

Company Announcement

When a company announces a recall, market withdrawal, or safety alert, the FDA posts the company's announcement as a public service. FDA does not endorse either the product or the company.

Vitakraft Sun Seed Issues Voluntary Recall of Certain Rabbit and Macaw Diets Due To *Listeria monocytogenes*

For Immediate Release

June 16, 2017

Contact

Consumers

Customer Service
☎ 1-800-221-6175

Announcement

Vitakraft Sun Seed Inc. of Weston, OH, is voluntarily recalling certain Sunseed Parrot Fruit & Vegetable diet and Sunseed SunSations Rabbit Food due to a potential *Listeria monocytogenes* contamination. *Listeria monocytogenes* is an organism, which can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems. Healthy individuals may suffer only short-term symptoms such as high fever, severe headaches, stiffness, nausea, abdominal pain and diarrhea. *Listeria* infection can cause miscarriages and stillbirths among pregnant women.

Listeria monocytogenes are present in the gut of birds and rabbits. Household pets such as birds and rabbits carry a risk to humans. Even if the birds and rabbits do not appear to be sick after consuming foods containing *Listeria monocytogenes*, they can become carriers of *Listeria monocytogenes* and transfer *Listeria monocytogenes* to the environment.

Vitakraft Sun Seed was notified on June 14, 2017 by its supplier of dried apples that the ingredient has the potential to be contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*. Although there has been no reported evidence of direct contamination of the dried apples, our supplier has initiated the recall. To date there have been no report of any illness.

The following products are being recalled:

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	LOT	Best buy date
87535100597	SS PARROT FRT/VEG. 25#	104082	5/22/2019
87535360564	SS Sunsations Rabbit Food 3.5lb 6/C	104246	6/5/2019
70882077713	MJR PARROT FOOD 4LB 6/CA	103980	5/17/2019
70882077713	MJR PARROT FOOD 4LB 6/CA	103981	5/18/2019
73725732119	ALT Small Animal Apple Slices 1oz 24/CA	103435	4/28/2019
73725732119	ALT Small Animal Apple Slices 1oz 24/CA	103118	4/13/2019
73725749989	NG GUINEA PIG ENTRÉE 4lb 6/C	103440	5/1/2019
73725749989	NG GUINEA PIG ENTRÉE 4lb 6/C	104434	6/8/2019
73725749989	NG GUINEA PIG ENTRÉE 4lb 6/C	103439	5/1/2019
73725750019	NG RABBIT ENTRÉE 4lb 6/C	104436	6/8/2019
73725750019	NG RABBIT ENTRÉE 4lb 6/C	103442	4/27/2019
73725750019	NG RABBIT ENTRÉE 4lb 6/C	103444	4/27/2019
73725750019	NG RABBIT ENTRÉE 4lb 6/C	103443	4/27/2019
82514158955	DFS Premium Blend Macaw 5lb 5/C	104094	3/16/2020
82514158955	DFS Premium Blend Macaw 5lb 5/C	103741	2/19/2020
82514158955	DFS Premium Blend Macaw 5lb 5/C	103876	2/24/2020

“The health and happiness of our customers and their animal companions is always our top priority. Although there has been no evidence of contamination in our products, we are initiating this voluntary recall as a precautionary measure,” said Brent Weinmann, President & CEO of Vitakraft Sun Seed.

These products were sold in the following states: AZ, GA, IL, MI, NJ, NY, NV, OH, PA & WI. Retailers and distributors who received the recalled lots have been contacted and asked to pull these lots from their inventory and shelves. Consumers who have purchased these products may return them to the place of purchase for a full refund.

Customers who have further questions are welcome to contact Customer Service at 1-800-221-6175, Monday through Friday between 8:30am and 5:00pm EST.

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