

Subject: ALFOODACT 017-2012 Gills Onions Voluntarily Recalls One Lot of Diced Red Onions Because of Possible Health Risk

Date Issued: May 22, 2012

1. REFERENCES:

- a. DLAR 4155.26/AR 40-660/NAVSUPINST 10110.8c/AFI 48-116/MCO 10110.38c, DOD Hazardous Food & Nonprescription Drug Recall System.
- b. Allied Communications Publication 121, US SUPP-1 (f).

2. BACKGROUND:

May 19, 2012-Gills Onions, LLC of Oxnard, CA is initiating a voluntary recall, 2,360 pounds, of diced red onions with lot code 51RDA1A2119 and use-by-dates May 14, 15 and 17, 2012 because it may be contaminated by *Listeria monocytogenes*. The product is beyond its use-by-date, no illnesses have been reported in connection with this recall, and no other Gills Onions product is affected by this recall.

Listeria monocytogenes is an organism that can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems. Healthy individuals may suffer only short-term symptoms such as high fever, severe headache, stiffness, nausea, abdominal pain and diarrhea. *Listeria* infection can cause miscarriages and stillbirths among pregnant women.

The recalled diced red onions were distributed directly from Gills Onions to retailers in Canada and retailers and foodservice distributors in California, Oregon, Washington, Arizona, Idaho, Texas, Illinois, Michigan, Arkansas, Ohio, Tennessee, New Jersey, Georgia, and Florida.

This voluntary recall was initiated as a result of a routine and random test directed by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency. Gills Onions has notified all customers who received the recalled lot directly from the company and requested that they remove from commerce any of the expired product they may still have in stock. As an extra precautionary measure and because we do not always know to whom our direct customers sell our products, we are also asking our direct customers to notify their customers of this recall. Gills Onions is keeping the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency informed of its recall process to assure that consumers are properly alerted.

3. PRODUCTION

DATES/IDENTIFYING CODES: Gills

Onions

Recalled product sold at retail was packaged in a 7oz. clear plastic clamshell, labeled Gills Onions with the May 17, 2012 use-by-date and the lot code **51RDA1A2119** stamped on the UPC label

UPC # 643550 00041 2 (However, since this number can also be on other products, please refer to the lot code in order to identify the recalled product.)

Product sold to foodservice customers was packaged in 5 lb clear plastic bags, identified

as Gills Onions Diced Red Onions, and stamped with an expiration date of May 14 or 15, 2012. The lot code **51RDA1A2119** is also stamped on both the bag and box.



4. MANUFACTURER/DISTRIBUTOR:

Gills Onions VC# 06-0532
1051 S Pacific Avenue
Oxnard, California 93030-7254
1-800-348-2255
www.gillsonions.com

5. DISTRIBUTION: Multiple States; (California, Oregon, Washington, Arizona, Idaho, Texas, Illinois, Michigan, Arkansas, Ohio, Tennessee, New Jersey, Georgia, and Florida)

6. REASON FOR ACTION: Due to the potential of being contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*

7. INSTRUCTIONS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR MESSAGE RECIPIENTS:

- a. Immediately inventory stocks to identify the above items and secure in a "Medical Hold" status to provide assurance of no further issue/sale/use. POSITIVE FINDINGS should be reported to Accountable Officers/Vendor Representatives of that facility. Accountable Officer/Agency representatives/Buyers/Contracting Officers should seek/refund/credit/replacement through the normal distribution channel with which the product was received (i.e. Distribution Centers, Prime Vendors, or Manufacturers).

- b. Ships at sea are authorized to destroy or dispose of recalled products at their discretion. Documentation for the number of pounds and cases, and any additional pertinent information must be signed by the Accountable Officer and is required for the purpose of recouping to the government the cost of the product involved. In order to get credit please use a SF 364 and forward to your supporting NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center (NAVSUP FLC) and copy furnished to NAVSUP 51. Your supporting NAVSUP FLC should forward to the account manager at DLA Troop Support. The form should include the number of the recall authorizing the survey action. Home-ported ships/galleys will utilize DD form 1149 to transfer w/ reimbursement to the PV. The PV will submit credit invoice to the account manager at DLA Troop Support.
- c. DLA Troop Support Subsistence Prime Vendors must report POSITIVE and NEGATIVE RESPONSES directly to the their DLA Troop Support Contracting Officer with a courtesy copy to the Consumer Safety Officer (dscpconssafofc@dla.mil).
- d. DeCA, AAFES, MWR, VA, MCCS, or other non-DLA Troop Support agencies SHOULD NOT respond to the DLA Troop Support Consumer Safety Officer. These agencies should report POSITIVE and NEGATIVE responses in accordance with their agency recall policies.
- e. When corresponding with DLA Troop Support concerning this message please include this message's subject in your subject line.

8. The Point of Contact for this ALFOODACT message is CW4 Tony Hemphill, Consumer Safety Officer at DLA-FTW. VOICE, DSN: 444-2922, Commercial (215) 737-2922, or by FAX, DSN: 444-7526, or Commercial, (215) 737-7526, email dscpconssafofc@dla.mil .

9. Individuals or groups that would like to receive recall messages electronically can forward their email address to dscpconssafofc@dla.mil , with "add to list" in the subject line. To be removed from the list place "remove from list" in the subject line.

10. Previous recalls and frequently asked questions are available at the following web site: <http://www.troopsupport.dla.mil/subs/fso/alfood/alfood.asp> . The navigation tool to the left allows you to also view DLA Troop Support Alerts and Archived Vendor Recalls.

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