



Mono County Health and Human Services

State Health Officer Advises Consumers Not to Eat Richwood Meet Frozen Ground Beef Patties Due To Possible E. Coli Contamination

By: Autumn Brown, California Department of Health Services

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Sacramento – Consumers should not eat a variety of frozen ground beef patties produced by Merced-based Richwood Meat Co. Inc. because they may be contaminated with E. coli O157:H7, a harmful bacteria that causes illness, State Public Health Officer Dr. Mark Horton announced today. The company has agreed to recall approximately 100,000 pounds of products that were distributed in California, Arizona, Idaho, Oregon and Washington, and produced in late April early May 2006.

These products were distributed to institutional food services, food distributors, discount grocers and some retail stores, including Winco and Vons.

“Consumers should check their freezers for these products and destroy them or take them back to place of purchase to ensure they do not become ill,” State Public Health Officer Dr. Mark Horton said.

The California Department of Health Services (CDHS) analyzed one of the lots of ground beef patties that was produced a year ago on April 28, 2006, and found that it contained E. coli O157:H7. Frozen product may still be available at retail or stored in consumer’s freezers.

This testing was initiated as part of an investigation with the Napa County Public Health Department into a cluster of E. coli O157:H7 illnesses. Three individuals have been confirmed with E. coli O157:H7 illness and the county is investigating two possible cases. Confirmatory testing is ongoing to determine if the contamination in the ground beef is related to the illnesses.

E. coli O157:H7 infection often causes abdominal cramps and diarrhea, sometimes bloody diarrhea. There is usually little or no fever and the illness typically resolves itself in five to 10 days. Consumers with any of these symptoms should contact their physician. Infection with this organism can also cause hemolytic uremic syndrome and lead to kidney failure. Those most at risk for serious complications of this food-borne illness include young children, the elderly and those with compromised immune systems.

Consumers with questions may contact the company at 1-209-722-8171 ex. 35.

Products being recalled include:

Fireriver Classic Fresh Ground Beef Patties,
72/4 oz patties – Item # 9064676
Packed On: April 28, 2006
18-pound case

Fireriver Classic Beef/Sirloin & Beef Patties
20/8 oz patties – Item # 3091816
Packed On: April 28, 2006
10-pound case

Fireriver Pure Beef Patties
20/8 oz patties – Item # 1514595
Packed On: April 28, 2006
10-pound case

Fireriver Classic Fresh Ground Beef Patties
54/5.33 oz patties – Item # 9064536
Packed On: April 28, 2006
18-pound case

Fireriver Classic Fresh Ground Beef Patties
36/8 oz patties – Item # 9064890
Packed On: April 28, 2006
18-pound case

Fireriver Classic Ground Beef Patties
30/5.33 oz patties - Item # 1120229
Packed On: April 28, 2006
10-pound case

Fireriver Classic Ground Beef Patties
60/5.33 oz patties – Item # 1494426
Packed On: April 28, 2006
20-pound case

Fireriver Classic Beef Patties
30/5.33 oz patties - Item # 1120039
Packed On: April 28, 2006
10-pound case

Fireriver Classic Beef Patties
40/4 oz patties – Item # 3059227

Packed On: April 28, 2006
10-pound case

Fireriver Classic Ground Beef Patties
20/8 oz patties – Item # 1570985
Packed On: April 28, 2006
10-pound case

Ritz Food Service Pure Beef Patties
80/20 – Code 7720
Box Code: 118-6
10-pound case

Ritz Food Service Ground Beef Patties
80/20 – Code 7711
Box Code: 118-6
10-pound case

Chef's Pride Ground Beef Patties
80/20 – Code 7163
Box Code: 118-6
10-pound case

Chef's Pride Ground Beef Patties
80/20 – Code 7161
Box Code: 118-6
10-pound case

Chef's Pride Pure Beef Patties
80/20 – Code 7197
Box Code: 118-6
10-pound case

Blackwood Farms Ground Beef
20/8 oz patties – Code 7782
Box Code: 118-6
10-pound case

