

Cucumbers Recalled for Salmonella Contamination (May 2025)

Key Takeaways

- **What happened:** A multistate Salmonella Montevideo outbreak (26 cases, 9 hospitalizations) was traced to whole fresh cucumbers grown by **Bedner Growers, Inc.** (Boynton Beach, FL) and distributed by **Fresh Start Produce Sales, Inc.** [fda.gov](#)[fda.gov](#) . An official recall was issued May 19–20, 2025.
- **Reason:** The cucumbers are contaminated with *Salmonella* (an organism causing diarrhea, fever, cramps) [fda.gov](#) [cdc.gov](#) . An FDA environmental sample at Bedner’s farm matched the outbreak strain [fda.gov](#) .
- **Who is affected:** Illnesses (no deaths) have been reported in 15 U.S. states (including AL, CA, FL, NY, PA, TN, etc.) [fda.gov](#) [fda.gov](#) . The cucumbers were sold in Florida and via national distributors (including on cruise ships from FL) [cdc.gov](#) [fda.gov](#) .
- **Timeline:** Illnesses began in late April 2025 (last onset April 28), investigation followed by recall in mid-May. FDA/CDC confirmed the source and Bedner Growers voluntarily recalled all cucumbers sold April 29–May 14 at Bedner’s Farm Fresh Market (FL) and to a wholesale distributor [fda.gov](#) [fda.gov](#) . The outbreak is ongoing as of May 20, 2025.
- **Public response:** CDC and FDA issued alerts advising businesses to stop selling the cucumbers and consumers to **discard** any suspect cucumbers [cdc.gov](#) [fda.gov](#) . Officials also recommend thoroughly washing surfaces and produce, and seeking medical care if sick.

Reason for Recall

Cucumbers are being recalled due to contamination with *Salmonella* bacteria (specifically *Salmonella Montevideo*) [fda.gov](#) [fda.gov](#) . Salmonella can cause foodborne illness with symptoms like diarrhea, fever and abdominal cramps [cdc.gov](#) . In this case, FDA traceback and testing found the outbreak strain on cucumbers from Bedner Growers’ farm [fda.gov](#) . The recalled cucumbers have been **linked to the outbreak** through lab (whole-genome sequencing) and epidemiologic data [cdc.gov](#) [fda.gov](#) .

Products and Companies Involved

- **Bedner Growers, Inc.** (Boynton Beach, FL) – the grower and recall initiator [fda.gov](#) . All affected cucumbers were grown at Bedner’s farm.
- **Bedner’s Farm Fresh Markets** – three retail locations in Florida (Boynton Beach, Delray Beach, West Palm Beach) where these cucumbers were sold between April 29 and May 14, 2025 [fda.gov](#) [fda.gov](#) .
- **Fresh Start Produce Sales, Inc.** (Delray Beach, FL) – the distributor for Bedner’s cucumbers [cdc.gov](#) . Fresh Start distributed the cucumbers to various retail and foodservice customers.
- **Wholesalers/Restaurants:** A wholesale distributor received these cucumbers and was instructed to notify its customers. Some cucumbers were served on cruise ships departing Florida ports [cdc.gov](#) [fda.gov](#) .
- **Product description:** Whole fresh (non-organic) cucumbers sold loose or in bulk. They may have been sold individually or in small packs labeled generically as “supers,” “selects,” or “plains” [fda.gov](#) [cdc.gov](#) . Because they bore **no brand stickers or lot codes**, identification relies on sale dates and locations [fda.gov](#) . No other brands or cucumber types (e.g. organic, sliced, mini) are included in this recall.

Geographic Scope

- **United States (15 states):** As of May 20, 2025, illnesses have been reported in **15 states**: Alabama, California, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, North Carolina, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia [fda.gov](#) [fda.gov](#) .
- **Florida focus:** The contaminated cucumbers were sold only at Bedner’s Farm Fresh Market stores in Florida (Boynton Beach, Delray Beach, West Palm Beach) and via Fresh Start nationwide. Because Florida ports served as embarkation points, some exposure occurred on cruise ships leaving Florida [cdc.gov](#) [fda.gov](#) .
No international cases reported: To date, only U.S. cases have been linked to this outbreak. (By contrast, a separate November 2024 cucumber outbreak had involved products from Mexico [cdc.gov](#) .)

