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## Answers pet food recall

Lystn, LLC, is voluntarily recalling certain lots of ANSWERS Pet Food due to the potential risk of Listeria and Salmonella, according to the company's announcement. The voluntary recall includes two beef dog food recipes and one chicken dog food recipe, all of which are sold as 4-lb half-gallon cartons. If you have recently purchased one of these products, check the UPC, lot code, and best-by date to see if your dog's food is affected. ANSWERS Pet Food Detailed™ Beef Formula for Dogs UPC: 856554002102/Lot Code: BUBD MAY 06, 2026/Best-By Date: MAY 06, 2026 ANSWERS Pet Food Straight Beef Formula for Dogs UPC: 856554002072/Lot Code: BUBD JAN 31, 2026/Best-By Date: JAN 31, 2026 ANSWERS Pet Food Straight Chicken Formula for Dogs UPC: 856554002065/Lot Code: BUBD JAN 02, 2026 and MAR 11, 2026/Best-By Date: JAN 02, 2026 and MAR 11, 2026 The FDA recommends pet parents who have purchased the affected products to do the following: Place affected products in a sealed plastic bag using gloves or paper towels. Dispose of or destroy contaminated food. Sanitize any surface that has come in contact with the contaminated food. You can also request a refund for any of the affected products by submitting a receipt and pictures of the product to [info@answerspetfood.com](mailto:info@answerspetfood.com) As of Sept. 23, 2024, there have been no illnesses associated with these product lots. However, if your pet has consumed any of the affected products, monitor both your pet and the rest of your household for the following symptoms, which could signify a Listeria or Salmonella infection. The FDA says Listeria rarely causes illnesses in dogs, but as a carrier, they can spread it to humans, who are more likely to be affected. Symptoms of exposure to Listeria monocytogenes in humans include: Fever, Headache, Muscle aches, Stiff neck, Nausea, Abdominal pain, Diarrhea, Confusion, Loss of balance, Convulsions. Pets infected with Salmonella may be lethargic and have diarrhea or bloody diarrhea, a fever, or vomit. If your pet has consumed the affected products and is exhibiting any of these symptoms, the FDA recommends contacting your veterinarian. Healthy people who come into contact with Salmonella may exhibit symptoms such as: Nausea, Vomiting, Diarrhea or bloody diarrhea, Abdominal cramping, Fever. In rare cases, Salmonella in humans can cause arterial infections, endocarditis, arthritis, muscle pain, eye irritation, and urinary tract symptoms. Thanks for your feedback! Company Announcement Date: September 22, 2024 FDA Publish Date: September 23, 2024 Product Type: Animal & Veterinary Food & Beverages Pet Food Foodborne Illness Reason for Announcement: Recall Reason Description Due to Potential Salmonella and Listeria Company Name: Lystn, LLC, d.b.a. ANSWERS Brand Name: Product Description: Product Description Beef and Chicken Dog Foods Lystn, LLC d.b.a./ANSWERS Pet Food of Fleetwood, PA, is voluntarily withdrawing certain lots of ANSWERS Detailed Beef Formula for Dogs, ANSWERS Straight Beef Formula for Dogs, and ANSWERS Straight Chicken Formula for Dogs out of an abundance of caution after samples collected by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration were reported to have tested positive for the presence of Salmonella and Listeria monocytogenes. No illnesses associated with these lots have been confirmed. Salmonella and Listeria monocytogenes can affect animals eating the products and there is risk to humans from handling contaminated pet products, especially if they have not thoroughly washed their hands after contact with the products or any surfaces exposed to these products. Listeria monocytogenes rarely causes illness in dogs, but it is possible. Dogs can have mild symptoms such as diarrhea and vomiting. Even if a dog is not showing symptoms, it can still be a carrier of the bacteria and spread it to humans. If a dog has consumed a product lot identified below, pet parents are encouraged to consult their veterinarian if symptoms exist. People can become sick by handling contaminated food or touching surfaces that have been exposed to Listeria monocytogenes. Symptoms in humans may include fever, headache, muscle aches, stiff neck, nausea, abdominal pain, diarrhea, confusion, loss of balance and convulsions. Young children, elderly people, pregnant women, and those with weakened immune systems are particularly vulnerable to Listeria monocytogenes infections and symptoms can be more severe. Anyone exhibiting symptoms after handling a product lot identified below, should contact their healthcare provider. Individuals handling pet food can become infected with Salmonella, especially if they have not thoroughly washed their hands after having contact with surfaces exposed to such a lot of product being implicated. There are thousands of species of Salmonella, less than a handful are harmful to pets or humans. Healthy people infected with Salmonella should monitor themselves for some or all 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 such a product should contact their healthcare providers. Children, the elderly, and individuals with compromised immune systems may be at greater risk of Salmonella infection. Pets with