

SmartPak Suspends Production of Dog Food Brand

Dog food maker SmartPak is suspending production of one brand due to presence of melamine, the tainted ingredient in the dog food recall.

Posted: May 5, 2007, 5 a.m. EST

Pet food maker SmartPak, which recalled a dog food brand in April due to possible contamination, now says the product is contaminant-free, but that another of its brands has been found to be contaminated.

SmartPak announced May 2 that it is recalling all orders of its LiveSmart Adult Lamb and Brown Rice due to the presence of the industrial plastic melamine. Also, production of the product is being completely suspended, the company says.

Back on April 20, SmartPak voluntarily recalled a single production run of LiveSmart Weight Management Chicken and Brown Rice dog food due to concerns over possible contamination. But no melamine was found in it, or in samples of LiveSmart Adult Chicken and Brown Rice, LiveSmart Puppy and Brown Rice, or LiveSmart Senior and Brown Rice, the company says.

The sole tainted product was the Adult Lamb and Brown Rice, but since none of the ingredients in the brand came from China – where the tainted melamine found in other brands originated – the company says the melamine in the product comes as a complete surprise.

“This was unexpected, since the formula does not contain rice protein concentrate, wheat gluten, or any of the ingredients on the FDA’s import watch list,” according to an update posted on the company’s website, smartpakcanine.com.

“All the ingredients in the formula, with the exception of the lamb and lamb meal, originate from United States sources. The lamb and lamb meal we use in the formula is sourced from New Zealand,” states the online SmartPak update.

SmartPak, which sells directly to consumers through its website, said it has notified its customers of the recall via phone, letter and e-mail. “There are no bags of potentially affected product on store shelves anywhere in the country,” the company said in its update.

Anyone whose dog may be experiencing an illness after eating LiveSmart Adult Lamb and Brown Rice is urged to take their pet to a veterinarian immediately.

For a complete list of pet foods under recall, visit www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/petfoodrecall. To read more updates on the dog food recall, visit www.dogchannel.com/dog-news/dog-food-recall-updates.aspx.