

Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr. Governor

Gregory N. Larkin, M.D., F.A.A.F.P. State Health Commissioner

DATE:

June 27, 2011

TO:

All Local Health Departments

Attn: Chief Food Inspection Officer

FROM:

A. Scott Gilliam, MBA, CP-FS

Director, Food Protection Program

**SUBJECT:** 

Specialities Agro Alimentation Recall

**SUGGESTED** 

**ACTION:** 

Class I Recall; 5,700 pounds of imported boneless Serrano ham products that may be contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*; Recommend notification of affected stores

via phone, fax or e-mail.

From the information provided by USDA, the products being recalled may have been distributed in the State of Indiana. The products were produced on various dates and were shipped to retailers nationwide. Detail information is not available at this time. In addition, if any recalled product is found, please notify this office at 317-233-7360.

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## New Jersey Firm Recalls Imported Ham Products Due To Potential *Listeria* Contamination

Recall Release FSIS-RC-045-2011 CLASS I RECALL HEALTH RISK: HIGH

Congressional and Public Affairs (202) 720-9113 Adam Tarr

**WASHINGTON, June 24, 2011-** Specialities Agro Alimentation, a Millington, N.J. establishment, is recalling approximately 5,700 pounds of imported boneless Serrano ham products that may be contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service announced today.

The following products are subject to recall: [View Label]

 Approximately 11 lb. cases of "Noel Jamón Serrano Boneless Spanish Dry-Cured Ham" and "Bloc Noel Serrano Ham," with production codes "11000481" or "11000119" on the shipping container and the label on the ham. In addition, each product package subject to this recall bears "Product of Spain" and the establishment number "Est. 26" (Spain) on the label. The products were produced on various dates and were shipped to retailers nationwide. Consumers who purchased this product at a retailer will not find the production code on their package, and should consult the retailer where their purchases were made should they have any questions.

FSIS and the company have received no reports of illness or adverse reactions due to consumption of these products. Anyone concerned about an illness should contact a physician.

FSIS routinely conducts recall effectiveness checks to verify recalling firms notify their customers of the recall and that steps are taken to make certain that the product is no longer available to consumers. When available, the retail distribution list(s) will be posted on the FSIS Web site at www.fsis.usda.gov/

FSIS\_Recalls/ Open\_Federal\_Cases/ index.asp.

The problem was discovered by FSIS microbiological testing of imported product resulting in a positive sample for *Listeria monocytogenes*. The production lots that tested positive were refused entry into the U.S. and are not available in commerce. FSIS notified Spanish authorities of the positive test results, who conducted their own assessment of the Spanish facility where this product was produced, and they discovered associated products entered the country separately. These are the products that were released into commerce and therefore subject to the recall.

Consumers and media with questions about the recall should contact the company's President, Mr. Ron Schinbeckler, at 800-899-6689.

Additional information regarding FSIS's import inspection and sampling procedures can be found at: http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Regulations\_&\_Policies/fsis\_import\_reinspection/index.asp.

Consumers with food safety questions 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 I0 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Eastern Time) Monday through Friday. Recorded food safety messages are available 24 hours a day.