

Townsend Farms, Inc., Notifies Costco of Possible Health Risk and Recalls Conventional Frozen Kirkland Three Berry Blend

CONTACT: TOWNSEND FARMS, INC. (877)244-0947; TownsendFarms4283@stericycle.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – JUNE 11, 2019 – Out of an abundance of caution, Townsend Farms, Inc. has notified Costco that a recent FDA test indicated that a domestic conventional frozen blackberry product manufactured by Townsend Farms, Inc., may be contaminated with Hepatitis A. Townsend Farms, Inc. used the domestic conventional frozen blackberry to manufacture the Kirkland Signature Three Berry Blend product with Best By Dates between February 16, 2020, and May 4, 2020. Costco only sold the product in stores located in San Diego and Los Angeles, California and Hawaii. No product manufactured for Costco by Townsend Farms has tested positive for Hepatitis A. Costco has no product in its current inventory. Costco has been notifying its members about the potential health risk.

This Notice affects the following product:

- **KIRKLAND SIGNATURE THREE BERRY BLEND, 4 lb bag –**
Best By codes located in the white box on the back of the Product bag:
 - FEB1620,(A),(B),(C),(D),(E),(F),(G), or (H);
 - FEB1820,(A),(B),(C),or (D);
 - FEB2920,(A),(B),(C),or (D);
 - MAR0120,(A),(B),(C),or (D);
 - APR1920,(B),(C), or (D);
 - APR2020(A),(B),(C),(D),(E), or (F);
 - APR2720(A),(B),(C),(D),(E),(F),(G), or (H);
 - APR2820(A),(B),(C),(D),(E),(F),(G), or (H);
 - MAY0220(A),(B),(C),(D),(E),(F),(G), or (H);
 - MAY0420 (H).

According to the FDA and CDC there have been no customer illness reports to date related to any product manufactured by Townsend Farms, Inc., using these blackberries.

Members who have purchased the above product should not consume it. Instead, photograph the product bag for your records, dispose of the product and contact your local Costco for a full refund.

Costco members who have questions should contact Townsend Farms, Inc., customer service representatives at **877-244-0947** or by email at **TownsendFarms4283@stericycle.com**.

Hepatitis A is a contagious liver disease that results from exposure to the Hepatitis A virus, including from food. 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 consumers who have a pre-existing severe illness or are immune compromised, Hepatitis A infection can progress to liver failure. Persons who may have consumed affected product should consult with their health care professional or local health department to determine if a vaccination is appropriate, and consumers with symptoms of Hepatitis A should contact their health care professionals or the local health department immediately.

Townsend Farms, Inc., is a family owned business that has been farming in Oregon since 1906. We are dedicated to safety in our food processing and sustainable farming practices. We utilize Good Agricultural Practices as well as Good Manufacturing Practices and are Safety Quality Food certified. We take your food safety seriously.

