



Environmental
Health

County of Santa Cruz

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY

Advisory	Recall of "Qi Cai Bang" Candy Imported from China
Principal Investigator:	Andrew Strader
Date:	June 19, 2008
Release #:	2008-Imported Chinese Candy

INCIDENT

- The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) yesterday warned consumers not to eat QI CAI BANG candy imported from China after tests by CDPH found elevated levels of lead. Eating lead-contaminated candy is particularly harmful to infants, young children and pregnant women. The warning is part of ongoing efforts to ensure the safety of foods sold in California

HEALTH DEPARTMENT ACTION

- Primary distribution of these products appears to be located in the San Jose/San Francisco area and no information on distribution to Santa Cruz County has been identified. Santa Cruz County Environmental Health Staff will be monitoring retail stores for these products during routine inspections to ensure these recalled products are not being sold in Santa Cruz County.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Santa Cruz County Environmental Health Division is warning consumers not to eat the recalled brand of Chinese candy they may still have in their homes. Consumers in possession of QI CAI BANG candy should discard it immediately. Pregnant women and parents of children who may have eaten these candies should consult their physician or health care provider to determine if medical testing is needed. Consumers who find QI CAI BANG candy, manufactured by Chaoan Lexiaoyao Food Industry Co. Ltd., for sale are encouraged to call the CDPH Complaint Hotline at 1-800-495-3232, Environmental Health at (831) 454-2022 or Lead Poisoning Prevention Program at (831) 763-8200.

INFORMATION

- QI CAI BANG candy, manufactured by Chaoan Lexiaoyao Food Industry Co. Ltd., is a thin, brown-colored candy, approximately 3 ½" long, wrapped in colorful foil. Approximately 100 foil-wrapped candies are packed into a clear, hard plastic container measuring 3 ¾" high by 2 ½" across. The front of the container has a white and green label with the word "Fengxi" in red and the candy name "QI CAI BANG" in white letters. The words "Happy Easy-Going" are printed on a paper label on the red plastic lid of the container.



Public Health
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- **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.

- Recent analysis of this candy by CDPH determined that this product contained as much as 0.61 parts per million (ppm) of lead. California considers candies with lead levels in excess of 0.10 ppm to be contaminated.
- For more information about lead poisoning, consumers are advised to contact their local childhood lead poisoning prevention program or public health department. Additional information and a list of local childhood lead prevention programs is available at <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/healthinfo/discond/Pages/CLPPBChildrenAtRisk.aspx>
- www.santacruzhealth.org/alerts for informational updates and other alerts