

June 7, 2017

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Cheese products recalled due to possible listeria contamination

The Kane County Health Department is advising that Global Garlic Inc., of Miami, Fla., is recalling its 16oz packages of "Queso Fresco/ Whole Milk" and ("Queso Fresco x LB(Barra)/Whole Milk Cheese" because they have the potential to be contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*.

No illnesses have been reported to date in connection with this problem; however the products were distributed in Illinois and other states.

The 16oz cheese comes in a clear plastic package marked with a UPC No. 8-96211-00235-9 and an expiration date of September 19, 2017 stamped on the side. The pound (barra) cheese weighted around 5-6 Lb., with a clear plastic package, has no UPC number and an expiration date of June 17, 2017.

The potential for contamination was noted after routine testing by the Florida Department of Agriculture Consumer Services revealed the presence of *Listeria monocytogenes* in 16 ounce packages of "Queso Fresco/ Whole Milk Cheese".

Listeria monocytogenes is an organism that can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems. Although 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 stillbirth among pregnant women.

Consumers who have purchased 16oz packages of "Queso Fresco/ Whole Milk" and ("Queso Fresco x LB (Barra)/Whole Milk Cheese" are urged to return them to the place of purchase for full refund. Consumers with questions may contact the company from Monday – Friday 8:00AM-5:30PM EST (305) 545-6305.