

The Republic of Tea Issues Voluntary Recall of Organic Turmeric Ginger Green Tea For Immediate Release

April 29, 2016

Contact

Consumers

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Announcement

The Republic of Tea is dedicated to the health and wellness of each and every citizen (customer). As such, we are issuing a voluntary recall of our **Organic Turmeric Ginger Green Tea** in response to a possible health risk. **There have been no illnesses reported in connection with this voluntary recall.** No other teas are impacted by this recall.

The Republic of Tea was notified by one of our suppliers, of the *possibility* that one lot of its organic ginger ingredient *may* be contaminated with *Salmonella* bacteria. *Salmonella* is an organism, which can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems. Healthy persons infected with *Salmonella* often experience fever, diarrhea, nausea, vomiting and abdominal pain.

The organic ginger supplier reported this finding from another customer. The Republic of Tea and the organic ginger supplier have conducted their own investigations and have tested numerous samples of organic ginger by accredited independent third party laboratories and confirmed the absence of *Salmonella*.

Despite the fact it was confirmed that there is no *Salmonella* in the organic ginger that was tested, The Republic of Tea is taking the precautionary measure to recall the following Organic Turmeric Ginger Green Tea:

- Organic Turmeric Ginger Green Tea – 50 CT Tin
 - UPC: 7-42676-40355-5 – Best Sipped by March 23, 2018
- Organic Turmeric Ginger – 250 CT Bulk Bag
 - UPC: 7-42676-30655-9 – Best Sipped by March 23, 2018
- Organic Turmeric Ginger – 250 CT Bulk Bag
 - UPC: 7-42676-30655-9 – Best Sipped by April 13, 2018
- Organic Turmeric Ginger – 50 CT Refill Bag
 - UPC: 7-42676-42155-9 – Best Sipped by March 23, 2018

Citizens may return Organic Turmeric Ginger Green Tea to The Republic of Tea for a replacement tea, or for a full refund.

"There is absolutely no evidence that our tea has been contaminated. We are taking this preventive, cautious measure because we want our citizens to feel comfortable when drinking our premium quality teas and herbs," said Todd B. Rubin, Minister of Evolution at The Republic of Tea. "The health and safety of our citizens is our number one priority and we will not take potential health risks lightly. This voluntary recall is the first in our nearly quarter-century history."

For questions and concerns teasafety@republicoftea.com or call 1-800-298-4832, Monday-Friday between the hours of 8:00am-5:00pm CST.

About The Republic of Tea:

The Republic of Tea enriches people's lives through its premium teas, education and innovation, as it emphasizes a "Sip by Sip Rather Than Gulp by Gulp" lifestyle. Founded in 1992, The Republic of Tea sparked a specialty tea revolution. Today the brand offers an unequalled selection of the highest-quality teas, herbal blends, books and nature-inspired sip ware, available exclusively at specialty retailers throughout the U.S. Further, The Republic of Tea is mindful of how its actions impact the greater community and actively supports worthy organizations like Action Against Hunger, The Ethical Tea Partnership, The Prostate Cancer Foundation, Xerces Society and The Whole Planet Foundation. Certifications include Demeter USA Certified Biodynamic, Fair Trade certification, Gluten-Free certification, Non-GMO Project verification, OU Kosher certification, Rainforest Alliance certification and USDA Organic certification. For more information, please visit www.REPUBLICofTEA.com or call 1-800-298-4832. Follow The Republic of Tea on Twitter at twitter.com/republicoftea and Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/RepublicofTea.

*** 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/ucm498459.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.