

FEBRUARY 2010 HANDOUTS

The Gluten-Free Diet: It's the beginning of a new year and writers, websites, and magazines are compiling their top trends lists, as predictions for the upcoming year. After all, it's 2010 now, and seems the best time to reflect on all of last year's most notable food fads in order to foresee what the upcoming year will bring us in food pop culture and consumerism.

Gluten-free eating has become more and more popular and mainstream over the last few years, as more people are being diagnosed with Celiac disease and gluten intolerance/allergies (either by medical professionals or via simple elimination diets). So it's not surprising that among the many predictions for 2010's favorite edibles, The Daily Beast has named gluten-free food as number three on their ***Ten Food Trends For 2010 list***. As the website says, "Gluten-free products are not just for those unfortunate folks dealing with hypersensitive allergies. 'So many people have wheat allergies, and even if they don't, they just feel better if they don't eat wheat,' The Fancy Food Show's Ron Tanner says."



This is a definite success for the gluten-free community, as our lifestyle diets and ways of eating will be taken more and more seriously, in hopes that new standards for gluten-free certification and quality control and labeling will become regulated. Not to mention, there's a greater chance that more information will be getting distributed to the public about the prevalence of gluten allergies. It's also safe to assume gluten-free food products, restaurants, websites, and blogs will take off this year -- even more so than before.

Harry London Candies, Inc voluntarily recalls their Chocolate Pecan Caramel Stars due to wheat not being marked on the label. If you have any candy made by Harry London, please check the information below to see if you need to contact the company.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – North Canton, OH. – December 29, 2009 – Harry London today announced it is voluntarily recalling 3310 individual units of the 4.62 ounce Harry London Chocolate Pecan Caramel Stars because they have not been labeled to include Wheat, FD&C colors Yellow #5, Red # 40 and Blue #1 as an ingredient. All Harry London Chocolate Pecan Caramel Stars sold after 28 December 2009 have the correct labeling.

No illnesses or injuries have been reported to date. Harry London discovered the error during a routine quality control process check. The product is produced with a Pecan flavored wheat germ nut that is made with wheat and FD&C colorings, which were not stated in the ingredient disclosure label.

Although in all cases the package has an allergen statement indicating the product was manufactured on equipment shared with peanuts, tree nuts, soybeans, milk, eggs, and wheat, Harry London is undertaking this voluntary recall out of an abundance of caution. This voluntary recall does not affect any other products from Harry London.

The product being recalled is the Harry London Chocolate Pecan Caramel Stars Lot code number 9238-1 Working in cooperation with FDA, Harry London will also issue an alert through The Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis Network (www.foodallergy.org). Anyone who has the identified product with this Lot code in their possession should be aware of this Alert and take appropriate measures. Consumers affected by this Alert should avoid consumption and destroy the product. Consumers with questions may contact Harry London at (330) 494-0833 ext. 193, Monday through Friday, 8:30 A.M. – 5:00 P.M. EST.

Harry London apologizes for any inconvenience this may cause our valued customers; product quality and consumer safety have always been our top priority.

Chef Greg Brandes: Greg was with us at our January meeting. The day was stormy so many did not make it to the meeting. I was unable to cancel as I knew Greg would be busy all day making things for us to sample, and he did not let us down. Only 13 people showed up, but we had a great feast.

Valentine's Day Candy: Just a reminder that candy and Valentine's Day are synonymous....so you need to be extra careful. Those candies you know you can eat safely may now change their shape.... Such as Reese's peanut butter cups might become a peanut butter heart, and Musketeers put out their small popables. These are no longer GF and you MUST, MUST, MUST read the labels.

Gluten-Free Sausage Recall

Rhode Island Firm Recalls Italian Sausage Products Due to Possible Salmonella Contamination.

Recall Release
CLASS I RECALL
FSIS-RC-006-2010
HEALTH RISK: HIGH
Congressional and Public Affairs
(202) 720-9113
Atiya Khan

WASHINGTON, January 23, 2010 - Daniele International Inc., an establishment with operations in Pascoag and Mapleville, R.I., is recalling approximately 1,240,000 pounds of ready-to-eat (RTE) varieties of Italian sausage products, including salami/salame, in commerce and potentially available to customers in retail locations because they may be contaminated with Salmonella, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced today.

FSIS became aware of the problem during the course of an ongoing investigation of a multi-state outbreak of Salmonella serotype Montevideo illnesses. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), FSIS, state health and agriculture departments, and Daniele International are cooperating in this investigation. The CDC has posted information about the multi-state outbreak on its website (<http://www.cdc.gov/salmonella>) but the investigation is ongoing, and has not yet definitively identified a food vehicle(s).

During the course of that investigation, a sample of product found in commerce was tested on behalf of a participating state department of health and found to contain Salmonella, which FSIS has a zero tolerance for in RTE products. The product tested was similar to products bought by customers who later became sick in the Montevideo investigation, but currently there is not a direct link. The Salmonella strain in the tested product does not appear to be the Montevideo strain of interest and further testing of the sample is ongoing at a state health partner laboratory. FSIS is continuing to work with the CDC, affected state public health partners, and the company on the investigation and will update the public on the progress of this investigation as

information becomes available.

