

Ferre Hockensmith, Catalina

From: Satchell, Felicia B
Sent: Wednesday, July 11, 2001 10:51 AM
To: Ferre Hockensmith, Catalina; Anderson, Ellen M
Cc: Gombas, Kathy L
Subject: FW: FAAN Product-Related Member Calls, June 4-15

FYI

-----Original Message-----

From: The Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Network
[mailto:faan@foodallergy.org]
Sent: Tuesday, June 19, 2001 2:12 PM
To: Satchell, Felicia B
Subject: FAAN Product-Related Member Calls, June 4-15

Manischewitz Macaroons this e-mail is from Soulluvr@aol.com:

I wanted to send an alert to you and your members. There is cross-contamination at the manufacturer of Manischewitz. Their macaroons (among other things) are produced in a non-nut free environment. My daughter had a terrible experience after eating one bite of a macaroon with undeclared nuts (she is allergic to all nuts). There are no nuts used in this particular product, however there must have been "contamination" along the way.

Royale Chocolates Ltd. Peppermint Patties this e-mail is from Tracey Scheer: I am writing to report that my daughter, Samantha, had an allergic reaction to Royale Chocolates Ltd. Peppermint Patties. The ingredients list no dairy products, but her reaction was unmistakable. She was given Epi-Pen, liquid antihistamine and steroid, and transported to Yale Children's Hospital by ambulance where she was given a diagnosis of anaphylaxis. She has a history of allergy to dairy products and asthma. She does not have allergies to any other foods. I have reported the incident to the receptionist at the manufacturer, a division of Barricini Candies, located at Rocky Glen Road, Moosic, PA 18507. The box mentions plant 309. The box is also marked "parve" which is a kosher symbol that should indicate the product is dairy free.

This product was tested on 6/13/01 by Sue Hefle, who found a large quantity of milk content (700 ppm in a sample from the candy eaten by this child, and 2800 ppm in a sample from another box).

Orange Julius Fruit Smoothie Dr. Backman called to tell us he was about to purchase a fruit smoothie at the Orange Juilius kiosk at the mall, but first asked about the ingredients. He was surprised to learn that almond powder and coconut powder are added to all flavors fruit smoothies. Also, egg white is an ingredient in Orange Julius.

Voortman Wafer Cookies this e-mail is from Jackie Sheets: Voortman Vanilla and Strawberry wafer cookies now may contain the following: peanuts, tree nuts, eggs, dairy and soy. I have an email from them that I will forward to you. I cannot tell you how upset I am about this information. My daughter and I are allergic to the above products and we have been eating these cookies for over a year because we thought they were safe. Voortman just started this new labeling. She included this e-mail reply from the manufacturer: Thank you for your time and initiative in contacting us regarding our Vanilla Wafers. The new packaging film indicates the changes of

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ingredients because of the possibility of residue on the baking equipment. In order to have an ingredient listed there needs to be a certain volume level and if there are minute traces then these would not be considered ingredients. During our investigations we have determined that there is the possibility of the levels of residue being higher, at times, and it was necessary for us to include these as ingredients. We are not able to run a allergy free line because we have an open bakery facility and in order to guarantee the product allergy free we would also need the assurance from our bulk suppliers, which would be very difficult.

Yours truly,
Voortman Cookies Limited

Sunshine Krispy Mild Cheddar Saltines this e-mail is from Susan Gay: I had a reaction to something in Sunshine's Krispy "mild cheddar" saltines. I have a very strong allergy to peanuts and mild allergy to tree nuts (none listed in the ingredients). I had a strong enough reaction that it was unquestionably something in these crackers, which I ate alone, but not enough to use my epipen. I've eaten their saltines without a problem so I think it may be something in the "cheese" part. The lot number embossed on the box is: K 11413.

General Mills Milk 'N Cereal Bars this e-mail is from Carol A. Epstein: My 10 year-old son, Jesse, has a severe allergy to peanuts. He has had a mild allergic reaction (tongue-swelling) after eating General Mills Milk 'N Cereal Bars (all 3 flavors - Honey-Nut Cheerios, Cinnamon Toast Crunch, and Chex). None of these products list peanuts as an ingredient. They do list almonds, but Jesse is definitely not allergic to almonds. I have called General Mills and am expecting a response from them later today.

Kellogg's Chocolate Chunk Rice Krispies Treats this e-mail is from Diane M. Terrien about the frequently-reported discrepancy in the warnings on multi-pack labels:
Boxes of Kellogg's Chocolate Chunk Rice Krispies Treats reflect the following warning in the ingredient section: CONTAINS MILK AND SOYBEAN INGREDIENTS. It is not until you open the box and read the ingredients on the actual bag that holds each Treat that you see the warning: CONTAINS PEANUT, MILK AND SOYBEAN INGREDIENTS. My 10-year old son has anaphylactic allergies to all nuts. I purposefully had read the label on the box before buying it. Once we got home, I gave him a Treat. Thankfully, he stopped and read the ingredients listed on the bag, which showed PEANUTS. If my son had not thought to read the ingredients on the bag one last time, the consequences could have proved fatal, even though I had done due diligence by checking the ingredients on the box.

XOXO ChocoLove Milk Chocolate With Ground Cocoa Beans Carolyn Seera (516-796-4889) called to tell us her daughter was eating this chocolate bar and handed it to her and asked if the lump inside was a nut. Carolyn bit into it and it was, indeed, some type of nut. She took her daughter to the allergist, whose office was across the street, and she showed no signs of a reaction. When she called the company at 888-246-2656 she spoke to Timothy, who told her there are candies containing hazelnut that are made on the same line. He also indicated that they are in the process of putting a warning on their labels.

Nabisco Ritz Bits with Cheese Michelle Higgins (413-665-7475) called to tell us her husband bought this product and gave it to her peanut-allergic son. However, before he ate any, the 5-year-old decided to wait and have Mom read the label. Michelle was able to see what her husband could not...there was a black code 1347BD33 that had been stamped over the last 2 ingredients in the list - Yellow #6 and Peanut. The ingredient list is in white type, and this black stamped-on code made it nearly impossible to read all the ingredients.

Wal-Mart Great Value Cookies this e-mail is from Larry Salas:

For a couple of years now we have been buying several of the varieties of Great Value cookies that are sold at Wal-Mart stores. Within the last few months most of the Wal-Mart cookies now have a warning that even though the ingredients don't show milk, eggs or nuts the cookies are made in a plant that makes other cookies with these ingredients, suggesting that there may be cross contamination. This saddens us in that it is just another manufacturer taking the easy way out, rather than just making some effort to avoid cross contamination.

Lays KC Masterpiece Baked Potato Chips this e-mail is from Ken Burton: I bought a sandwich at Subway the other day and decided to get a bag of chips with it. Imagine my surprise when I read the ingredients of the Lays KC Masterpiece Baked Potato Chips and found EGG YOLK!

Debbie Scherrer, Member Communications

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