

Plainview Milk Products Cooperative
130 2nd Street SW
Plainview MN 55984

June 23, 2009

PRODUCT RECALL DUE TO POTENTIAL HEALTH RISK

Plainview Milk Products Cooperative, Plainview MN announces a voluntary recall of all agglomerated ("instant") products including Instant Non-Fat Dry Milk, Instant Whey Protein, Instant Fruit Stabilizers and Gums, because they have the potential to be contaminated with Salmonella, 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 (which may be bloody), 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.

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

The potential for contamination was noted after a routine sampling by a company we had supplied with instant nonfat dry milk powder indicated the presence of the bacteria in their finished blended product. In cooperation with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA), further testing and environmental sampling at Plainview Milk Products Cooperative revealed that, although all product sampling conducted by the MDA, the FDA and Plainview Milk Products have produced negative results, the bacteria was present in the manufacturing facility. Plainview Milk Products Cooperative has ceased the production and distribution of agglomerated product as the FDA and Plainview Milk continue their investigation as to the source of the problem.

These products were originally packaged and shipped in 25 and 50 lbs Kraft bags, 25 lb boxes, and 1500 lb totes. Included in the recall are lot numbers 255 through 465 and/or production dates from June 4, 2007 through December 31, 2007; lot numbers 101 through 465 and/or production dates from January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008; and lot numbers 101 through 255 and/or production dates January 1, 2009 through June 4, 2009.

Because of the seriousness of this situation, this recall extends to the user level. This means that ALL levels of distribution down to the end user need to be notified. We recommend including a copy of this recall letter to all downstream consignees who may have received these recalled products.

If you or your customers have repacked any of the recalled products, the FDA then considers the repacked products to be a "NEW" product for which the re-packer will be responsible to recall. Anyone who has repacked our products should contact their local FDA district office to discuss the need to initiate a recall of the repacked product.

If you or your customers have used our products as an ingredient of another food (including pet food), FDA considers this a "NEW" products for which the manufacturer will be responsible to recall. Anyone who has used our products as an ingredient should contact their local FDA district office to discuss the need to recall. If you believe the processing of your product eliminated the Salmonella risk, be prepared to provide the district office with the necessary scientific data to assess the adequacy of the processing.

FDA (and possibly state/local officials) will be auditing consignees at all levels of distribution to assure that our recall is effective and that downstream customers are taking appropriate action to remove affected products from the market.

Customers who have purchased agglomerated ("instant") products from Plainview Milk Products Cooperative or our agglomerated products from another source are urged to place a production hold on all agglomerated ("instant") products you have in inventory and contact Plainview Milk Products Cooperative, 1-800-356-5606 ext 114 immediately to coordinate recall procedures.

Thank you for your cooperation in resolving this problem. Your patronage and support, as always, are very much appreciated.

Plainview Milk Products Cooperative