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Cargill Meat Solutions recalls ground beef

Action due to possible E. coli O157:H7 contamination

WICHITA, Kan. Cargill Meat Solutions said it is voluntarily recalling approximately 1,084,384 pounds of ground beef produced at its Wyalusing, Pa., Cargill Regional Beef facility because of the possible presence of E. coli O157:H7. The ground beef products subject to recall were produced at the Wyalusing plant between Oct. 8 and 11, 2007, and were distributed to retailers nationwide.

Cargill learned of the possibility of contamination after the U.S. Department of Agriculture returned a confirmed positive on a sample of product produced Oct. 8, 2007.

"No illnesses have been associated with this product," said John Keating, president, Cargill Regional Beef. "We are working closely with the USDA to remove the product from the marketplace."

Products subject to recall are:

- 1.3-pound packages of "Century Farm 80/20 Ground Beef." Use by/freeze by 11/03/2007
- 3.0-pound packages of "Century Farm 80/20 Ground Beef." Use by/freeze by 11/03/2007
- 1- pound packages of "Century Farm 80/20 Ground Beef." Each package bears a Use by/freeze by date of 10/31/2007.
- 1.3-pound packages of "Century Farm 85/15 Ground Beef." Use by/freeze by 11/03/2007
- 3-pound packages of "Century Farm 90/10 Ground Beef." Each package bears a Use by/freeze by date of 10/31/2007.
- 1.3-pound packages of "Century Farm 90/10 Ground Beef Patties." Use by/freeze by 11/03/2007
- 1.3-pound packages of "Century Farm 90/10 Ground Beef." Use by/freeze by 11/03/2007
- 1.3-pound packages of "Century Farm 93/7 Ground Beef." Use by/freeze by 11/03/2007
- 1-pound packages of "Century Farm 96/4 Extra Lean Ground Beef." Use by/freeze by 10/19/2007 & 10/31/2007
- 1-pound packages of "Century Farm 85/15 Ground Beef Patties." Use by/freeze by 10/19/2007
- 1.3-pound packages of "Century Farm 93/7 Ground Beef Patties." Use by/freeze by 11/03/2007
- 1.3-pound packages of "Century Farm 80/20 Chuck Ground Beef Patties." Use by/freeze by 11/03/2007
- 1.3-pound packages of "Century Farm 80/20 Chuck Ground Beef for Chili." Use by/freeze by 10/31/2007 & 11/03/2007
- 1.3-pound packages of "Century Farm Meatloaf Mix, Beef, Pork and Veal with Natural Flavors." Use by/freeze by 10/19/2007, 10/22/2007, 10/31/2007 & 11/03/2007
- 1.25- pound packages of "Giant 75/25 Ground Beef, All Natural." Use by/freeze by 11/03/2007

- 3.0- pound packages of "Giant 75/25 Ground Beef, All Natural." Each package bears a Use by/freeze by date of 10/31/2007.
- 1.25-pound packages of "Giant 80/20 Ground Beef, All Natural." Use by/freeze by 11/03/2007
- 3.0-pound packages of "Giant 80/20 Ground Beef, All Natural." Each package bears a Use by/freeze by date of 10/31/2007.
- 1.3-pound packages of "Giant Eagle Ground Chuck Beef Patties 80/20." Use by/freeze by 10/19/2007 & 10/22/2007
- 1.3-pound packages of "Giant Eagle Ground Beef Patties 92/8." Use by/freeze by 10/22/2007
- 1.3-pound packages of "Giant Eagle Ground Beef Patties 85/15 – Certified Angus Beef Brand." Use by/freeze by 10/19/2007 & 10/22/2007
- 1.3-pound packages of "Giant Eagle Ground Round Beef Patties 85/15." Use by/freeze by 10/19/2007 & 10/22/2007
- 3.0-pound packages of "Shop Rite, 80% Lean 20% Fat, Ground Beef." Use by/freeze by 10/31/2007 & 11/03/2007
- 1.3 and 3.0-pound packages of "Shop Rite, 85% Lean 15% Fat, Ground Beef." Each package bears a Use by/freeze by date of 10/31/2007 or 11/03/2007.
- 1.3-pound packages of "Shop Rite, 93% Lean 7% Fat, Ground Beef Patties." Use by/freeze by 11/03/2007
- 1.3-pound packages of "Shop Rite, 93% Lean 7% Fat, Ground Beef." Use by/freeze by 11/03/2007
- 1-pound packages of "Shop Rite, 96% Lean 4% Fat, Ground Beef." Use by/freeze by 10/31/2007
- 1.25- pound packages of "Stop & Shop 75/25 Ground Beef, All Natural." Use by/freeze by 10/31/2007 & 11/03/2007
- 5.0- pound packages of "Stop & Shop 75/25 Ground Beef, All Natural." Use by/freeze by 11/03/2007
- 1.25-pound packages of "Stop & Shop 80/20 Ground Beef, All Natural." Use by/freeze by 10/31/2007 & 11/03/2007
- 1.25-pound packages of "Stop & Shop 85/15 Ground Beef, All Natural." Use by/freeze by 10/31/2007
- 1.2-pound packages of "Stop & Shop 87/13 Ground Beef Sirloin, All Natural." Use by/freeze by 10/31/2007
- 1.3 and 2.6 - pound packages of "Stop & Shop 90/10 Ground Beef, All Natural." Each package bears a Use by/freeze by date of 10/31/2007 & 11/03/2007.
- 2.5-pound packages of "Stop & Shop 85/15 Ground Beef Patties, All Natural." Each package bears a Use by/freeze by date of 11/03/2007.
- 1.3-pound packages of "Stop & Shop 80/20 Ground Beef Patties, All Natural." Use by/freeze by 11/03/2007
- 2.6-pound packages of "Stop & Shop 80/20 Ground Beef Patties, All Natural." Use by/freeze by 11/03/2007
- 1.3-pound packages of "Stop & Shop 90/10 Ground Beef Patties, All Natural." Use by/freeze by 10/31/2007 & 11/03/2007
- 2.5-pound packages of "Stop & Shop 90/10 Ground Beef, All Natural." Each package bears a Use by/freeze by date of 10/31/2007.
- 2.5-pound packages of "Stop & Shop 93/7 Ground Beef, All Natural." Use by/freeze by 10/31/2007
- 1-pound packages of "Wegmans 80/20 Ground Beef Patties." Use by/freeze by 10/19/2007
- 1.3-pound packages of "Wegmans 90/10 Ground Beef Patties." Use by/freeze by 10/19/2007 & 10/22/2007

