz; Ruth's Original Pimento Spread 12 oz.; Ruth's Original Pimento Spread 24 oz.; Ruth's Old Fashion Pimento Spread 16 oz.; Ruth's Jalapeno Pimento Spread 12 oz.; Ruth's Lite Pimento Spread 12 oz.; and Ruth's Cream Cheese with Pineapple-Pecans 12 oz. All lot numbers are included in this recall. The products are packed in plastic containers and labeled as "Packed by B&H Foods, Inc., Chester, SC". The products have the potential to be contaminated with *Listeria Monocytogenes*.

Listeria monocytogenes is an organism that 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 infections can cause miscarriages and stillbirths among pregnant women.

Consumers who have purchased these products are urged to return the products to the place of purchase for a full refund. All lots and Sell by Dates for products labeled as "Packed by B&H Foods, Inc., Chester, SC" are being recalled. Products labeled as packed in Charlotte, NC are not included in this recall.

Ruth's Salads is recalling the following items labeled as "Packed by B&H Foods, Inc., Chester, SC":

<u>Product</u>	<u>UPC</u>	<u>Size</u>
<u>Ruth's Original Pimento Spread</u>	<u>74952-00005</u>	<u>7 oz.</u>
<u>Ruth's Original Pimento Spread</u>	<u>74952-12023</u>	<u>12 oz.</u>
<u>Ruth's Original Pimento Spread</u>	<u>74952-24023</u>	<u>24 oz.</u>
<u>Ruth's Old Fashion Pimento Spread</u>	<u>74952-15005</u>	<u>16 oz.</u>
<u>Ruth's Jalapeno Pimento Spread</u>	<u>74952-12014</u>	<u>12 oz.</u>
<u>Ruth's Lite Pimento Spread</u>	<u>74952-12000</u>	<u>12 oz.</u>
<u>Ruth's Cream Cheese w/Pineapple-Pecans</u>	<u>74952-12008</u>	<u>12 oz.</u>

No illnesses have been reported to date in connection with this problem.

The recalled products were distributed in grocery stores in NC, SC, GA, TN, AL, KY, and parts of Virginia and Tennessee.

The contamination was discovered during random testing by the NC Department of Agriculture. Consumers with questions may contact the company at 800-532-0409 between the hours of 7AM and 3 PM Monday-Friday. After hours, consumers may leave a message and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

*** 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.

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For full details on the recall, please visit:

http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm540897.htm?source=govdelivery&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

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