

CYCLOSPORA OUTBREAK AND FRESH PRODUCE SAFETY UPDATES

FRIDAY, JULY 24, 2026

Links to Official Information with recent updates:

- CDC Cyclospora Outbreak: www.cdc.gov/cyclosporiasis/outbreaks/07-26/index.html
 - FDA Investigation of Iceberg Lettuce: www.fda.gov/food/outbreaks-foodborne-illness/investigation-5-state-outbreak-cyclospora-illnesses-iceberg-lettuce-july-2026
 - Taylor Fresh Foods Statement Regarding Cyclospora Outbreak: www.taylorfarms.com/newsroom/taylor-fresh-foods-statement-regarding-cyclospora-outbreak
 - FDA Recall (from 7/18) on TF Lettuce from Central Mexico: www.fda.gov/safety/recalls-market-withdrawals-safety-alerts/taylor-fresh-foods-recalls-iceberg-lettuce-central-mexico-because-possible-health-risk
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Four Seasons Produce recap notes:

Food Safety is paramount to consumer trust in Fresh Produce. That trust has been shaken this July due to a Cyclospora Outbreak that sickened many and took a while to pinpoint a source. Salad, Berry, and Lettuce sales volumes have dropped markedly recently as shoppers try to make sense of all the info out there.

What happened with Lettuce? Iceberg Lettuce grown in Central Mexico by Taylor Farms de Mexico supplied to Taco Bells in the Mid-West is where CDC / FDA research led the investigation to, based on interviews of what Cyclospora outbreak patients ate. On 7/18 a recall was initiated on Taylor Farms de Mexico iceberg lettuce (grown in Central Mexico) which was distributed from 6/29 through 7/16 in bulk foodservice cases and in select lots of Marketside brand Iceberg Lettuce retail salads (Walmart's private label).

The later FDA acknowledged a false-positive Cyclospora test on Taylor Farms lettuce, yet Taylor Farms de Mexico supplied shredded iceberg lettuce still remains the FDA's targeted source of the Mid-West outbreak's investigation.

Why are Taylor Farms brand retail packs still being sold? Taylor Farms branded retail salads were not and are not made with Iceberg Lettuce from Mexico and were NOT involved in the recall, despite images of Taylor Farms Shredded Iceberg retail pack images being used in news stories and social media stories.

Where is the lettuce used in Taylor Farms brand retail packs grown? Taylor Farms brand retail salads are being made with iceberg lettuces grown in Santa Maria and Salinas, CA. Romaine is grown in Salinas, Hollister, King City, and Santa Maria, CA; other lettuces are grown in Salinas, CA; and some organic baby lettuce greens are grown in Salinas, CA and Yerington, NV at this time of year. Again, no Lettuces from Mexico are being used for Taylor Farms branded retail packs.

To our awareness, other lettuce grower-shippers or salad brands Four Seasons Produce offers are NOT being investigated by the FDA. Dole/Bud/Josies/Braga/organicgirl, State Garden/Olivias, Little Leaf, VegPro/Attitude have confirmed with letters to Four Seasons as such.

Four Seasons Produce's full head CV 24ct Cello Iceberg Lettuce is being sourced from Quebec (2975) and from Maine and California (2985); and our OG Iceberg Lettuce 12ct (41163) is grown in Quebec and California.

What about Berries? Berries have been in the news (especially Raspberries and Blackberries) as culprits in PAST outbreaks of Cyclospora and have been talked about in the media as items to consider avoiding. Driscoll's is NOT being researched by the FDA (nor other berry shippers to our awareness) and Driscoll's is publicly sharing their berries are safe to eat.