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Nearly 100 ill and two deaths connected to cantaloupe

By

Ryan Beckman

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Several companies have announced recalls of cantaloupe that has the potential to be contaminated with *Salmonella*. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 99 people have reported illnesses across 32 states, with 45 hospitalizations and two deaths connected to the *Salmonella* outbreak.

Whole cantaloupes have a “Malichita” or “Rudy” sticker with the number 4050 and “Product of Mexico/produit du Mexique.” Trufresh, Crown Jewels and Pacific Trellis announced recalls of whole melons.

Vinyard Fruit & Vegetable Co.'s Vinyard brand pre-cut cantaloupes — including cantaloupe cubes, melon medleys and fruit medleys — sold in Oklahoma stores Oct. 30-Nov. 10 are also being recalled. Most have a yellow label with “Vinyard,” and some have a red label with “Fresh.”

ALDI is also recalling whole cantaloupe and pre-cut fruit products sold in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Michigan and Wisconsin with best-by dates between Oct. 27 and Oct. 31.

Freshness Guaranteed brand and RaceTrac brand pre-cut cantaloupes are also involved in the recall, including cantaloupe chunks, seasonal blend, melon mixes and fruit mixes packed in clear square or round plastic containers with best-by dates between Nov. 7 and Nov. 12. These products were sold in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia.

Investigators are working to identify any additional cantaloupe products that may be contaminated.

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About Ryan Beckman |

Ryan Beckman was born and raised in New Jersey. After studying creative writing at Rutgers University, he attended SUNY Binghamton and earned his master's degree in English. The following year he and his wife, Amanda, journeyed to the province of Ontario to spend some time living in Toronto and cheering for the Maple Leafs. Ryan and Amanda now live in New York and spend their evenings staring at their ever-smiling son, Oscar.

Ryan is always looking for a good book to read, is sure to be a few hours behind on sleep and will never stop loving 8-bit games.

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