



Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr.
Governor

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

DATE: August 17, 2010
TO: All Local Health Departments
Attn: Chief Food Inspection Officer
[Signature]
FROM: A. Scott Gilliam, MBA, CP-FS
Director, Food Protection Program
SUBJECT: Merrick Pet Care, Inc. Expanded Recall

SUGGESTED

ACTION: Unclassified Recall; 10 oz "Beef Filet Squares" for Dogs and "Texas Hold'ems" pet treats because they have the potential to be contaminated with *Salmonella*; Recommend notification of affected stores via phone, fax or e-mail.

From the information provided by FDA, the product being recalled was distributed in the State of Indiana. The "Beef Filet Squares" & "Texas Hold'ems" were shipped to distributors and retailers throughout the US. These individuals have been notified and have activated their recall procedures. Detail information is not available at this time. In addition, if any recalled product is found, please notify this office at 317-233-7360.

Recall -- Firm Press Release

FDA posts press releases and other notices of recalls and market withdrawals from the firms involved as a service to consumers, the media, and other interested parties. FDA does not endorse either the product or the company.

Merrick Pet Care Recalls Filet Squares & Texas Hold'ems 10oz Bag (Item # 60016 All Lots) Because of Possible Salmonella Health Risk

Customer Inquiries:

Tel: 800-664-7387

Other Inquiries:

James Witcher, Coo

Tel: 800-322-2806

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - August 16, 2010 - Merrick Pet Care, Inc. of Amarillo, Texas is recalling all lots of its 10 oz "Beef Filet Squares" for Dogs and "Texas Hold'ems" pet treats because they have the potential to be contaminated with *Salmonella*. *Salmonella* can affect animals and there is risk to humans from handling contaminated pet products. People handling the treats can become infected with *Salmonella*, especially if they have not thoroughly washed their hands after having contact with the chews or any surfaces exposed to these products. Consumers should dispose of these products in a safe manner by securing them in a covered trash receptacle.

Healthy people infected with *Salmonella* should monitor themselves for some or all of the following symptoms: nausea, vomiting, diarrhea or bloody diarrhea, abdominal cramping and fever. Rarely, *Salmonella* can result in more serious ailments, including arterial infections, endocarditis, arthritis, muscle pain, eye irritation, and urinary tract symptoms. Consumers exhibiting these signs after having contact with this product should contact their healthcare providers immediately.

Pets with *Salmonella* infections may be lethargic and have diarrhea or bloody diarrhea, fever, and vomiting. Some pets will have only decreased appetite, fever and abdominal pain. Infected but otherwise healthy pets can be carriers and infect other animals or humans. If your pet has consumed the recalled product and has these symptoms, please contact your veterinarian immediately.

The "Beef Filet Squares" & "Texas Hold'ems" were shipped to distributors and retailers throughout the US. These individuals have been notified and have activated their recall procedures.

No illnesses have been reported to date.

Consumers who have purchased 10 ounce packages of "Beef Filet Squares for Dogs" & "Texas Hold'ems" are urged to return the unused portion to the place of purchase for a full refund. Consumers with questions may contact the company at 1-800-664-7387 M-F 8:00 – 5:00 CDT.

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Photos: Product Labels⁹