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Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

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Contact: Clay Butcher, 269-7867, clay.butcher@alaska.gov

WIC foods mailed to rural areas subject to recall

OvaEasy dried eggs recalled due to possible salmonella contamination

ANCHORAGE — Nutriom LLC, a Lacey, Wash., company, is recalling processed egg products that may be contaminated with Salmonella bacteria. The egg products, called OvaEasy, are distributed by the Alaska Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program to individuals in rural areas of Alaska. Alaskans who have received these products from the WIC program or who have purchased them through another vendor should immediately discard them.

The Alaska WIC program, part of the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, ships OvaEasy dried eggs directly to participants in rural communities that do not have a local WIC-authorized retailer. As a precaution, the WIC program recommends that any OvaEasy egg products from the affected lots should be discarded and not consumed.

The following OvaEasy egg products were shipped to WIC clients in rural areas of Alaska:

- Lot code: B1913-B 330 cases (12/4.5oz)
- Lot code: E1613-B 10 cases (12/4.5oz)
- Lot code: E2913-A, DOP 2623, 2633, 365 cases (12/4.5oz)

For a full list of recalled items, please visit the United States Department of Agriculture recall website: <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/recalls-and-public-health-alerts/recall-case-archive/archive/2014/recall-015-2014-release>

Raw eggs and egg products should always be cooked to a temperature of 160 degrees Fahrenheit in order to avoid contracting salmonellosis. Consumption of food contaminated with salmonella can cause salmonellosis, one of the most common bacterial foodborne illnesses. The most common symptoms of salmonellosis are diarrhea, abdominal cramps and fever within 12 to 72 hours after eating the contaminated product. The illness usually lasts four to seven days. Most people recover without treatment. In some persons, however, the diarrhea may be so severe that the patient needs to be hospitalized. Older adults, infants and persons with weakened immune systems are more likely to develop a severe illness. Individuals concerned about an illness should contact their health care provider.

Media with questions regarding the recall can contact Leonardo Etcheto, Nutriom's Chief Operating Officer, at 360-413-7269, ext. 106.

Media with questions concerning the WIC program or about public health guidance can contact Clay Butcher within the DHSS public information section at 907-269-7867 or at clay.butcher@alaska.gov.

To learn more about recalls in Alaska, visit the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation list of food recalls located here: <http://dec.alaska.gov/eh/fss/recallsalerts.html>

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