



March 2, 2010

CASTELLA IMPORTS, INC. CONDUCTS VOLUNTARY NATIONWIDE RECALL OF CASTELLA CHICKEN BASE BECAUSE OF POSSIBLE HEALTH RISK

Castella Imports of Hauppauge, NY, is voluntarily recalling Castella Chicken Base because it has the potential to be contaminated with Salmonella, an organism which can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems. Healthy persons infected with Salmonella often experience fever, diarrhea (which may be bloody), nausea, vomiting and abdominal pain. In rare circumstances, infection with Salmonella can result in the organism getting into the bloodstream and producing more severe illnesses such as arterial infections (i.e., infected aneurysms), endocarditis and arthritis.

The product was made using an ingredient, hydrolyzed vegetable protein manufactured by Basic Food Flavors, Inc. Las Vegas, Nevada. Castella was notified by Basic Food Flavors who initiated a recall of the hydrolyzed vegetable protein due to potential Salmonella contamination.

Castella Chicken Base is distributed nationwide to food service (25 lbs. product) and sold in retail stores (1 lb. product).

Castella Chicken Base 1 lb. is packaged in an opaque plastic jar with a white cap, a gold seal, a light yellow label, and UPC code 7 50144 33000 5. The recalled lots are: 0912039918, 1001121915, 1002013074, and 1002194266. The expiration dates for the lots affected are 12-3-2010 through 2-28-2011.

Castella Chicken Base 25 lb. is packed in an all white bucket, a yellow label, and UPC code 7 501144 3320 9. The recalled lots are: 0911259508, 0911259508A, 0912150738, 0912180973, 0912211087, 1001192342, 1001282925, 1002194267. The expiration dates for the lots affected are 11-25-2010 through 2-28-2011.

To date no illnesses have been associated with this product.

Consumers that have the product may return it to the place of purchase for a full refund. Consumers with questions may contact Castella Imports at 631-231-5500, Monday thru Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Eastern Standard Time.

Castella takes great pride in producing the highest quality products for our consumers. We are sourcing new suppliers and will have the new product ready very soon. We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this issue may have caused our consumers.

If you have questions or seek additional information please contact us at 1-866-Castella or by email <http://www.castellaimports.com/contact_us.cfm>.

Contact: Chris Valsamos, Vice President 631-231-5500