

PRESS RELEASE

Department of Consumer Protection

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Commissioner

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Recalled Unpasteurized Orange Juice is Found in Connecticut

Commissioner of Consumer Protection Edwin Rodriguez announced today that Food Inspectors with Consumer Protection had determined that recalled unpasteurized orange juice has been sold in Connecticut. Orchid Island Juice Company of Fort Pierce, Florida, has voluntarily recalled all unpasteurized orange juice with a code date of 7/25/05 or earlier, in gallon, ½ gallon, quart, pint, 12 oz, and 8 oz sizes labeled under:

- Natalie's Orchid Island Juice Company, Ultimate Juice, Albritton Fruit, Finagle A Bagel, Gourmet Garage, Kings Market, Nino Salvaggio, Schnucks, Wegmans, Balducci's, and Zabars. All containers are made of plastic and are clear in color so the orange juice is visible.

And all unpasteurized **frozen** orange juice sold in liter, ¼ liter, 60 oz, 1800 ml, 1750 ml, and 250 ml sizes with expiration codes of:

- 04-25-2007 through 07-08-2007 for Just Pik't and Natalie's Orchid Island Juice Company brands,
- 18-04-2008 through 10-06-2008 for Floridella brands,
- bottle codes S3.2007.04.27 through S2.2007.06.27 for Herders and St. Marc brands, and
- bottle code OE55 S1125 for the Sundecker brand.

These products have the potential to be contaminated with *Salmonella* Typhimurium, a germ that can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems. Otherwise healthy individuals may suffer short-term symptoms such as high fever, severe headache, vomiting, nausea, abdominal pain and diarrhea. Long-term complications can include severe arthritis.

“We are working with all identified Connecticut retailers to ensure that the product has been removed from store shelves” said Commissioner Rodriguez. “Consumers may still have unpasteurized orange juice and/or unpasteurized frozen orange juice distributed by the Orchid Island Juice Company in their refrigerators. This product should be returned to the store of purchase for a full refund.”

To date there has been 15 suspected cases of illness, nationwide. The company is working with FDA to cooperatively determine the source of contamination. The company will initiate temporary delicate flash pasteurization of orange juice pending a thorough investigation.

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