



**MIDWEST
FOODS**

Industry Alert

E.coli O157:H7 Outbreak linked to Romaine Products

The FDA and CDC issued a public advisory to not consume, ship, or sell any romaine products from the Salinas growing region due to an E.coli O157:H7 outbreak. The investigation has indicated that the outbreak is not limited to any one form of romaine lettuce and may include chopped, processed, and hearts of romaine.

Romaine Lettuce from Salinas, CA growing region will be held until further notice. There is no recall on romaine lettuce. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact our Customer Service Line 773.927.8870 or our Food Safety Line 262.842.7078.

At this time, romaine lettuce that was harvested outside of the Salinas region has not been implicated in this outbreak investigation. Hydroponically- and greenhouse-grown romaine, which is voluntarily labeled as "indoor grown," from any region does not appear to be related to the current outbreak. There is no recommendation for consumers to avoid using romaine harvested from these other sources.

Consumers: Consumers should not eat romaine lettuce harvested from Salinas, California.

Restaurants, Retailers, Suppliers and Distributors: Romaine lettuce may be voluntarily labeled with a harvest region. If the product has "Salinas" on the carton or label in any form (whether alone or with the name of another location), do not ship or sell the product. At this stage in the investigation, the most efficient way to ensure that contaminated romaine is off the market would be for industry to voluntarily withdraw product grown in Salinas, and to withhold distribution of Salinas romaine for the remainder of the growing season in Salinas. FDA has made this request of industry.

We have provided an example below of how to check a label for growing region.

For more information please visit FDA.gov

Thank you

