

By Carolyn Lee

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Amidst a nationwide recall of eggs sold by Hillandale Farms and Wright County Farms, both of Iowa, consumers in Imperial should be happy to know that neither of the two grocery stores carries eggs from those businesses.

The two companies have issued a recall of eggs following outbreaks of salmonella cases in California, Colorado and Minnesota.

The total recall as of Monday amounted to 550 million eggs.

Hills' Family Foods and Imperial Super Foods are both Affiliated Food Stores, which purchases eggs from Sparboe Farms in Britt, Iowa.

Super Foods carries only the Shurfresh brand of eggs, while Hills carries both the Shurfresh and Sparboe Farms varieties.

The list of recalled eggs includes the following brands:

Albertsons, Bayview, Boomsma's, Dutch Farms, Farm Fresh, Hillandale, Kemps, Lucerne (Safeway), Lund, Mountain Dairy, Nulaid, Ralph's, Shoreland, Sunshine, Sun Valley and Trafficanda.

Consumers can also check the Julian dates, which range from 136 to 225, and the plant numbers, including P-1026, P-1413 and P-1946, to see if their brand of eggs was recalled.

The label will be in the format of plant number followed by the Julian date, such as P-1946 233.

Recalled eggs were sold at a variety of stores, including Food 4 Less, Foodsco, Ralphs, Walgreens, Safeway and a number of other stores.

Keep in mind that the recalled eggs could also have been a part of egg dishes, cakes, and other foods that contain raw or undercooked eggs that were served in restaurants that had the recalled eggs.

To be safe, in addition to not eating recalled eggs, parents should make sure that their children don't eat raw or undercooked eggs; that refrigerators be kept at less than or equal to 45 degrees, and not keep eggs at room temperature for more than two hours.

Symptoms of salmonella include fever, diarrhea, nausea, vomiting and abdominal pain. Possible bloodstream infection could cause arterial infections, endocarditis or arthritis.

Elderly and young children and those who have an impaired immune system are at a higher risk for developing a severe salmonella infection that could become serious and sometimes even cause death.

Most healthy individuals recover in two to four days.