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Timeline of Outbreak and Recall

- **April 28, 2025:** Onset of the first reported illness in this outbreak [fda.gov](#).
- **Mid-May 2025:** State health departments and CDC detect an unusual cluster of *Salmonella* Montevideo infections. By May 16, 26 people in 15 states were confirmed ill [fda.gov](#). FDA traceback identifies a common grower (Bedner Growers).
- **May 19, 2025:** Bedner Growers, Inc. *voluntarily* announces a recall of all cucumbers sold April 29–May 14, 2025 at Bedner’s Farm Fresh Markets and to its distributor [fda.gov](#) [fda.gov](#).
On this date, CDC issues a public outbreak alert (“Businesses should not sell or serve” these cucumbers) [cdc.gov](#).
- **May 20, 2025:** FDA publishes its Outbreak Investigation report and confirmatory case count (26 illnesses, 9 hospitalized) [fda.gov](#). The recall notice is posted on the FDA website [fda.gov](#). The FDA/CDC investigation remains ongoing.
- **Updates:** FDA and CDC continue to update guidelines and case counts on their websites as new information becomes available [fda.gov](#) [fda.gov](#).

Health Risks and Reported Illnesses

- **Symptoms:** *Salmonella* infection typically causes diarrhea, fever, stomach cramps (6–72 hours after exposure) [cdc.gov](#). Most healthy people recover within 4–7 days.
- **Severity:** Vulnerable groups (children <5, seniors, immunocompromised) are at higher risk of severe illness. In rare cases *Salmonella* can invade the bloodstream, causing serious complications (arterial infections, endocarditis) [fda.gov](#).
- **Outbreak strain:** The investigations identified *Salmonella enterica* serovar Montevideo as the outbreak strain. An environmental sample from Bedner’s farm tested positive for this strain [fda.gov](#).
- **Case count:** So far 26 cases linked to this outbreak have been reported [fda.gov](#). Of 23 people with available data, **9 were hospitalized**; no deaths have been reported [fda.gov](#). Among those interviewed, the majority (85%) had eaten cucumbers before falling ill [fda.gov](#).

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Related outbreaks: For context, a separate *Salmonella* outbreak in late 2024 (different strain) sickened 113 people and was linked to cucumbers from Agrotato (Sonora, Mexico) [cdc.gov](#) [cdc.gov](#) . The current outbreak is unrelated and involves a U.S. grower.

Official Response (FDA, CDC, State Agencies)

- **CDC Alert (May 19, 2025):** CDC posted an outbreak notice warning consumers and businesses that “whole cucumbers grown by Bedner Growers Inc. and distributed by Fresh Start Produce Sales Inc.” should not be sold or eaten [cdc.gov](#) . The notice includes case counts and safety advice.
- **FDA Recall Notice (May 20, 2025):** FDA published the company’s recall announcement for cucumbers sold April 29–May 14, 2025, explicitly listing the Farm Fresh Market locations and describing the recall scope [fda.gov](#) [fda.gov](#) . FDA’s Outbreak Investigation page describes the product, case counts (26 illnesses), and provides cleaning/sanitizing recommendations [fda.gov](#) [fda.gov](#) .
- **Local agencies:** State health departments (e.g. Florida DOH) typically coordinate on investigations; to date official CDC/FDA sources summarize the key alerts. Retailers and restaurants have been urged to check receipts and distribution records and to contact customers if they sold the affected cucumbers.
- **Public updates:** Both FDA and CDC maintain updated web pages and FAQs on this outbreak, and both urge ongoing reporting of illnesses (via state health departments) [fda.gov](#) [fda.gov](#) .

