

Kane County Health Department

November 15, 2018 Contact: Tom Schlueter (630) 444-3098 630-417-9729 (cell) www.kanehealth.com

Company recalls asparagus due to possible contamination

The Kane County Health Department is advising that the Pictsweet Company has recalled 1,872 cases of Pictsweet Farms 8-ounce Steam'ables Asparagus Spears because they have the potential to be contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*.

No illnesses have been reported to date and no other Pictsweet Farms products are impacted by this recall, however this product was distributed in Illinois and numerous other states.

The recall affects only Pictsweet Farms 8-ounce Steam'ables Asparagus Spears identified by UPC code 0 70560 97799 9 with production codes beginning with the following six digits: 2138XD and a "BEST BY AUG 1, 2020." A photo of the package is available <u>here</u>. The following information is printed on the back panel of each package (bag):

2138XD PROD OF USA BEST BY AUG 01 2020

The company initiated this recall after it was notified by the manufacturer that product suspected of containing *Listeria monocytogenes* was inadvertently shipped to The Pictsweet Company.

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 headache, stiffness, nausea, abdominal pain and diarrhea. Listeria infection can cause miscarriages and stillbirths among pregnant women.

Consumers who have purchased the product with the code listed above may contact the company's consumer affairs line at 1-800-527-0986 from 9am to 5pm Central Standard Time, Monday – Friday or return the product to the place of purchase for a full refund. Media Contact: Gene Grabowski, 202-270-6560.