
Trans Ocean Products Recalls "Cracked Pepper Style Smoked Salmon" LOT No 54933-2 Because of Possible Health Risks

BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON, AUG 29, 2008 – Trans-Ocean Products, Inc. of Bellingham, Washington is recalling its 4 ounce Cracked Pepper Style Smoked Salmon Lot No 54933-2 because it has the potential to be contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*, an organism, which can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems. Although healthy individuals may suffer only short-term symptoms such as high fever, severe headache, stiffness, nausea, abdominal pain and diarrhea, *Listeria* infection can cause miscarriages and stillbirths among pregnant women.

Cracked Pepper Style Smoked Salmon, 4 ounce packages were distributed to three supermarket chains in seven states: Brookshire Brothers in Texas and Louisiana; Price Choppers in New York, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts and Vermont; and Giant Eagle in Ohio and Pennsylvania.

The product is sliced cold-smoked salmon with black pepper. It is vacuum packaged in a resealable purple plastic pouch and bears the brand name Trans Ocean Products. The lot number is ink jetted on the back panel of the package, just right of center.

No illnesses have been reported to date in connection with this problem.

The potential for contamination was noted after routine testing by Trans-Ocean Products revealed the presence of *Listeria monocytogenes* in one 4 ounce package of Cracked Pepper Style Smoked Salmon.

Distribution of the product has been suspended while the FDA and Trans-Ocean Products investigate the source of the problem.

Consumers that have purchased Trans Ocean Products Cracked Pepper Style Smoked Salmon are urged to return them to the place of purchase for a full refund.

Consumers with questions may contact Trans-Ocean Products. Call (800) 290-2722 Monday – Friday 6AM to 5PM. Over the Labor Day weekend call (360) 739-4181.