



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Del Monte Recalls Cantaloupes Due to Possible Salmonella Contamination

(JUNEAU, AK) – Del Monte Fresh Produce N.A., Inc. is recalling cartons and sleeves of cantaloupes available for sale between the 10th and 21st of March, 2011 because the FDA has established an epidemiological link between the cantaloupes and approximately 12 reported cases of *Salmonella Panama*.

Salmonella Panama 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 Panama* often experience fever, diarrhea (which may be bloody), nausea, vomiting and abdominal pain. In rare circumstances, infection with *Salmonella Panama* 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 providers.

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation has confirmed that the recalled cantaloupes have been distributed in Alaska.

The cantaloupes are packaged in cartons containing four plastic beige mesh sleeves, three cantaloupes per sleeve. Each sleeve is sealed on one end with an orange plastic handle and labeled with the Del Monte logo and “3 count, Product of Guatemala.” The cartons are dark brown cardboard with the “Del Monte” logo in red lettering and “cantaloupes” in yellow lettering on a green background. The lot codes are 02-15-24-10, 02-15-25-10, 02-15-26-10 and 02-15-28-10.

Consumers who believe they are in possession of uneaten cantaloupe affected by this recall should contact 1-800-659-6500 or email Contact-US-Executive-Office@freshdelmonte.com. Consumers with questions can contact the company at 1-888-201-6440 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Central time.

For more recall details, please visit <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm248103.htm>.

For more information on recalls affecting Alaskans, visit DEC’s website: http://www.dec.state.ak.us/eh/fss/recalls/food_recalls.html.