In addition, the company presented information to FSIS and took the additional action to voluntarily recall all products in commerce associated with black pepper, which the company believes is a possible source of contamination.

The products subject to recall include

- 10-ounce packages of "DANIELE NATURALE SALAME COATED WITH COARSE BLACK PEPPER."
- Catch weight packages of "DANIELE PEPPER SALAME."
- 9-ounce packages of "BLACK BEAR OF THE BLACK FOREST BABY GENOA PEPPER SALAME."
- 20-ounce packages of "DANIELE DELI SELECTION, GENOA SALAME, SMOKED SALAME, PEPPERED SALAME, RUSTIC SALAME."
- 340- and 454-gram packages of "DANIELE SURTIDO FINO ITALIANO, SALAMI GENOA CON PIMIENTA, LOMO CAPOCOLLO, SALAMI CALABRESE."
- 16-ounce packages of "DANIELE ITALIAN BRAND GOURMET PACK, HOT CALABRESE, PEPPER SALAME, HOT CAPOCOLLO."
- 8-ounce packages of "DIETZ & WATSON ARTISAN COLLECTION PARTY PLATTER PACK, HOT CALABRESE, PEPPER SALAME, HOT CAPOCOLLO."
- 8-ounce packages of "DANIELE ITALIAN BRAND GOURMET PACK, HOT CALABRESE, PEPPER SALAME, HOT CAPOCOLLO."
- 16-ounce packages of "DANIELE GOURMET COMBO PACK, PEPPER SALAME, CAPOCOLLO, CALABRESE."
- 500-gram packages of "DANIELE ITALIAN BRAND GOURMET PACK EMBALLAGE ASSORTI GOURMET ITALIEN, HOT CALABRESE, PEPPER SALAME, CALABRESE PIQUANT, SALAMI AU POIVRE, HOT CAPOCOLLO, CAPOCOLLO PIQUANT."
- 8-ounce packages of "BOAR'S HEAD BRAND ALL NATURAL SALAME COATED WITH COARSE BLACK PEPPER."
- Catch weight packages of "DIETZ & WATSON ARTISAN COLLECTION, BABY GENOA PEPPER SALAME, MADE WITH 100% PORK COATED WITH BLACK PEPPER AND PORK FAT."
- 20-ounce variety packages of "DANIELE DELI SELECTION, GENOA SALAME, SWEET SOPRESSATA, PEPPERED GENOA, MILANO SALAME."
- 21-ounce variety packages of "DANIELE GOURMET ITALIAN DELI SELECTION, SWEET SOPRESSATA SALAMI, PEPPERED GENOA SALAMI, HOT SOPRESSATA SALAMI, MILANO SALAMI, SALAMI SOPRESSATA DOUX, SALAMI GENOA POIVRÉ, SALAMI SOPRESSATA PIQUANT, SALAMI MILANO."
- 7-ounce packages of "DANIELE SALAME BITES PEPPER SALAME."
- 14-ounce packages of "DANIELE GOURMET ITALIAN DELI SELECTION ASSORTMENT DE FINES CHARCUTERIE ITALIENNE, SWEET SOPRESSATA SALAMI, MILANO SALAMI, SALAMI SOPRESSATA DOUX, SALAMI MILANO."
- Catch weight packages of "DANIELE NATURALE SALAME COATED WITH COARSE BLACK PEPPER."
- 32-ounce variety packages of "DANIELE DELI SELECTION, GENOA SALAME, SWEET SOPRESSATA, PEPPERED GENOA, MILANO SALAME."

Each package bears a label with establishment number "EST. 9992" or "EST. 54" inside the USDA mark of inspection. The establishment is recalling all the products listed above which are currently in commerce. These products were distributed to retail establishments nationwide, as well as internationally. When available, the retail distribution list(s) will be posted on FSIS' Web site at http://www.fsis.usda.gov/FSIS_Recall...ases/index.asp.

FSIS routinely conducts recall effectiveness checks to verify recalling firms notify their customers (including restaurants) of the recall and that steps are taken to make certain that the product is no longer available to consumers.

Media and consumer questions regarding the recall should be directed to the company's Hotline at (888) 345-4160 and its PR contact, Levick at (202) 973-1335.

Consumption of food contaminated with Salmonella can cause salmonellosis, one of the most common bacterial foodborne illnesses. Salmonella infections can be life-threatening, especially to those with weak immune systems, such as infants, the elderly, and persons with HIV infection or undergoing chemotherapy. The most common manifestations of salmonellosis are diarrhea, abdominal cramps, and fever within eight to 72 hours. Additional symptoms may be chills, headache, nausea and vomiting that can last up to seven days.

http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Even...ease/index.asp



Only 46 Days til Spring!