

<http://www.fda.gov/oc/opacom/hottopics/alfalfasprouts/growers.html>

On May 1, the FDA posted an Alert, link above, to industry specifying a single seed lot code that had been identified epidemiologically in connection with the recent illnesses in Nebraska, Michigan and neighboring states. The Alert recommended that all alfalfa sprouts grown from seed having this code be disposed of. Alfalfa sprouts grown from other seed lots were no longer implicated, and could be produced and sold as usual.

None of the sprouts that Jonathan's has sold you have been grown from any of the seeds in this lot code. Jonathan's is prepared to continue selling alfalfa that is not from any implicated seed lots.

We appreciate the actions that you have taken during this advisory period to insure the highest level of confidence in your customers, and by association, in our sprouts.

Liz Reilley

Jonathan *Sprouts*, Inc.

www.jonathansorganic.com

508-763-2577 Ext. 18 - office

617-406-9563 - Cell



April 26, 2009

Dear customer of Jonathan's Sprouts,

On Sunday, April 26, at 6:16PM, the FDA issued an advisory to the public to avoid eating raw, uncooked alfalfa sprouts, pending further notice.

This advisory includes alfalfa sprouts from all producers across the country, whether or not there has been any clear link between reported illnesses and particular growers or regions of the country. There is no epidemiological link with Jonathan's Sprouts. And, every batch of alfalfa sprouts that we send you has been tested for Salmonella in duplicate with negative results received before the product was shipped.

However, due to the advisory, Jonathan's has withheld all of our alfalfa sprout products (Alfalfa Sprouts, Alfalfa with Radish, Sprout Salad, Gourmet Sprouts and Alfalfa with Dill Sprouts) from our shipments to our customers as of Monday morning, April 27th.

We understand from the FDA that the reason for the breadth of this advisory is due to continuing reported cases of illnesses caused by a particular serotype of Salmonella St. Paul, in Michigan, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Utah, and West Virginia, some of which have the same fingerprint as cases in an earlier outbreak in February and March, in Nebraska, South Dakota, Iowa, Kansas, and Minnesota. The cases do not trace back to a single lot number of seed or to a single sprout company, but appear to have multiple origins in multiple states.

No Salmonella St. Paul has been found in any of the alfalfa seed or alfalfa sprouts tested in either outbreak to date, yet the epidemiological studies of cases and controls seem to implicate alfalfa sprouts.

Bob and Barbara Sanderson, on behalf of the International Sprout Growers Association, (ISGA) are meeting with officials at the FDA Monday, April 27 to work together with them to help identify which seeds and alfalfa sprouts are not connected with this contamination and to identify the source of the outbreak so that this advisory can be changed as quickly as possible. The ISGA will continue to work closely with the FDA to take effective action to prevent similar events from happening in the future.

Regards,
Barbara Sanderson, CFO
Bob Sanderson, CEO, President ISGA

Jonathan Sprouts, Inc.

Every Batch Triple Tested For Food Safety