



City of Wichita Falls

Wichita Falls-Wichita County Public Health District

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PRESS RELEASE

October 25, 2021

Salmonella Oranienberg Outbreak

Wichita Falls, Texas— *The U.S. Food and Drug Administration, along with the Centers for Disease Control and prevention (CDC) and state and local partners, warn consumers **do not eat, sell, or serve fresh whole red, white, or yellow onions distributed by ProSource Inc. that were imported from Chihuahua, Mexico.** If you have unlabeled fresh whole red, white, or yellow onions at home, throw them away and don't eat them.*

As of October, 20, 2021 158 lab-confirmed cases of Salmonella Oranienberg have been reported from 36 counties in Texas. Nationally the case count is 652 across 37 states. Recent illnesses may not yet be reported as it usually takes 3 to 4 weeks to determine if a sick person is part of an outbreak. The true number of sick people in an outbreak is also likely much higher than the number reported. This is because many people recover without medical care and are not tested for Salmonella. At this time, no cases have been reported in Wichita County, Texas.

What should you do?

Throw away any whole red, white, or yellow onions you have at home that do not have a sticker or packaging.

- These onions may have stickers or packaging indicating the brand (ProSource Inc.) and the country (Mexico) where they were grown.
- If you can't tell where the onions are from, don't buy or eat them.
- Wash surfaces and containers these onions may have touched using hot soapy water or a dishwasher.

Salmonella Symptoms:

- Most people infected with *Salmonella* experience diarrhea, fever, and stomach cramps.
 - Symptoms usually start 6 hours to 6 days after swallowing the bacteria.
 - Most people recover without treatment after 4 to 7 days.
- Some people – especially children younger than 5 years, adults 65 years and older, and people with weakened immune systems – may experience more severe illnesses that require medical treatment or hospitalization.

Call your healthcare provider if you have any of these severe Salmonella symptoms:

- Diarrhea and a fever higher than 102°F
- Diarrhea for more than 3 days that is not improving
- Bloody diarrhea
- Excessive vomiting
- Signs of dehydration, such as:
 - Not peeing much
 - Dry mouth and throat
 - Feeling dizzy when standing up

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