

## Industry Alert: Advisory Lifted

## Romaine lettuce E. coli O157:H7 outbreaks declared over, consumer advisory lifted

January 15th, 2020

The FDA is lifting the consumer advisory to avoid romaine lettuce from Salinas as the growing season for this region is over, and there is no longer a need for consumers to avoid it. There is also no need to avoid other produce products from Salinas.

The FDA and CDC have been tracking two multi-state romaine lettuce outbreaks. Today, federal health officials are declaring both multi-state romaine lettuce outbreaks over. One of the outbreaks sickened 167 people in 27 states. The other outbreak, linked to Fresh Express salad kits, sickened 10 people in five states. There was also a third outbreak in Washington State that sickened 11 people. This outbreak has also been declared over.

FDA's investigation is ongoing to find the source or sources of contamination. The FDA is planning to conduct an additional, in-depth, root-cause investigation. The investigation will further characterize how contamination might have occurred and will inform what preventive controls are needed to prevent future outbreaks.

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

For more information, please visit <u>www.fda.gov</u>