



Ohio Department of Agriculture
and
Ohio Department of Health



Governor Ted Strickland
Lieutenant Governor Lee Fisher

ODA Director Robert J. Boggs
ODH Director Alvin D. Jackson, M.D.

To: Health Commissioners, Environmental Health Directors, Nursing Directors, ODA Food Safety Specialists, and Other Interested Parties

Subject: Recall Announcement (ODA/ODH) 2009-49

Date: July 13, 2009

Herring Produce Company Recalls Anaheim Peppers Because of Possible Health Risk

Herring Produce, Lake Park, Georgia is voluntarily recalling production lot number 0801206 of whole Anaheim Peppers out of an abundance of precaution because it has the potential to be contaminated with Salmonella. No illnesses have been reported in connection with the Herring Produce Anaheim Pepper products and the company is working with FDA to inform all retail consumers of this recall. FDA is not linking this isolated positive sample to any current or ongoing Salmonella outbreaks.

Salmonella is an organism which may cause serious and sometimes fatal infections particularly in young children, the elderly, and people with weakened immune systems. Healthy persons infected with Salmonella often experience fever, diarrhea, nausea, vomiting and/or abdominal pain. Long term complications can include arterial infections (i.e. infected aneurysms), endocarditis and severe arthritis. For more information, please visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's website at www.cdc.gov.

The whole Anaheim Peppers were shipped June 9-19, 2009 to retail outlets in New York state, **Ohio** and Massachusetts. The Anaheim Peppers being recalled were shipped in half-bushel boxes with production lot number 0801206 located on a red sticker on the box. Boxes are white, wax cardboard, Herring Produce boxes with a printed picture of yellow squash and green zucchini.

All Herring Produce customers have been notified of the potential contamination and affected produce has been recalled.

The recall comes after routine sampling by the New York State Department of Agriculture on behalf of the U.S. Department of Agriculture discovered a positive sample in the affected production lot. Herring Produce has ceased production and shipments from this production area. FDA is not linking this isolated positive sample to any current or ongoing Salmonella outbreaks.

Anaheim peppers are a raw agricultural product that needs to be washed before consumption. These peppers are typically cooked, but they can be eaten raw. Heating to a high enough temperature would kill Salmonella bacteria.

If customers have purchased Anaheim Peppers they are advised to contact their retailer to find out if the products they purchased were affected by the recall. Consumers who have questions about this recall may contact Gulf Stream Produce at 919-217-2870 or Herring Produce at 229-559-0101.