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Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE **No. 12-23**
May 24, 2012
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Organic Baby Spinach Possibly Contaminated with Salmonella

(JUNEAU, AK) – Taylor Farms Retail, Inc. is recalling Organic Baby Spinach after a random test conducted by USDA on a finished package of spinach showed potential contamination with *Salmonella*.

Salmonella is an organism that can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems. Healthy persons infected with *Salmonella* often experience fever, diarrhea (which may be bloody), nausea, vomiting and abdominal pain beginning 12-72 hours after infection. The illness usually lasts 4-7 days. In rare circumstances, infection with *Salmonella* can result in the organism getting into the bloodstream and producing more severe illnesses such as arterial infections (i.e., infected aneurysms), endocarditis, and arthritis. People exhibiting any of these symptoms should contact their healthcare provider.

The products being recalled in Alaska are 5 oz clamshell packages of "Private Selections" Organic Baby Spinach with the UPC code of 0-11110-91128-5 and a "Best By" date of 5-25-12 located on the lower right portion of the front label. Affected packages will either have a package code of TFRS 130B 1503 KT34 or TFRS 130B 1803 KT34.

Alaska DEC has confirmed the distribution of these products in Alaska. To date, there have been no reported illnesses in Alaska or other states. DEC is working with the retailer to assure that they have received the recall information, have pulled any affected product, and have notified their customers.

Purchasers of these products are urged to dispose them. Purchasers may contact Taylor Farms Retail, Inc. for further information at 866-508-7048 Monday through Friday 8 am to 5 pm PST. Additional information can be found at: http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/default.htm .

For more information on recalls affecting Alaskans, visit DEC's website: http://www.dec.alaska.gov/eh/fss/recalls/recallsalerts.html.

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