Consumer Guidance

- **Do not eat/sell recalled cucumbers:** If you purchased or have any whole cucumbers that could be from Bedner Growers (sold April 29–May 14 at Bedner’s markets or via Fresh Start), **discard them immediately** [cdc.gov](#) [fda.gov](#) . Do not attempt to wash or eat them. Because the cucumbers had no identifying labels, throw out any cucumber if you are unsure of its origin [cdc.gov](#) [fda.gov](#) .
- **Check with restaurants:** If dining out, ask if the establishment’s cucumbers were supplied by Bedner Growers or Fresh Start Produce. If unsure, do not consume salad or other dishes with raw cucumber [cdc.gov](#) .
- **Kitchen hygiene:** Wash and sanitize any containers, cutting boards, utensils, or surfaces

that may have come into contact with contaminated cucumbers [cdc.gov](#) [fda.gov](#) . Use hot soapy water or a dishwasher. Clean bulk produce bins before refilling, and alert customers if you are a retailer [fda.gov](#) .

Symptoms watch: Monitor for Salmonella symptoms (diarrhea, fever, cramps). Seek medical care if you experience severe symptoms (high fever > 102°F, bloody diarrhea, prolonged vomiting, dehydration) [cdc.gov](#) . Inform your doctor about possible cucumber exposure.

- **Reporting illnesses:** If you become ill with suspected Salmonella symptoms after consuming cucumbers, contact your healthcare provider and report it to your local health department.

Recall Details

- **Scope:** All whole fresh (non-organic) cucumbers grown by Bedner Growers, Inc., and distributed from April 29 through May 19, 2025 (by Fresh Start Produce) are included [cdc.gov](#) [fda.gov](#) . This covers cucumbers sold at Bedner's three Florida market locations between April 29–May 14, 2025 [fda.gov](#) .
- **Identifiers:** The cucumbers had **no brand stickers or lot codes**. The recall is therefore conducted by sale date and location [fda.gov](#) . Retailers labeled them generically as "supers," "selects," or "plains" (terms for size/quality), not by a national brand [fda.gov](#) .
- **What to do with product:** Consumers should throw away recalled cucumbers even if they appear unharmed [cdc.gov](#) . Restaurants and stores should wash bins and equipment and alert customers (post signs or emails) if they sold the cucumbers [cdc.gov](#) [fda.gov](#) .

Summary

A recent Salmonella Montevideo outbreak has been traced to Bedner Growers' cucumbers, prompting a voluntary recall and national alerts [cdc.gov](#) [fda.gov](#) . Twenty-six illnesses (9 hospitalized) have been reported across 15 states [fda.gov](#) . To protect public health, authorities emphasize throwing out any suspect cucumbers, thoroughly cleaning food-contact surfaces, and seeking medical help for symptoms [cdc.gov](#) [cdc.gov](#) . Consumers and businesses should follow the official FDA/CDC guidance and check for updates on these recalls at the CDC and FDA websites.

Sources: Official CDC and FDA outbreak and recall notices [cdc.gov](#) [fda.gov](#) [fda.gov](#) [cdc.gov](#), which include case counts, company details, and consumer advisories.

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 **Bedner Growers, Inc. Recalls Cucumbers Because of Possible Health Risk | FDA**

<https://www.fda.gov/safety/recalls-market-withdrawals-safety-alerts/bedner-growers-inc-recallscucumbers-because-possible-health-risk>

 **Outbreak Investigation of Salmonella: Cucumbers (May 2025) | FDA**

<https://www.fda.gov/food/outbreaks-foodborne-illness/outbreak-investigation-salmonella-cucumbersmay-2025>

 **Salmonella Outbreak Linked to Whole Cucumbers | Salmonella Infection | CDC**

<https://www.cdc.gov/salmonella/outbreaks/whole-cucumbers-05-25/index.html>

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<https://www.cdc.gov/salmonella/outbreaks/cucumbers-11-24/index.html>

 Outbreak Investigation of Salmonella: Cucumbers (May 2025) | FDA

<https://www.fda.gov/food/outbreaks-foodborne-illness/outbreak-investigation-salmonella-cucumbersmay-2025>

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Todas las fuentes



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