



Ohio Department of Agriculture
and
Ohio Department of Health



Mike DeWine
Governor

Jon Husted
Lieutenant Governor

Dorothy Pelanda
ODA Director

Amy Acton, MD
ODH Director

DATE: July 22, 2019

TO: Health Commissioners, Directors of Environmental Health and Interested Parties

RE: Recall Announcement (ODA/ODH) 2019-116

Mountain Rose Herbs Recalls Fennel Seed Whole Because of Possible Health Risk

Mountain Rose Herbs (MRH) of Eugene, Oregon is recalling all sizes ranging from 4 oz. to 50 lbs. of its Fennel Seed Whole, Lot #25031, because they have 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.

The recalled Fennel Seed Whole was sold directly to customers who ordered from mountainroseherbs.com, purchased at the company's retail shop in Eugene, Oregon, or placed mail orders by phone or fax. The affected product was also distributed to vitamin and health food stores in AZ, CA, CO, FL, IL, MA, MI, MN, MT, NC, NE, NM, NY, OH, OR, PA, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WV and to one consignee in Canada. It is possible MRH customers also resold the Fennel Seed Whole to their own clientele.

The product comes in a clear plastic or poly-woven bag marked with lot # 25031, which is located on the principal display panel on the lower left of the label. Product has been sold and distributed between April 2019 and up to July 18, 2019.

No illnesses have been reported to date.

The potential for contamination was noted after testing by the company revealed the presence of *Salmonella* in a portion of its active inventory. Production of the product has been suspended while MRH continues our investigation.

This recall is being made with the knowledge of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Consumers who have purchased MRH affected Fennel Seed Whole are urged not to consume and should return it to the place of purchase for a full refund. Consumers with questions may contact Mountain Rose Herbs at 1-800-879-3337