

Recall of Pinguin Frozen Mixed Vegetables and Sweet Corn Kernels

The European Commission's Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF) has issued an alert on a multi-country foodborne outbreak of *Listeria monocytogenes* in Europe, possibly due to microbial contamination from a production plant, Greenyard Frozen, in Hungary. The frozen vegetable products may be re-packed and distributed to other regions. Some of these regions include Belgium, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Netherlands and Singapore.

2 As a precautionary measure, AVA worked with the importers to recall the implicated products from sale. The recall has been completed. Details of the two affected products are as follows. Consumers who had purchased the implicated products are advised not to consume it.

Brand: Pinguin

Implicated Product:

Frozen mixed vegetables (1 kg)


Expiry date: Any expiry date up to 03/2020

Country of origin:

Hungary and other European countries including Belgium and Netherlands



MEDIA RELEASE

<p>Brand: Pinguin</p> <p>Implicated Product: Pinguin sweet corn kernels (2.5 kg)</p> <p>Expiry date: Any expiry date up to 02/2019</p> <p>Country of origin: Hungary and other European countries including Belgium and Netherlands</p>	
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Issued by the Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority
23 July 2018

MEDIA RELEASE

Information on Listeriosis

Listeriosis is a bacterial infection caused by *Listeria monocytogenes*. The bacteria is found in the environment, such as soil, water, effluents and the faeces of humans and animals. Food items which could be contaminated by the bacteria include raw or ready-to-eat foods, such as raw (unpasteurised) milk or raw meat and their products, seafood, and fresh produce including fruits and vegetables.

2 The incubation period of *Listeria* ranges from 3 to 70 days (typically 1 – 4 weeks). A person with mild listeriosis usually has fever and muscle aches, preceded by diarrhoea or other gastrointestinal symptoms. Pregnant women, the elderly or individuals with a weakened immune system, i.e. people in immuno-compromised status due to AIDS, leukaemia, cancer, solid-organ transplant and steroid therapy, are at highest risk of serious disease which could include brain and heart infections or complications in the foetus/newborn.

3 Listeriosis is treatable with antibiotics if diagnosed early. Consumers are advised to adequately heat frozen vegetables to reduce the risk of *Listeria monocytogenes* infection. Consumers should seek medical attention as early as possible if they develop fever and muscle aches, preceded by diarrhoea or other gastrointestinal symptoms that appear within 70 days after consuming the implicated products.

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