



**Indiana State
Department of Health**
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Michael R. Pence
Governor

Jerome M. Adams, MD, MPH
State Health Commissioner

DATE: March 1, 2016

TO: All Local Health Departments
Attn: Chief Food Inspection Officer

FROM: *Laurie Kidwell*
Laurie Kidwell, RRT Supervisor
Food Protection Program

SUBJECT: Whole Foods Market - RECALL [Food]

**AFFECTED
PRODUCT:** Maytag Raw Milk Blue Cheese

SUMMARY: Unclassified Recall; The recall has been initiated due to possible contamination with Listeria monocytogenes.

The recalled cheese was sold cut and packaged in clear plastic wrap with scale labels in various weights reading "Maytag Blue Raw Milk," "Maytag Blue" or "Maytag Iowa Blue Cheese" and with PLU numbers beginning with 293308 and "sell-by" dates of 1/20/2016 and 3/21/16.

The product was sold from cheese cases in various Whole Foods Market stores nationwide.

**SUGGESTED
ACTION:** Recommend notification of affected parties via phone, fax, or e-mail. Consumers with questions may call 512-477-5566, extension 20060, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Central Daylight Time. Furthermore, if any recalled products are found, notify this office at 317-233-8475.

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.

Whole Foods Market Recalls Maytag Blue Cheese Because Of Possible Health Risk

For Immediate Release

February 29, 2016

Contact

Consumers
512-477-5566, ext. 20060



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www.statehealth.in.gov

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essential public health services.

Media

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Announcement

AUSTIN, Texas – Whole Foods Market in Austin, Texas is voluntarily recalling Maytag Raw Milk Blue Cheese nationally due to possible contamination with *Listeria monocytogenes*.

Listeria monocytogenes is 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 monocytogenes* infection can cause miscarriages and stillbirths among pregnant women.

No illnesses have been reported in connection with this recall to date.

The recalled cheese was sold cut and packaged in clear plastic wrap with scale labels in various weights reading "Maytag Blue Raw Milk," "Maytag Blue" or "Maytag Iowa Blue Cheese" and with PLU numbers beginning with 293308 and "sell-by" dates of 1/20/2016 and 3/21/16. The product was sold from cheese cases in various Whole Foods Market stores nationwide. Out of an abundance of caution, Whole Foods Market is recalling the products from all of its stores nationwide.

The potential for contamination was discovered after testing by the State of Iowa revealed the presence of *Listeria monocytogenes* in two lots of product. Maytag Dairy Farms has voluntarily suspended production and distribution while the company collaborates with FDA and the State of Iowa to determine the cause of the problem.

Customers who have purchased this product should discard it, and may bring their receipt into the store for a full refund. Consumers with questions may call 512-477-5566, extension 20060, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Central Daylight Time.

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