

Release

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CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CDPH WARNS CONSUMERS NOT TO EAT CERTAIN WINCO GROUND BEEF

SACRAMENTO – California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Director Dr. Mark Horton today warned consumers not to eat ground beef products being recalled by WinCo Food stores. The recalled ground beef may be contaminated with E. coli O157:H7, which can cause serious illness.

The recalled ground beef was sold at WinCo Food stores in California, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah and Washington. The ground beef is packaged in Styrofoam trays and the packaging is marked with sale dates from March 28 to April 9.

Earlier this month WinCo recalled some ground beef products sold by its Modesto store after two surveillance samples tested positive for E. coli O157:H7. Friday, an additional surveillance sample tested positive for E. Coli 0157:H7. No illnesses have been linked to the recalled ground beef products at this time.

E. coli O157:H7 infection often causes abdominal cramps and diarrhea, sometimes bloody. People with severe infections may be hospitalized, suffer kidney damage and possibly die. Those most at risk for serious complications include young children, the elderly and those with compromised immune systems. Consumers with any of these symptoms should contact their health care provider.

Consumers with recalled products should either throw the product away or return it to the point of purchase for a refund. Under no circumstances, should consumers eat this recalled beef.

Consumers are reminded that when cooking ground beef under normal circumstances, the beef should be cooked to an internal temperature of at least 160 degrees, as measured by a cooking thermometer, to kill harmful bacteria.

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