



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SECTION

EHS Circular Letter #2009-26

To: Local Directors of Health
Chief Sanitarians
Certified Food Inspectors

From: Tracey Weeks, MS, RS; Food Protection Program

Date: April 9, 2009

Subject: **Recall of Sprouts Produced by Amalgamated Produce Inc. (API) of
Bridgeport Connecticut**

The Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) announced that sprout products produced by Amalgamated Produce Inc. (API) of Bridgeport Connecticut are being recalled because a supermarket sample collected in New York tested positive for *Listeria monocytogenes*. The sprout products in question have been carried by Stop and Shop, Shoprite, and Price Chopper stores in Connecticut.

While there have not been any confirmed cases of illness in Connecticut associated with consuming the sprouts, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports 20 cases of listeriosis in 7 states that had a genetic pattern (PFGE) that matches the positive sprout sample originating from API.

The recalled sprout products have a sell by date code from 3/31/09 though 4/27/09. **Please refer to the attached DCP press release for specific product recall information. The DCP may be contacted at (860) 713-6160 for additional distribution information and assistance.**

You are urged to share the above information with the retail and food service establishments in your jurisdiction that are likely to use the recalled products and to prioritize follow-up with establishments that serve highly susceptible populations especially in day care, health care, elderly feeding programs, etc.

As a reminder of the public health significance of a ready-to-eat food being contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*, it has been reported that the mortality rate for infection is approximately 20%.

cc: Suzanne Blancaflor, MS, Chief, Environmental Health Section, DPH
Ellen Blaschinski, R.S., M.B.A., Chief, Regulatory Services Branch
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