

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Radagast Pet Food, Inc.

503-736-4649

**RADAGAST PET FOOD, INC. VOLUNTARILY RECALLS ONE LOT OF RAD CAT  
RAW DIET FREE-RANGE CHICKEN AND ONE LOT OF FREE-RANGE TURKEY  
RECIPE BECAUSE OF POSSIBLE HEALTH RISK**

**March 20, 2018, Radagast Pet Food, Inc. of Portland, OR** is recalling one lot of Free-Range Chicken and one lot of Free-Range Turkey Recipe because they have the potential to be contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*. *Listeria monocytogenes* can affect animals eating the products and there is risk to humans from handling contaminated pet products, especially if they have not thoroughly washed their hands after having contact with the products or any surfaces exposed to these products.

This recall includes only the two lots listed below.

*Listeria monocytogenes* is pathogenic to humans. Healthy people exposed to *Listeria monocytogenes* should monitor themselves for some or all of the following symptoms: nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal cramping, fever. Consumers exhibiting these signs after having contact with this product should contact their healthcare providers.

*Listeria monocytogenes* can affect animals eating the product. Animals exposed to *Listeria monocytogenes* can display symptoms such as: diarrhea, fever, muscular or respiratory signs and anorexia. If your pet has consumed the recalled product and has these symptoms, please contact your veterinarian.

No pet or human illnesses have been reported.

The single lot of Rad Cat Raw Diet Free-Range Chicken Lot 62762, BB Date: 10/19/18, was shipped to distributors in May 2017 in CA, MN, OH, OR, PA, and RI. Product has the following UPCs:

8oz UPC 8 51536 00103 6

16oz UPC 8 51536 00104 3

24oz UPC 8 51536 00105 0

The single lot of Rad Cat Raw Diet Free-Range Turkey, Lot 62926, BB Date: 05/03/19, was shipped in December 2017 in CA, CO, FL, GA, NY, OH, OR, RI, TX, and WA and sold through independent pet retail stores. Product has the following UPCs:

8oz UPC 8 51536 00100 5  
16oz UPC 8 51536 00101 2  
24oz UPC 8 51536 00102 9

Due to Radagast Pet Food's commitment to safety and quality, Radagast Pet Food is conducting this voluntary recall. The Rad Cat Raw Diet Chicken Lot 62762 was shipped to Distributors in May 2017 and none of this product is in stock with distributors. Rad Cat Raw Diet Free-Range Turkey was shipped in December 2017 and some product may still be for sale through retailers.

The Company was notified by the FDA and the Ohio Department of Agriculture after several tubs of multiple varieties of Rad Cat Raw Diet were purchased and tested. All samples tested negative for E. Coli and Salmonella but two tested positive for Listeria Monocytogenes.

Consumers are encouraged to check the lot codes on any Free-Range Chicken with the Rad Cat old label style with lot code on the lid of the container and any lot codes on Rad Cat Free-Range Turkey Recipe with lot codes on the bottom of the container. Any products with these lot codes should be returned to the specialty retailer where purchased for a full refund.

Consumers with questions should contact Radagast Pet Food, Inc. at 503-736-4649 Monday-Friday 9:00am ó 5:00pm or contact us through our website at [www.RadFood.com](http://www.RadFood.com).

### **Rad Cat Raw Diet Voluntary Recall Notice FAQ**

**March 20, 2018**

#### **What products and lots of Rad Cat Raw Diet are being voluntarily recalled?**

	<b><u>Lot</u></b>	<b><u>Best By</u></b>
Free-Range Chicken (8oz, 16oz, 24oz)	62762	10/19/18
Free-Range Turkey Recipe (8oz, 16oz, 24oz)	62926	5/3/19

#### **Where can I find the lots and best by dates?**

The Lot Code for the Chicken product can be found on the lid of the container.

The Lot Code for the Turkey product can be found on the bottom of the container.

## **Why were these products recalled?**

The FDA is reporting *Listeria monocytogenes* was found in one Lot of Free-Range Chicken Rad Cat one Lot of Free-Range Turkey Recipe. We are recalling the entire lots of these products out of an abundance of caution. There have been no reports of illness in humans or in pets related to these Lots. No other Rad Cat products or Lots are involved in the recall. This recall is being conducted with full knowledge of the FDA.

## **What is Listeria?**

There are many types of Listeria, of which *Listeria monocytogenes* is only one. It is very commonly found in the environment, mostly outdoors, in soil and even in our homes, as it is easily carried in on the soles of our shoes and the feet of our cats and dogs. Sometimes it can be found in processing environments and on many agricultural products, such as fruits, vegetables and even on raw meat ingredients, poultry and fish.

## **How did Rad Cat get Listeria in their products?**

Unfortunately, raw meat can harbor bacteria, especially poultry. The USDA actually has tolerance levels for pathogens in meat and poultry intended for human consumption. The raw diets that are purchased from raw manufacturers actually have a much lower likelihood of containing pathogens than meat purchased from the supermarket. Many raw food manufacturers employ intervention steps and testing for their products (like we do here, at Rad Cat) but sometimes it may not be enough.

## **What should I do if I believe my pet has been exposed to the recalled product?**

It is very unlikely that any pets will contract illness from Listeria. The symptoms are very similar to those that occur in humans, such as: vomiting, diarrhea, lethargy and fever. If any of these symptoms present themselves in your pet, please contact your veterinarian.

