



8/5/10

RE: Voluntary Recall of all Merrick 10oz Beef Filet Squares/Texas Hold'ems (ITEM # 60016) - updated information.

Dear Valued Retailer,

Attached is a notice from Merrick Pet Care that they are recalling all Merrick 10oz Beef Filet Squares/Texas Hold'ems (ITEM # 60016) due to the possibility of salmonella.

No illnesses have been reported to date.

Please remove these products from your shelves, segregate them from your regular stock and return them to us for credit.

If you have any questions, please contact your Merrick Field Sales rep or our inside sales people.

We regret this inconvenience, but we appreciate Merrick taking the voluntary measure of recalling all of these items from the market in order to make sure there is no chance of harming any pet or pet parent.

We appreciate your business and your support of Merrick Pet Care. We hope to have these items back in stock soon.

Sincerely

Maureen Costello
President



August 4, 2010

**United Pacific Pet
12060 Cabernet Dr.
Fontana, CA. 92337**

RE: Voluntary Recall of all 10oz Beef Filet Squares/Texas Hold'ems (ITEM # 60016)

Dear United Pacific Pet,

As you know, we have been working diligently on our Beef Filet Squares / Texas Hold'ems in conjunction with the FDA. Specifically, we have identified a few lots that have the potential to be contaminated with *Salmonella*. We recalled one lot last January, another this past July, and a third lot yesterday.

While we have no additional information to indicate that any other lots are contaminated, we have made the decision to voluntarily recall ALL LOTS of this product effective immediately, and to cease distribution of this product until such time as we can be confident the product is free from *Salmonella*.

Please examine your inventory and quarantine the product subject to this recall. In addition, if you have further distributed this product, please identify your customers and notify them at once of this product recall. Your notification to customers may be enhanced by including a copy of this recall notification letter.

We ask that you send Sommer Haney a list of all retailers that may have received the product at shaney@merrickpetcare.com. Also, once all retailers have been notified, please fill out and email into Sommer the accompanying form.

Please collect and hold the recalled product in your warehouse. We will be picking up the product once you notify us that you have it ready to ship.

It is important to note that no illnesses have been reported to date.

We appreciate your assistance in this matter. At Merrick, we are committed to providing you and your customers with safe, quality products. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ken Wilks or myself.

Sincerely,

James Witcher
Chief Operations Officer
Merrick Pet Care



BEEF FILET SQUARES & TEXAS HOLD'EMS 10 oz BAG
(ITEM # 60016 ALL LOTS)

Email Completed Form to: Sommer Haney (shaney@merrickpetcare.com)

Distributor Name: _____

Are there any matching products in your inventory? : Yes [] No []

Product Description: 10 oz Beef Filet Squares & Texas Hold'ems

Quantity and date codes in your inventory:

Lot Code	Best By Date	Quantity (Cases)

We have notified our accounts: Yes [] No [] Date: _____

Signed/Dated: _____



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 3, 2010

Customer Inquiries: (800) 664-7387

Other Inquiries: JAMES WITCHER, COO (806) 322-2806

**MERRICK PET CARE RECALLS
TEXAS HOLD'EMS 10 oz BAG (ITEM # 60016 LOT 10127 BEST BY MAY 6 2012)
BECAUSE OF POSSIBLE SALMONELLA HEALTH RISK**

Merrick Pet Care, Inc. of Amarillo, Texas is extending its July 2, 2010 recall of 10oz “Beef Filet Squares for Dogs (Texas Hold’Ems)” pet treat (ITEM # 60016 LOT # 10084TL7 BEST BY MARCH 24, 2012) to also include 83 cases of “Texas Hold’ems” (ITEM # 60016 LOT # 10127 BEST BY MAY 6, 2012) because they have the potential to be contaminated with *Salmonella*. *Salmonella* can affect animals and there is risk to humans from handling contaminated pet products. People handling the treats can become infected with *Salmonella*, especially if they have not thoroughly washed their hands after having contact with the chews or any surfaces exposed to these products. Consumers should dispose of these products in a safe manner by securing them in a covered trash receptacle.

Healthy people infected with *Salmonella* should monitor themselves for some or all of the following symptoms: nausea, vomiting, diarrhea or bloody diarrhea, abdominal cramping and fever. Rarely, *Salmonella* can result in more serious ailments, including arterial infections, endocarditis, arthritis, muscle pain, eye irritation, and urinary tract symptoms. Consumers exhibiting these signs after having contact with this product should contact their healthcare providers immediately.

Pets with *Salmonella* infections may be lethargic and have diarrhea or bloody diarrhea, fever, and vomiting. Some pets will have only decreased appetite, fever and abdominal pain. Infected but otherwise healthy pets can be carriers and infect other animals or humans. If your pet has consumed the recalled product and has these symptoms, please contact your veterinarian immediately.

The Beef Filet Squares (Texas Hold ‘Ems) were shipped to distributors and retailers throughout the US. These individuals have been notified and have activated their recall procedures.

The treats are sold in 10oz plastic bags marked with “Lot # 10127 Best By May 6, 2012” on the top of the bag and on a sticker applied to the bottom.

No illnesses have been reported to date for either lot of product. A sample tested positive for *Salmonella*.

Consumers who have purchased 10 ounce packages of “Texas Hold’ems” are urged to return the unused portion to the place of purchase for a full refund. Consumers with questions may contact the company at 1-800-664-7387 M-F 8:00 – 5:00 CDT.

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