California Pacific Associates Ground Beef Patties
80/20 – 2 Round – Code 4115
Box Code: 118-6
10-pound case

C & C Distributing Ground Beef Patties

3/1 Round – Code: 7123

Box Code: 118-6

10-pound case

Golbon Ground Beef Patties

3 Round – Code: 7293

Box Code: 118-6

10-pound case

Richwood Meat Pure Beef Patties

8 – 3lb packs – Item: 4098

Pack Date: 118-6

24-pound case

Richwood 100% Beef Patties

12 – 5lb Pattie Packs - Item # 4170

Box Code: 118-6

60-pound case

Richwood Meat 100% Premium Beef Sirloin & Beef Patties

8 – 2.66 lb bags – Code: 4094

Date of Pack 118-6

21.28-pound case

Richwood Meat Company Fresh Ground Beef Patties

36/8 oz patties – Code: 4081

Pack Date: 4/28/06

18-pound case

Richwood Meat Company Fresh Pure Beef Patties

40/5.33 oz patties – Code: 4077

Pack Date: 4/28/06

13.33-pound case

Richwood Meat Company Fresh Ground Beef Patties

72/4 oz patties – Code: 4048

Pack Date: 4/28/06

18-pound case

Richwood Meat Company Fresh Pure Beef Patties

36/8 oz patties – Code: 4047

Pack Date: 4/28/06

18-pound case

Richwood Meat Company Fresh Ground Beef Patties
42/5.33 oz patties – Code: 4079
Pack Date: 4/28/06
14-pound case

Richwood Meat Company Fresh Ground Beef Patties
72/2.67 oz patties – Code: 4078
Pack Date: 4/28/06
12-pound case

Richwood Meat Company Fresh Ground Beef Patties
42/6 oz patties – Code: 4082
Pack Date: 4/28/06
15.7- pound case

Richwood Meat Company Beef Patties
40/4 oz patties – Code: 4506
Pack Date: 118-6
10-pound case

Richwood Meat Company Ground Beef Patties
80/20 – Code: 7173
Pack Date: 118-6
10-pound case

Richwood Meat Company Ground Beef Patties
80/20 – Code: 7171
Pack Date: 118-6
10-pound case

Ground Beef – Bulk

Fireriver Classic Ground Beef Bulk
80/20 – Item# 2011062
Box Code: 4/28/2006
20-pound case (4 – 5 lb packages/case)

Fireriver Classic Ground Beef Bulk
80/20 – Item # 1120245
Box Code: 4/28/2006
10-pound case (2 – 5 lb packages/case)

Fireriver Classic Ground Beef Bulk
80/20 – Item# 6378772

Box Code: 4/28/2006
20-pound case (4 – 5 lb packages/case)

Fireriver Classic Ground Beef Bulk
85/15 - Item # 7709090
Box Code: 4/28/2006
20-pound case (4 – 5 lb packages/case)

Fireriver Classic Beef Patty Bulk
Item #1002575
Box Code: 4/28/2006
20-pound case (2 – 10 lb packages/case)

Ritz Food Service Ground Beef
80/20 – Code 4731
Box Code: 118-6
10-pound case (2 – 5 lb packages/case)

Chef's Pride Brand Ground Beef
80/20 – Code 4169
Box Code: 118-6
10-pound case (2 – 5 lb packages/case)

Richwood Meat Company Ground Beef
73/27 – Code: 4240
Pack Date: 4/28/2006
20-pound case (2 – 10 lb packages/case)

Richwood Meat Company Pure Beef Bulk
Code: 4187
Box Code: 118-6
48-pound case (24 – 2 lb packages/case)

Richwood Meat Company Beef Patty Bulk
91/9 – Code 4686
Box Code: 118-6
20-pound case (2 - 10 lb packages/case)



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