



DATE: July 12, 2013
TO: All Local Health Departments
Attn: Chief Food Inspection Officer
FROM: 
A. Scott Gilliam, MBA, CP-FS
Director, Food Protection Program
SUBJECT: Western Mixers Produce & Nut Company Recall [Food]

SUGGESTED

ACTION: Unclassified Recall; ARO and/or Treasured Harvest Pistachios, because it has 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 recalled product was distributed in the neighboring State of Ohio. Pistachios were distributed in: California, Nevada, Ohio and Utah; through Retail Stores, Mail Order and various Distributors during the dates of: October 17, 2012 – April 29, 2013.

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.

Western Mixers Produce & Nuts, Inc. Recalls Pistachios Because of Possible Health Risk

Contact:
Consumer:
1-877-230-8449

Media:
David Bolstad
323-443-2554

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - July 10, 2013 - Western Mixers Produce & Nut Company of Los Angeles, California is recalling ARO and/or Treasured Harvest Pistachios, because it has the potential to be contaminated with *Salmonella*, an organism which can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems. Healthy persons infected with *Salmonella* often experience fever, diarrhea (which may be bloody), nausea, vomiting and abdominal pain. In rare circumstances, infection with *Salmonella* can result in the organism getting into the bloodstream and producing more severe illnesses such as arterial infections (i.e., infected aneurysms), endocarditis and arthritis.

Pistachios were distributed in: California, Nevada, Ohio and Utah; through Retail Stores, Mail Order and various Distributors during the dates of: October 17, 2012 – April 29, 2013.

The Pistachios can be identified as follows:

| Package Size | Package Label | Product Detail | Lot # On Pkg. |
|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6 oz. Clear Plastic Cup | Treasured Harvest | Roasted & Salted Pistachios | 123050, 123140, 123320, 123450, 123360, 130150, 130240, 130350 |
| 12 oz. Clear Bag | Treasured Harvest | Roasted & Salted Pistachios | #130290 |
| 28 oz. Clear Plastic Tray | Treasured Harvest | Roasted & Salted Pistachios | 123100, 122960, 123040 |

The recall is a voluntary recall of the Pistachio products processed by ARO Pistachio during the 2012 harvest year. The recall was initiated because the Recalled Product has the potential to be contaminated with *Salmonella*. Western Mixers is taking an extremely proactive approach to protecting the public by recalling the products produced at their facility during the timeframes subject of this recall to ensure public health and safety. While neither Western Mixers nor the FDA have found *Salmonella* in any of their finished products distributed in commerce, they are undertaking this action in full cooperation with the Food and Drug Administration and the California Department of Public Health. The company has ceased the production and distribution of the product as FDA, ARO and Western Mixers continue with their investigations.

Consumer who have purchased Treasured Harvest Pistachios with reference to the above Lot numbers, are urged to destroy the product and/or return it to the place of purchase for a full refund. Consumers with questions may contact Western Mixers Produce & Nuts, Inc. at: 1-877-230-8449, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 7:00 am (PST) and 2:00 pm (PST).

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[Photo: Product Labels³](#)