Salmonella infections may be lethargic and have diarrhea or bloody diarrhea, fever, and vomiting. Some pets may only exhibit 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 product lot identified below and has these symptoms, please contact your veterinarian. The lots referenced below were distributed throughout the United States in retail stores and direct online sales. Again, no illnesses associated with these lots have been confirmed. ANSWERS is notifying the public, distributors, and retail stores regarding this notice. The products being withdrawn are sold in 4lb half gallon cartons (see pictures at end of this announcement). The brand names and lot numbers of the product being withdrawn are listed in the table below: PRODUCT NAME/UPC SIZE Best Buy / Expiration Lot Code ANSWERS Pet Food Detailed Beef Formula for Dogs/856554002102 4lb (Half Gallon Carton) MAY 06, 2026 BUBD MAY 06, 2026 ANSWERS Pet Food Straight Beef Formula for Dogs/856554002072 4lb (Half Gallon Carton) JAN 31, 2026 BUBD JAN 31, 2026 ANSWERS Pet Food Straight Chicken Formula for Dogs/856554002065 4lb (Half Gallon Carton) JAN 02, 2026 MAR 11, 2026 What to Do FDA guidelines recommend any product from the listed lots that has not yet been consumed should be thrown out or destroyed in a way that children, pets, and wildlife cannot access it. Areas that may have come in contact with any contaminated food should be sanitized. The FDA recommends that people do not touch potentially contaminated food with bare hands and therefore suggests wearing gloves or using paper towels when placing any contaminated product in a sealed bag to throw out or when handling such food. If consumers have any of these lots of products in their possession and desire a refund, please submit a receipt and pictures of the product to [info@answerspetfood.com](mailto:info@answerspetfood.com) along with the retailer's information. If you have questions or concerns, please email ANSWERS Pet Food at [info@answerspetfood.com](mailto:info@answerspetfood.com). For Informational Purpose From time-to-time pathogens appear in all types of pet food products and some may be harmful to pets and/or humans. The FDA considers any presence (zero tolerance) of Salmonella and Listeria monocytogenes, regardless of origin, quantity, and type, as an adulterant in pet food. In accordance with the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, to date, ANSWERS has not received any quantification data or a completed Health Hazard Evaluation (HHE) from the FDA or Center for Veterinary Medicine for these particular lots of products. ANSWERS is conducting this voluntary withdrawal of these particular lots out of an abundance of caution to protect public health by ensuring timely removal of the implicated product lots from the marketplace. ANSWERS will continue investigating this FDA report pursuing its number one priority to bring healthy, safe, truly raw pet food products to market. ANSWERS has been and will continue to work with the FDA to ensure that the highest and safest food is provided to your pets and continues to stand by the safety of our food and the unique and innovative way we protect our food with fermentation, probiotics and protective cultures that mitigate pathogens from growing. FDA Advisory Consumers: [info@answerspetfood.com](mailto:info@answerspetfood.com) ANSWERS Pet Food Response to FDA Advisory Re: Voluntary Withdrawals of Certain Limited Lots of Beef and Chicken Dog Foods Due to Potential Salmonella and Listeria FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 24, 2024 Answers Pet Food Withdrawal and Contact: [info@answerspetfood.com](mailto:info@answerspetfood.com) This communication from Lystn, LLC d.b.a./ANSWERS Pet Food of Fleetwood, PA ("ANSWERS"), is in response to the September 23, 2024 posted FDA Advisory: Do Not Feed Certain Answers Pet Food for Dogs Due to Salmonella and Listeria monocytogenes. ANSWERS prides itself on being transparent, and, therefore, wants to clarify statements made by the FDA not explained in the Advisory. The FDA reported that they collected and tested unopened retail samples of products after receiving three consumer complaints of illnesses in dogs that ate products from this lot. This is a misrepresentation of the facts. ANSWERS requested information on the reported complaints, and the limited information provided by the FDA was that one (1) consumer filed a series of three (3) complaints. When ANSWERS additionally requested supporting documentation, the FDA would not discuss the complaints further, and said ANSWERS would have to file a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to learn more of the complaints. ANSWERS internal investigation found no research tying the alleged health problems reportedly suffered by the dogs in the complaint to the consumption of pet food alleged to contain pathogens. These lots of our products were distributed to many other end-users with no reported health complaints. ANSWERS is unaware of any confirmed illnesses in humans or animals directly tied to and caused by the implicated product lots referenced in the September 23, 2024 FDA Advisory. The FDA reported that they recommended that ANSWERS Pet Food recall these products. They state that to date, the company has