

**SUBJECT: ALFOODACT 018-2014 Vita Food Products Issues Voluntary Recall of ELF Herring Fillets in Wine Sauce Containing Undeclared Milk**

**Date Issued:** March 31, 2014

**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/UPDATE:**

Vita Food Products, Inc. of Chicago, Illinois is notifying the public that it is recalling 2,280 individual plastic jars of 12 ounce Elf Herring Fillets in Wine Sauce that actually contains herring fillets in sour cream and therefore contains undeclared milk.

People who have an allergy or severe sensitivity to milk run the risk of serious or life-threatening allergic reaction if they consume this product. There have been no illnesses reported to date in connection with this product.

The product was sent to retailers in Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin beginning on December 26, 2013.

The single lot of ELF Herring Fillets in Wine Sauce that is the subject of this public announcement and recall should have been labeled as another ELF-branded product, Herring Fillets in Real Sour Cream. As a result, the ingredients in the recalled Herring Fillets in Wine Sauce product are not accurately stated and it contains an undeclared milk allergen. Products from this lot can be identified by the best if used before date of **21 May 14** and lot number **03553**, which can be found on the backside of the jar at the bottom of the label. The front of the label says "Elf Herring Fillets in Wine Sauce." Mislabelled products that are subject to recall will be obvious to consumers because the recalled product's white sour cream sauce can be seen through the clear plastic jar. Properly labeled Elf Herring Fillets in Wine Sauce product has a clear sauce and is not subject to this recall.

Any consumer who purchased a product with the best if used before date and lot number above may request a refund by mailing the product label or a copy of the receipt to Vita Food Products, Inc., Attn: Customer Service, 2222 West Lake Street, Chicago, Illinois 60612. Consumers may also call the company at (800) 989-VITA Monday through Friday, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm (Central) with questions. If you are experiencing any unusual or severe symptoms such as those described above, go to an emergency room immediately or contact your physician for immediate advice.

This recall is being conducted with the knowledge of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.  
SOURCE Vita Food Products, Inc.

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

Elf Herring Fillets in Wine Sauce (plastic jars of 12 ounce)  
Products from this lot can be identified by the best if used before date of 21 May 14  
Lot Number 03553

**4. MANUFACTURER/DISTRIBUTOR:**

Vita Food Products, Inc., Attn: Customer Service  
2222 West Lake Street, Chicago, Illinois 60612.  
Consumers may also call the company at (800) 989-VITA

5. **DISTRIBUTION:** All

6. **REASON FOR ACTION:** Due to Misbranding and Undeclared Allergens (Milk)

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 (For instructions on how to "Properly Prepare a Standard Form" (SF) 364 please use this link [<http://www.landandmaritime.dla.mil/Offices/Packaging/PrepSF364.asp>]) 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@dlamail](mailto:dscpconssafofc@dlamail) )..

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@dlamail](mailto:dscpconssafofc@dlamail) .

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

Regards,  
Mr. Hemphill

CW4 Tony D. Hemphill  
Consumer Safety Officer

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