South Carolina Firm Recalls Chicken Products for Possible Pesticide Contamination

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16, 2001--Gold Kist Inc., a Sumter, S.C., firm, is voluntarily recalling approximately 421,000 pounds of chicken products that may be contaminated with the pesticide Aldicarb, the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Food Safety and Inspection Service announced today.

Gold Kist Inc. notified FSIS of the possible contamination. The products subject to recall were sent to distributors and retail establishments nationwide. Products were produced on January 29 and are marked with the establishment number "P-17980" inside the USDA seal of inspection.

Products subject to recall are:

- Gold Kist Farms premium fresh "SPICY HOT FRYING CHICKEN WING PORTIONS," product code "406000." Only the following package codes are being recalled: 10129124, 10129125 and 10129126.
- Gold Kist Farms "YOUNG CHICKEN FRONT HALF SHELLS WITH ATTACHED SKIN AND NECK," product code "170048." Only the following package codes are being recalled: 101291SB02, 101291SB03, 101291SB04, 101291SB05, 101291SB06, 101291SB07, 101291SB08, 101292SB01, 101292SB02, 101292SB03, 101292SB04 and 101292SB05.
- Gold Kist Farms "FRYING CHICKEN PARTS JUMBO WHOLE LEGS with skin and fat attached," product code "70008." Only the following package codes are being recalled: 101291SF and 101292SF.
- 10 lb. bags of Gold Kist Farms "BONELESS, SKINLESS CHICKEN BREAST MEAT WITH RIB MEAT," product code "230050." Only the following package codes are being recalled: 101291SB and 101292SB.
- Gold Kist Farms "FRYING CHICKEN TENDERLOINS Big Bird," product code "460010." Only the following package code is being recalled: 101291SB.
- Gold Kist Farms "FRYING CHICKEN PARTS BONELESS, SKINLESS WHOLE LEG MEAT," product code "450000." Only the following package codes are being recalled: 101291SB and 101292SB.
- Gold Kist Farms "BIG BIRD FRYING CHICKEN PARTS WHOLE WINGS," product code "350021." Only the following package codes are being recalled: 101291SB and 101292SB.
2.5 lb. bags of Gold Kist Farms "BONELESS SKINLESS CHICKEN BREASTS," product code "8420." Only the following package codes are being recalled: 101311S9, 101312S9, 102011S9 and 101291S9.

4 lb. bags of Gold Kist Farms "SEPARATED CHICKEN WINGS," product code "8464." Only the following package code is being recalled: 102011S9.

Gold Kist Farms "SOUTHERN STYLE CHICKEN TENDER FRITTERS," product code "8272." Only the following package code is being recalled: 101311SJ.

Gold Kist Farms "SOUTHERN STYLE CHICKEN TENDER FRITTERS," product code "7272." Only the following package code is being recalled: 101301SJ.

Gold Kist Farms "SOUTHERN STYLE CHICKEN TENDER FRITTERS," product code "7072." Only the following package code is being recalled: 101311S7.

Gold Kist Farms "BREADED CHICKEN GIZZARDS," product code "7501." Only the following package code is being recalled: 101312S6.

Gold Kist Farms "CHICKEN WING SECTIONS," product code "8076." Only the following package codes are being recalled: 101301S1 and 102011S1. This product is cooked.

WAL-MART SUPERCENTER, "HOT' N SPICY BREAST STRIPS- Chicken Breast Strip Fritters," product code "40021" and item number "8009908." Only the following package code is being recalled: 101302S7.

WAL-MART SUPERCENTER "ORIGINAL BREAST STRIPS- Chicken Breast Strip Fritters," product code "40020" and item number "8009943." Only the following package code is being recalled: 101302SJ.

"We urge consumers to check their refrigerators and freezers," said Margaret O’K. Glavin, acting FSIS administrator. "If they find any of the products listed above, consumers should not eat them, but return them to the point of purchase."

At high concentrations, Aldicarb can cause weakness, headache, nausea, vomiting, and seizures. Based on review and analysis of new data on concentrations of the chemical provided by industry, FSIS determined the risk to consumers is low. FSIS has received no reports of illnesses associated with consumption of this product. Anyone concerned about an illness should contact a physician.

Consumers and media with questions about the recall may contact Paul Brower, vice president of corporate relations, Gold Kist Inc., at (770) 393-5312.

Consumers with other food safety questions can phone the toll-free USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline at 1-800-535-4555. The hotline can be reached from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Eastern Time), Monday through Friday, and recorded food safety messages are available 24 hours a day.

**USDA RECALL CLASSIFICATIONS**

**Class I** This is a health hazard situation where there is a reasonable probability that the use of the product will cause serious, adverse health consequences or death.

**Class II** This is a health hazard situation where there is a remote probability of adverse health consequences from the use of the product.

**Class III** This is a situation where the use of the product will not cause adverse health consequences.

For Further Information, Contact:
SC Firm Recalls Chicken Products for Possible Pesticide Contamination

- **Consumers**: Meat and Poultry Hotline, 1-800-535-4555 or (202) 720-3333 (voice); 1-800-256-7072 (TTY)

- **Media**: (202) 720-9113