not initiated an adequate recall of the affected products. The FDA, CVM and their staff are not following the requirements of the applicable federal law, the Food, Drug & Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act), for the determination if a food is adulterated. You may be aware that in 2019, ANSWERS Pet Food sought a court Declaratory Judgement against the FDA using nonbinding Compliance Policy Guides (CPG) to determine if a manufacturer is in violation of the Food, Drug & Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act) regarding adulterated food in lieu of completing a number of steps required by the law, including, but not limited to: Determining if the alleged pathogen was from an additive substance or not, Quantification of the alleged pathogen, Quality of the alleged pathogen (serotype), and Completing a Health Hazard Evaluation (HHE) The above additional data required to be collected and investigated is to be used to determine if the quantity of such substance in a product defines it as adulterated and injurious to health. The courts have determined that it is unlawful to use a nonbinding zero tolerance Compliance Policy Guide to alone determine if a product is violative. The FDA is using the non-binding Compliance Policy Guides (CPG) to determine legal compliance by regulated industries with the FD&C Act. From time-to-time pathogens appear in all types of pet food products and some may be harmful to pets and/or humans. The FDA does not follow the requirements of the FD&C Act; therefore, it is unknown if the questionable products violate the law. It is not even known if the alleged pathogenetic substance is an added substance or not, and in the case where a substance is not an added substance, under the FD&C Act such food shall not be considered adulterated under this clause if the quantity of such substance in such foods does not ordinarily render it injurious to health. The FDA never quantified the substance nor provided to ANSWERS a required Health Hazard Evaluation (HHE). The law requires that the FDA must provide the HHE to the applicable manufacturer when a food recall is required, and/or the CVM assigns a classification and publicly posts the recall in the weekly FDA Enforcement Report. Within FDA communications provided to ANSWERS, they state "Upon determination by the FDA Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM) that an action meets the definition of a recall, the Agency assigns a classification and publicly posts the recall in the weekly FDA Enforcement Report in accordance with 21 CFR 7.50." Under FDA published information on Enforcement Reports it states, "Once FDA completes the hazard assessment, the Enforcement Report entry will be updated with the recall classification." Since the FDA has not determined if a product is adulterated, a recall is not applicable because by FDA's own definition of a recall is when a product is removed from the market because it violates FDA laws. ANSWERS requested that all required data, documentation, and process required by the law be followed including the HHE in determining the appropriate action regarding the products. The FDA required an answer regarding the disposition of the implicated products within 24 hours of Answers receiving and discussing the laboratory Reports of Sample Analysis. The 24-hour period did not allow ANSWERS adequate time to follow our recall determination strategy, including but not limited to obtaining split samples and independent test results as well as more detailed data of FDA test results and conducting a Health Hazard Evaluation. ANSWERS uses Hurdle Technology including fermented ingredients, and we inoculate our products using protective cultures specifically to help mitigate pathogenic bacterium, so quantification of pathogens and Lactic Acid Bacteria (LABs), and a Health Hazard Evaluation are critical to ANSWERS decision making. Even though the FDA did not follow the requirements of the FD&C Act, and did not complete a HHE, the FDA reported that they would issue an advisory unless ANSWERS initiated a recall under 21 CFR 7.46 with an adequate press release using FDA language, which ANSWERS disagrees with. Regardless, ANSWERS informed the FDA that we would honor our commitment to notify the public and withdraw the implicated product lots from the market. A manufacturer may decide on its own and under any circumstances to remove from sale any of its products. ANSWERS moved forward with the voluntary withdrawal as intended, notifying distributors, retailers, and the public, prior to the FDA releasing their Public Advisory. In the meantime, ANSWERS will continue investigating this FDA report with further data collection, testing and analysis as our number one priority is to bring healthy, safe, truly raw pet food products to market. ANSWERS stands by the safety of our food, and the unique and innovative way we protect our food with fermentation, probiotics and protective cultures that mitigate pathogens from growing. To learn more, ANSWERS has developed an educational video, "Answers Food-Safety" that can be viewed at on our social media platforms, or accessed in the footer located on our website at [www.answerspetfood.com](http://www.answerspetfood.com). FDA Posted Advisory