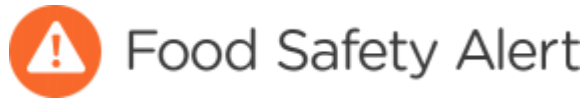


Salmonella Outbreak Linked to BrightFarms Packaged Salad Greens



Food Safety Alert

Posted July 28, 2021

Fast Facts

- Illnesses: 11
- Hospitalizations: 2
- Deaths: 0
- [States](#): 3
- Recall: Yes
- Investigation status: Active

Recalled Food



BrightFarms salad greens produced in Rochelle, IL

- Product names:
 - Baby Spinach (recalled on July 28, 2021)

- 50/50 Spring & Spinach
- Butter Crisp
- Harvest Crunch
- Lakeside Crunch
- Mighty Romaine
- Nutrigreens
- Spring Crunch
- Spring Mix
- Sunny Crunch
- Packaged in clear, plastic clamshell containers
- Labeled “fresh from Rochelle, IL”
- Baby Spinach “best by” dates through 7/26/2021. “Best by” dates for all other recalled salad greens through 7/29/2021
- BrightFarms reports products went to five states (Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, and Wisconsin)
- See the recall notice for more information

At least seven people ate or bought BrightFarms packaged salad greens before getting sick.

Investigators are working to determine if additional products with later “best by” dates may be affected.

What You Should Do

- **Do not eat any recalled salad greens.** Throw them away or return them to the store. Even if some of the salad greens were eaten and no one got sick, throw the rest away or return them.
- **Wash surfaces and containers** that may have touched the recalled salad greens using hot and soapy water.
- **Call your healthcare provider** if you have any of these severe *Salmonella* symptoms:
 - Diarrhea and a fever higher than 102°F
 - Diarrhea for more than 3 days that is not improving
 - Bloody diarrhea
 - So much vomiting that you cannot keep liquids down
 - Signs of dehydration, such as:
 - Not urinating (peeing) much

- Dry mouth and throat
- Feeling dizzy when standing up

What Businesses Should Do

- **Do not sell or serve any recalled salad greens.**
- **Wash and sanitize containers and surfaces** that may have come in contact with the recalled salad greens.

Symptoms of *Salmonella*

- Most people infected with *Salmonella* experience diarrhea, fever, and stomach cramps.
 - Symptoms usually start 6 hours to 6 days after swallowing the bacteria.
 - Most people recover without treatment after 4 to 7 days.
- Some people—especially children younger than 5 years, adults 65 years and older, and people with weakened immune systems—may experience more severe illnesses that require medical treatment or hospitalization.
- For more information about *Salmonella*, see the CDC's *Salmonella* Questions and Answers page.

Investigation Details

Posted July 21, 2021

Epidemiologic and traceback data show that BrightFarms brand packaged salad greens may be contaminated with *Salmonella* and may be making people sick.

Laboratory Data

FDA visited the farm and collected samples. Environmental samples were positive for a different strain of *Salmonella* called Liverpool. Investigators are using the PulseNet system to see if there are any people infected with this strain of *Salmonella* Liverpool.

Public Health Actions

On July 28, 2021, BrightFarms updated their recalled to include the BrightFarms Baby Spinach product because of the positive environmental samples.

CDC advises people not to eat, sell, or serve any recalled BrightFarms packaged salad greens.

Previous Updates

July 22, 2021

Epidemiologic and traceback data show that BrightFarms brand packaged salad greens may be contaminated with *Salmonella* and may be making people sick.

Since the last update on July 16, 2021, two more illnesses and one new state have been reported.

Epidemiologic and Traceback Data

As of July 22, 2021, 11 people infected with the outbreak strain of *Salmonella* Typhimurium have been reported from three states (Illinois (6), Michigan (1), Wisconsin (4). Illnesses started on dates ranging from June 10, 2021, to July 1, 2021.

Sick people range in age from 19 to 61 years, with a median age of 47, and 64% are female. Two people have been hospitalized. No deaths have been reported.

The true number of sick people in an outbreak is likely much higher than the number reported, and the outbreak may not be limited to the states with known illnesses. This is because many people recover without medical care and are not tested for *Salmonella*. In addition, recent illnesses may not yet be reported as it usually takes 3 to 4 weeks to determine if a sick person is part of an outbreak.

Officials from Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin interviewed people about the foods they ate in the week before they got sick and collected shopper card records to determine what products they bought.

All 11 people reported eating leafy greens, and nine (82%) people reported eating prepackaged salads. The percentage of people in this outbreak who ate prepackaged salads was significantly higher than the 38% of respondents from the FoodNet Population Survey who reported eating prepackaged salads in the prior week. This comparison suggests that people in this outbreak got sick from eating prepackaged salads.

Interview data and shopper card records show that seven people ate or bought a variety of BrightFarms packaged salad greens before they got sick, including Sunny Crunch, 50/50 Spring & Spinach, Harvest Crunch, and Butter Crisp. FDA conducted a traceback investigation and identified BrightFarms greenhouse farm in Rochelle, IL, as the likely source of packaged salad greens bought by sick people.

Laboratory Data

FDA visited the farm and collected samples. More information will be provided once available.

WGS analysis of bacteria from eight sick people's samples did not predict resistance to any antibiotics. Standard antibiotic susceptibility testing by CDC's National Antimicrobial Resistance Monitoring System (NARMS) laboratory is currently underway.

Public Health Actions

On July 21, 2021, BrightFarms updated their recall to add Michigan as an additional state where recalled products were distributed.

CDC advises people not to eat, sell, or serve any recalled BrightFarms packaged salad greens.

SOURCE: [Investigation Details | Salmonella Outbreak Linked to BrightFarms Packaged Salad Greens | CDC](#)