MAJOR FRUIT RECALL AFFECTS WEST VIRGINIA RETAILERS

“Consumers should be on the lookout for fruit recalled by Wawona Packing Company of Cutler, Calif., after routine sampling detected *Listeria monocytogenes* on some of the fruit, according to West Virginia Commissioner of Agriculture Walt Helmick.

“Our regulatory officers are in stores on a daily basis and are making sure that recalled product has been pulled from shelves,” said Commissioner Helmick. “Consumers should be especially cautious if they might have affected products that predate the actual recall.”

Products subject to the recall are certain lots of whole peaches (white and yellow), nectarines (white and yellow), plums and pluots packed between June 1, 2014 and July 12, 2014. Brand names can include Wawona, Sweet 2 Eat or Harvest Sweet. Affected stores in West Virginia include Sam’s Club and Kroger, along with out-of-state chains such as Costco, BJ’s, Wegman’s, Dierberg’s and Trader Joe’s.

No illnesses have been linked to this recall, but *Listeria monocytogenes* can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems. Although healthy individuals may suffer only short-term symptoms such as high fever, severe headache, stiffness, nausea, abdominal pain and diarrhea, Listeria infection can cause miscarriages and stillbirths.

Consumers can identify the recalled products by the information provided at http://www.wawonapacking.com/VoluntaryRecall-07192014.pdf. Anyone who has the recalled products in their possession should not consume them. Consumers with questions may contact Wawona Packing at 1-888-232-9912, M-F, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. ET.