Larry Hartig
Commissioner
P.O. Box 111800
Juneau, AK 99811-1800
www.dec.alaska.gov

STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Ty Keltner
Information Officer
907.465.5009
cell: 907.388.8822
ty.keltner@alaska.gov

Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE **No. 13-32**
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Kimberly Stryker, FSS Program Manager, (907) 269-7583

Townsend Farms, Inc. Recalls Frozen Organic Antioxidant Blend Potentially Contaminated with Hepatitis A

(JUNEAU, AK) – Townsend Farms, Inc. has issued a recall for certain lots of its frozen Organic Antioxidant Blend because it may be contaminated with Hepatitis A virus, based on an ongoing illness investigation conducted by the Food and Drug Administration and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Hepatitis A is a liver disease that can be spread through food that results from exposure to the Hepatitis A virus. It can range from a mild illness lasting a few weeks to a serious illness lasting several months. Illness generally occurs within 15 to 50 days of exposure and includes fatigue, abdominal pain, jaundice, abnormal liver tests, dark urine and pale stool. Hepatitis A vaccination can prevent illness if given within two weeks of exposure to a contaminated food. In rare cases, particularly in consumers who have a pre-existing severe illness or are immune-compromised, Hepatitis A infection can progress to liver failure.

The recalled product can be identified by the following "BEST BY" codes that are located on the back of the package:

Product	Weight	UPC Code	Best By Codes
Townsend Farms Organic Antioxidant Blend	3 lb. bag	UPC 0 78414 404448	T012415 - T053115 (followed by a letter)

Alaska DEC has confirmed distribution of these products in Alaska through Costco stores. According to information from Costco, they have removed affected product from their freezers and are in the process of informing consumers who purchased affected product. However, consumers should check their freezers for affected product. Consumers with the product should not consume the product. The product should be disposed of immediately but consumers may wish to keep proof of product purchase for future reference.

To date, there are 49 cases of Hepatitis A associated with the recalled products. No illnesses have been reported in Alaska.

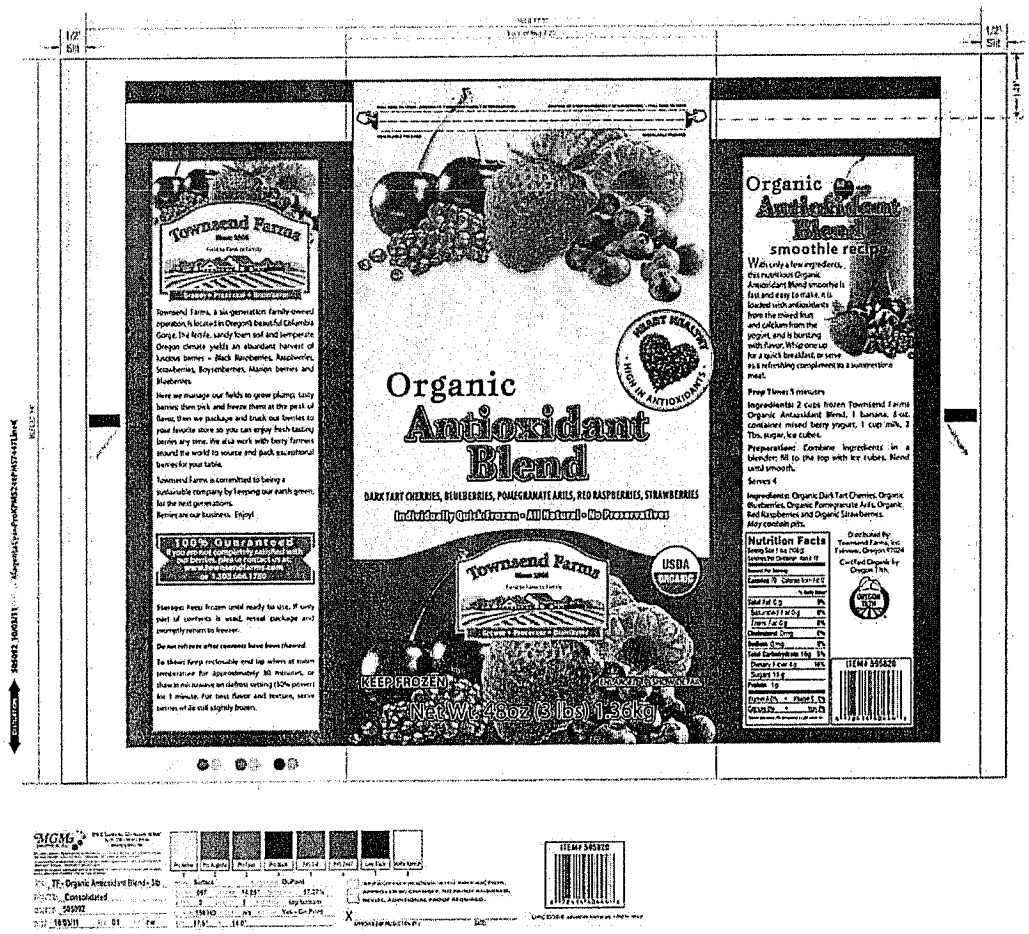
Persons who may have consumed affected product within the last two weeks (and are not immunized against Hepatitis A) should consult with their health care provider to determine if a vaccination is appropriate, and consumers who consumed this product within the past two months and who are experiencing abdominal pain, nausea, yellow skin, fatigue, or other concerning symptoms, should contact their health care provider immediately and mention this product.

For questions or more information, contact a Townsend Farms Customer Service Representative by phone at 800-875-5291 or by e-mail at townsendfarms5148@stericycle.com. Customer service representatives are available Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. PDT.

For more information on this recall, visit: http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm355166.htm?source=govdelivery.

For more information on recalls affecting Alaskans, visit DEC's website: http://dec.alaska.gov/eh/fss/recallsalerts.html.

For more illness investigation information in Alaska, visit the Section of Epidemiology's website: http://www.epi.alaska.gov.



17.5" WEB
5.125"
7.25"
5.125"
Townsend Farms
Organic Antioxidant Blend
DARK TART CHERRIES, POMEGRANATE ARILS, STRAWBERRIES, RED RASPBERRIES, BLUEBERRIES
Organic Antioxidant Blend
smoothie recipe
Nutrition Facts
KEEP FROZEN
Net Wt. 48oz (3 lbs) 1.36kg

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