



Environmental
Health

County of Santa Cruz

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY

Advisory	Recall of Fresh Ginger from China
Principal Investigator:	Jerry LeMoine
Date:	July 30, 2007
Release #:	2007-Fresh Ginger

INCIDENT

- The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) today warned consumers not to eat fresh ginger imported from China after the California Department of Pesticide Regulation's residue monitoring program detected the presence of aldicarb sulfoxide in some batches of imported ginger. Aldicarb sulfoxide is a pesticide that is not approved for use on ginger. The product is known to have been distributed to Albertson's stores and Save Mart stores in northern California by Christopher Ranch of Gilroy, California.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT ACTION

- Santa Cruz County Environmental Health Staff is contacting retail stores most likely to have the product and advise them to pull the product from sale. CDPH and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration are tracing the imported ginger from the importer (Modern Trading Inc. in Alhambra, California) to determine the full distribution of the product and to identify other retail stores that may have received the product. If other retail stores have received the product Environmental Health Staff will be certain that all stores have been contacted and advised to pull the product from sale.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Santa Cruz County Environmental Health Division is warning consumers not to eat fresh ginger imported from China. Consumers who may have purchased this product from Albertson's stores and Save Mart stores in northern California should discard it.

INFORMATION

- Currently, there are no reports of illness associated with the contaminated ginger.
- Symptoms of aldicarb poisoning in humans are likely to occur within the first hour following exposure. Ingestion of foods contaminated with aldicarb at low levels can cause flu-like symptoms (nausea, headache, blurred vision), which disappear quickly, usually within 5 or 6 hours. However, at higher levels, ingestion of aldicarb contaminated food can also cause dizziness, salivation, excessive sweating, vomiting, diarrhea, muscle stiffness and twitching, and difficulty in breathing.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

- **Health Alert:** conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.
- **Health Advisory:** provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.
- **Health Update:** provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.

- Individuals who may have consumed this product and have any of the above symptoms should contact their health care provider immediately.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- www.santacruzhealth.org/alerts for informational updates and other alerts