



## ***South Carolina Department of Agriculture***

**Hugh E. Weathers, Commissioner**

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### **South Carolina Department of Agriculture Has Taken Regulatory Action Against B&H Foods of Chester**

**COLUMBIA-** The South Carolina Department of Agriculture Consumer Protection Division took regulatory action today against B&H Foods located at 181 Saluda Street, Chester, and revoked the company's Registration Verification Certificate (RVC) after *Listeria monocytogenes* was found in the finished product. Without the RVC permit, the company is prohibited from producing, distributing and selling any products until the RVC has been reinstated. B&H Foods produces Ruth's Salads for the Charlotte-based company.

Late last week, an initial recall of Ruth's Original Pimento Cheese Spread was issued after random testing performed by the NC Department of Agriculture found traces of *Listeria monocytogenes*. That recall has been expanded to cover all lots and 'Sell by Dates' for Ruth's products labeled as "Packed by B&H Foods, Inc., Chester, SC." These products include:

Product	UPC	Size
Ruth's Original Pimento Spread	74952-00005	7 oz.
Ruth's Original Pimento Spread	74952-12023	12 oz.
Ruth's Original Pimento Spread	74952-24023	24 oz.
Ruth's Old Fashion Pimento Spread	74952-15005	16 oz.
Ruth's Jalapeno Pimento Spread	74952-12014	12 oz.
Ruth's Lite Pimento Spread	74952-12000	12 oz.
Ruth's Cream Cheese w/Pineapple-Pecans	74952-12008	12 oz.

Consumers who have purchased these products are urged to return them to the place of purchase for a full refund. Products labeled as "Packed in Charlotte, NC" are not included in this recall. SCDA Food Safety Inspectors are performing recall audit checks at stores and distribution centers in South Carolina known to carry products from this facility that are being recalled.

The SCDA Food and Feed Safety Department ensures that foods and feeds are manufactured and marketed under safe and sanitary conditions through routine surveillance inspections. Inspectors ensure that food is pure and wholesome, safe to eat, and properly labeled according to laws and regulations. For more information contact Derek Underwood, Assistant Commissioner, Consumer Protection Division at 803-737-9700, or visit [agriculture.sc.gov](http://agriculture.sc.gov).

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