- 3-pound packages of "Weis Premium Meats, 73/27 Ground Beef." Use by/freeze by 11/03/2007
- 1-pound packages of "Weis Premium Meats, 80/20 Ground Beef." Use by/freeze by 10/31/2007
- 3-pound packages of "Weis Premium Meats, 80/20 Ground Beef." Use by/freeze by 10/31/2007 & 11/03/2007
- 1-pound packages of "Weis Premium Meats 85/15 Ground Beef." Use by/freeze by 10/31/2007
- 2.0 and 3.0 -pound packages of "Weis Premium Meats 85/15 Ground Beef." Use by/freeze by 11/03/2007
- 2-pound packages of "Weis Premium Meats 93/7 Ground Beef." Use by/freeze by 11/03/2007
- 1-pound packages of "Weis Premium Meats 93/7 Ground Beef." Use by/freeze by 10/31/2007
- 1-pound packages of "Weis Premium Meats 96/4 Ground Beef Extra Lean." Use by/freeze by 10/31/2007
- 1.3-pound packages of "Weis Premium Meats 90/10 Ground Beef Sirloin Patties." Use by/freeze by 10/31/2007
- 1.3-pound packages of "Weis Premium Meats Meatloaf Mix, Beef, Pork and Veal with Natural Flavors." Use by/freeze by 10/31/2007
- 1.3-pound packages of "Weis Premium Meats 80/20 Ground Beef for Chili." Use by/freeze by 10/31/2007
- 1.3-pound packages of "Meat Loaf Mix, Made with Beef, Pork, Veal, with Natural Flavors." Use by/freeze by 10/19/2007 & 10/22/2007
- 1.25-pound packages of "Meatloaf Mix, A Blend of Fresh Ground Beef, Pork & Veal, All Natural." Use by/freeze by 10/31/2007
- Various weight packages of "85/15 Coarse Ground Beef for Chili Meat, All Natural." Use by/freeze by 10/31/2007
- 1.3-pound packages of "Ground Beef Chuck for Chili 80/20." Use by/freeze by 10/19/2007 & 10/22/2007
- 1.3-pound packages of "Price Rite 85% Lean, 15% Fat Ground Beef." Use by/freeze by 11/03/2007
- 1.3 and 3.0- pound packages of "Price Rite 80% Lean, 20% Fat Ground Beef." Each package bears a Use by/freeze by date of 10/31/2007 & 11/03/2007.
- 1.3 - pound packages of "Shop Rite Meat loaf mix Beef, Veal, & Pork with Natural Flavors." Each package bears a Use by/freeze by date of 10/31/2007 or 11/03/2007.

Each package or label bears the establishment number "Est. 9400" inside the USDA mark of inspection. As the use/freeze-by dates for products subject to this recall have expired, consumers are urged to look in their freezers for these products and return or discard them if found.

States impacted by the recall are: Connecticut, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Virginia.

In addition to the above listed products, there are various weights and varieties of ground beef, ground chuck, and ground sirloin product that were distributed for further processing and repackaging and will not bear the same establishment number on the package.

Consumers with questions about the recall should contact the company's food safety line at 1-877-455-1034. Media with questions should contact the company's media representative, Lori Fligge, at 952-742-2275.

E. coli O157:H7 is a potentially deadly bacterium that can cause bloody diarrhea and dehydration. The very young, seniors and persons with compromised immune systems are the most susceptible to foodborne illness. Food safety experts recommend cooking any ground beef to an internal temperature of 160 degrees F., or until the meat is no longer pink and the juices run clear. Also, avoid contaminating other foods with any E. coli bacteria that may be present in meat by:

Washing hands, utensils and cutting boards after they have been in contact with raw meat before they touch other food.

Putting cooked meat on a clean platter, rather than on the other one that was used to hold raw meat.

Consumers with food safety questions also can "Ask Karen," the FSIS virtual representative available 24 hours a day at ASKKaren.gov. The toll-free USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline 1-888-MPHotline (1-888-674-6854) is available in English and Spanish and can be reached from 10 a.m to 4 p.m. (Eastern Time) Monday through Friday. Recorded food safety messages are available 24 hours a day.

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NOTE: Access news releases and other information at FSIS' Web site at http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Fsis_Recalls/

Cargill is an international provider of food, agricultural and risk management products and services. With 158,000 employees in 66 countries, the company is committed to using its knowledge and experience to collaborate with customers to help them succeed. For more information, visit <http://www.cargill.com>.

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