

**Subject: ALFOODACT 005- Sprouter Northwest Expands Recall to All Varieties of Sprouts Products, Wheatgrass, and Pea Shoots with Any Best by Dates and All Sizes Because of Possible Health Risk**

**Date Issued: February 4, 2013**

**1. Reference:**

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:**

Sprouters Northwest of Kent, Washington is voluntarily recalling all varieties of sprouts products, wheatgrass and pea shoots due to the potential contamination with *Listeria monocytogenes*, an organism which can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems.

Although 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 problem was identified through surveillance finished products samples collected at retail locations and at the firm by the Washington State Department of Agriculture.

Sprouters Northwest is working with WSDA and the Food & Drug Administration on this recall.

Consumers should not consume the recalled sprouts product, wheatgrass, pea shoots and are advised to return them to the place of purchase for a full refund. Consumers with questions may contact the company at **1-253-872-0577** from 7AM to 2PM PST.

### **3. PRODUCTION DATES/IDENTIFYING CODES:**

All varieties of sprouts products including 3-Bean Munchie, Alfalfa, Bean, Broccoli, Brocco Sandwich sprouts, Clover, Deli, Spicy; Wheatgrass and/or Pea Shoots were distributed through 1/30/2013 in Washington, Oregon, Alaska, and British Columbia, Canada through retail stores and food service distribution chain.

The affected products are sold under the Sprouters Northwest and LifeForce brand names and are packaged in plastic clamshell containers, plastic cups, plastic trays in 3 oz., 4 oz., 5 oz., and in plastic 1 lb, 2lb, or 5lb. bags. The Best by Dates are including all and up to 2/17/2013.

### **4. MANUFACTURER/DISTRIBUTOR:**

Sprouters Northwest

1-253-872-0577

**5. DISTRIBUTION:** [Multiple States] Washington, Oregon, Alaska, and British Columbia, Canada

**6. REASON FOR ACTION:** Due to the potential to be 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](mailto: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](mailto:dscpconssafofc@dla.mil) .

**9. Individuals or groups that would like to receive recall messages electronically can forward their email address to** [dscpconssafofc@dla.mil](mailto: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.

CW4 Tony D. Hemphill

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