## **Does this mean my cat is going to get Listeria poisoning?**

While we would like to give a black and white answer, we can say that it is highly unlikely. Cats have very acidic digestive systems that actually kill bacteria or make it so they cannot proliferate there. Cats are exposed to extremely high levels of bacteria every day and they are designed by Nature to tolerate high bacterial loads that would make humans ill. They live very close to the ground and pick up considerable bacteria on their paws, which they lick frequently. The chances of a cat becoming sick from bacteria found in frozen, raw food, is highly unlikely. Cats very rarely get listeriosis and typically don't show signs of disease, even if they are carriers. Our best advice is to watch your kitty and if you see any symptoms that could be illness from Listeria and if you have fed these lots, we encourage you to seek veterinary treatment right away.

### **Is Listeriosis common in cats and what are the symptoms?**

No in fact, it is a very infrequent occurrence. The symptoms of Listeriosis can mimic other illnesses, such as viral infections and gastroenteritis from other causes. Because cats have a very acidic digestive system, bacteria is often neutralized or cannot proliferate in such a hostile environment.

This bacteria can be present in our pets' environment and they could be exposed to it on a regular basis, especially if they go outside. Most *Listeria Monocytogenes* found in homes is carried in on the soles of our shoes from the outdoors. There are also many other organisms that we track in to our homes that our felines walk through and then lick their paws.

However, there are some cats that can have compromised immune functions, for a variety of reasons, and can become ill. Some cats that have a higher stomach pH can also be more susceptible.

The symptoms associated with this illness are very similar to those that would present in humans, which can include diarrhea, bloody diarrhea, abdominal cramping and fever.

### **Doesn't all raw pet food have the risk of containing pathogens?**

Every type of food contains some risk, which includes raw diets. We have always done the very best we can to avoid the presence of pathogens in any of our products, but bacteria can be naturally present in any raw food. The FDA recognizes only two official "kill-steps", which are cooking and irradiation. All other steps, such as HPP, are only "intervention" steps, which are designed to reduce risk of pathogens in products, such as raw meat. So, unless a product has undergone a cooking step or irradiation, it has the potential to contain pathogens. But sometimes even the cooking step doesn't work efficiently enough, as there have been many recalls for dry food that have been contaminated with salmonella and/or listeria.

### **What is Rad Cat doing to make sure their foods are safe?**

We have always made the safety of our products our number one concern. That is why we have added high pressure processing to our poultry products.

All of our meats are rinsed with ozonated water, which is a very effective anti-microbial treatment (for example, many fish processors use it to extend the shelf life of their products). Ozone is also used in our processing environment for cleaning and sanitation. It is used by many processors for this purpose and is extremely effective.

All of our ingredients are the very same that are intended for human consumption and we test raw materials from suppliers.

We operate our own manufacturing plant, where we make all of our products. We operate our plant under the same guidelines for human food facilities, which includes a strong QA/QC plan, environmental and product testing programs. We use a HACCP safety system, that is recognized by the USDA and FDA as preventive approach to food safety, which helps us comply with their guidelines.

Please visit our website at [http://radfood.com/education/safety\\_and\\_quality](http://radfood.com/education/safety_and_quality) for more information about our product safety.

### **What should I do if I have any of the products that are being recalled?**

Please return recalled products to the retailer so they can be disposed of in a secure garbage receptacle. If you purchased any of the recalled from an online retailer, contact that retailer for assistance with your refund claim.

More information about this recall can be found at [www.RadFood.com](http://www.RadFood.com) or call 503-736-4649 Monday through Friday from 9:00am-5:00pm PST.

### **What about lot numbers that are not on the list? Can I return these?**

We have no reason to believe that any lots other than those currently being voluntarily recalled are affected. We will provide refunds for all lots associated with this recall will honor our 100% product guarantee for other lots, if customersøcats will not eat the product.

### **How did the contamination of the recalled Rad Cat Raw Diet products occur?**

Raw meat and poultry can contain pathogens, such as Listeria. This contamination can occur at the time of slaughter and be present on the meats and poultry when they enter our plant. There are tolerance levels for these pathogens in the human food chain, but no tolerance for raw pet food. That is why we have a comprehensive testing program and take intervention steps such as HPP and use ozone in our processing and sanitation.

As of this time, we have no definitive answer as to how these bacteria were found in our products. All of our testing with an independent third party lab has revealed clean results, which includes a comprehensive sampling of our food processing environment.

### **Doesn't HPP kill Listeria?**

High Pressure Processing at 87,000 psi has been proven to rupture the cell walls of E.coli, Salmonella and Listeria species. However, it is not recognized by the FDA as an official -kill stepøfor raw pet food. We are currently investigating how these organisms could have been found in our products.

**If I have more questions, who do I ask?**

You can contact us directly through email at [info@RadFood.com](mailto:info@RadFood.com) or call us at 503-736-4649 from 9:00am ó 5:00pm PST. We have very limited staff, so if you get voicemail, please leave a message. If you email, we will respond as soon as we possibly can. We always respond to our customers and will respond to every message in the order in which they are received.

Retail stores that carry our products will also be notified of this recall and can assist you with obtaining a credit for recalled product, as well.