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CORRECTION: National cookie dough *Escherichia coli* O157:H7 outbreak – including case in Oregon – leads to recall

This news release correctly identifies *Escherichia coli* O157:H7 and provides a link to a higher-resolution photograph of Nestlé Toll House products.

[Portland] - Public health officials announced today that a nationwide outbreak of *Escherichia coli* O157:H7 cases – including one case in Oregon – had been linked to consumption of a popular brand of commercially packaged cookie dough. The Nestlé USA Baking Division has initiated a voluntary recall of more than 40 varieties of Toll House brand refrigerated cookie dough and state officials are urging Oregonians not to eat any of the recalled products. No other Nestlé products are impacted.

“The message is simple: do not eat or taste this cookie dough. We know that Toll House Cookie Dough is sold all around the state, and people should look in their refrigerators and freezers to see if they have any. If they do, throw it out or return it to the place of purchase,” said William Keene, Ph. D., a senior epidemiologist in the Oregon Department of Human Services Public Health Division.

To date, one outbreak-associated case has been confirmed in Oregon. That individual – a Multnomah County teenager – became ill in early May and has recovered completely. Nationwide there have been 65 outbreak cases identified in 28 states.

In most of those cases, people reported getting sick between mid-April and mid-May. At least 25 cases were hospitalized nationally; no deaths have been reported.

Toll House Cookie Dough products are typically stocked in the refrigerator cases of grocery and warehouse-type stores in Oregon and around the country. More than 40 varieties are sold in plastic tubs, plastic tubes (“chubs”), and rectangular packages. A complete list of recalled products is provided below.

Nestlé ordered the recall after being informed about the outbreak, and is working with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to determine how and when the problem occurred.

The Oregon person who became ill reported tasting the uncooked dough as she was making cookies, as did virtually all the cases nationwide. Although that is a very common practice, food safety experts have long recommended against it, mostly because of concern about raw egg consumption. However, eggs are not known to be a source of *E. coli* O157:H7, and the specific cause of this outbreak is not yet known and the FDA and CDC are continuing to investigate.

E. coli O157:H7 infections can cause mild to severe intestinal illness, including bloody diarrhea. Some patients develop complications that can require hospitalization. A few patients, especially young children and the elderly may suffer serious and potentially fatal kidney damage. Some 60 to 100 infections are reported each year in Oregon.

A full list of the recalled products is listed below and on the Nestlé Corporation Web site www.verybestbaking.com.

To avoid illness for you and your family, Keene advises following these rules:

1. Discard or return any of the recalled Nestlé Toll House items; do not eat or even taste them.
2. Try to resist the temptation to eat any cookie dough, cake batter or similar product before it is cooked. Raw eggs are always a risky bet, and some other common baking ingredients are safer after they have been cooked.
3. Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water before and after preparing food, as well as before eating, after using the toilet and after changing diapers.

Note: Photo illustrating representative packaging of some of the recalled products is attached. A high-resolution version can be downloaded from the DHS Web site here: http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/news/images/toll_house_lg4.jpg

Dough type	Unit Code (UPC)
COOKIE & BROWNIE DOUGH BAR	
Chocolate Chip bar 16.5oz	0 50000 62231 3
Chocolate Chip bar 16.5oz	0 50000 11308 8
Chocolate Chunk bar 16.5oz	0 50000 62235 1
Walnut Chocolate Chip bar 16.5oz	0 50000 62233 7
Jumbo Chocolate Chip bar 16.5oz	0 50000 62237 5
Oatmeal Raisin bar 16.5oz	0 50000 06219 5
Sugar Cookies bar 16.5oz	0 50000 62244 3
Sugar Cookies bar 16.5oz	0 5000012178 6
Mini Chocolate Chip bar 16.5oz	0 50000 62242 9
Mini Chocolate Chip bar 16.5oz	0 5000012188 5
Mini Brownie Bites bar 16oz	0 50000 62227 6
Fudgy Brownie with Peanut Butter Filling 19oz	0 50000 00820 9
COOKIE DOUGH TUB	
Chocolate Chip tub 40oz	0 50000 62246 7
Chocolate Chip tub 80oz (5 lb)	0 50000 00934 3
Sugar tub 40oz.	0 50000 62253 5
Gingerbread tub 40oz	0 50000 44060 3
Peanut Butter tub 40oz	0 50000 44062 7
TUBE (CHUB) DOUGH	
Chocolate Chip tube 16.5oz	0 50000 62239 9
Chocolate Chip tube 32oz	0 50000 00400 3
ULTIMATES COOKIE BAR DOUGH	
Ultimates Peanut Butter Cups, Chips & Chocolate Chunks bar 16oz	0 50000 00922 0
Ultimates White Chip Macadamia Nut bar 16oz	0 50000 00923 7
Ultimates Chocolate Chip & Chunks with Pecans bar 16oz	0 50000 00925 1
Ultimates Chocolate Chip Lovers 16oz	0 50000 00926 8
Ultimates Turtles bar 16oz	0 50000 00928 2
Ultimates Peanut Butter Lovers bar 16oz	0 50000 00507 9
Ultimates Chocolate Chip with Caramel Filling bar 16oz	0 50000 44066 5
Ultimates Chocolate Chip with Chocolate Filling bar 16oz	0 50000 44069 6
SEASONAL COOKIE & BROWNIE DOUGH	
Valentine Hearts Sugar Cookie Shapes 15.5oz	0 50000 12009 3
Valentine Swirled Chocolate Chip bar 16oz	0 50000 00931 2
Fudgy Brownies with Raspberry Filling 19oz	0 50000 20090 0
Easter Eggs Sugar Cookie Shapes 15.5oz	0 50000 52009 1
Easter Swirled Chocolate Chip bar 16oz	0 50000 00932 9
Easter Swirled Mini Brownie Bites bar 18 oz	0 50000 20093 1
Red, White & Blue Swirled Choc Chip bar 16oz	0 50000 00937 4
Halloween Pumpkin Pals Sugar Cookies 13.5oz	0 50000 06217 1
Halloween Swirled Chocolate Chip bar 16oz	0 50000 00929 9
Halloween Swirled Fudgy Brownies bar 18oz	0 50000 00088 3
Christmas Shapes Sugar Cookies 15.5oz	0 50000 00505 5
Christmas Swirled Chocolate Chip bar 16oz	0 50000 00930 5
Christmas Swirled Fudgy Brownies bar 18oz	0 50000 00089 0
Limited Edition Mint Swirled Chocolate Chip 16oz	0 50000 00827 8
Discontinued Varieties	
Valentine Hearts Sugar Cookies 13.5oz	0 50000 44056 6
Easter Brownie Bar 18oz	0 50000 00518 5
Easter Bunnies Sugar Cookies 13.5oz	0 50000 44058 0
Halloween Sugar Shapes 15.5oz	0 50000 00829 2
Christmas Sugar Cookie Tube 16oz	0 50000 00448 5
Oatmeal Cranberry Cookie Tub 48 oz.	0 50000 62229 0