



# GREENLEAF

Providing Ingredients that Matter

Romaine Lettuce Notice: CDC, several states, and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration are investigating a multistate outbreak of Shiga toxin-producing [E. coli O157:H7](#) infections (STEC O157:H7) in 13 states. Seventeen illnesses have been reported from California (3), Connecticut (2), Illinois (1), Indiana (1), Michigan (1), Nebraska (1), New Hampshire (2), New York (1), Ohio (1), Pennsylvania (1), Virginia (1), Vermont (1) and Washington (1). Illnesses started on dates from November 15 through December 8, 2017. The [Public Health Agency of Canada](#) also is investigating an outbreak of STEC O157:H7 infections in several provinces.

Whole genome sequencing is being performed on samples of bacteria making people sick in the United States to give us information about whether these illnesses are related to the illnesses in Canada. Preliminary results show that the type of *E. coli* making people sick in both countries is closely related genetically, meaning the ill people are more likely to share a common source of infection.

The Public Health Agency of Canada has identified romaine lettuce as the source of the outbreak in Canada. In the United States, state and local public health officials are [interviewing sick people](#) to determine what they ate in the week before their illness started. CDC is still collecting information to determine whether there is a food item in common among sick people, including leafy greens and romaine.

Because we have not identified a source of the infections, CDC is unable to recommend whether U.S. residents should avoid a particular food. This investigation is ongoing, and more information will be released as it becomes available. GreenLeaf purchases its romaine and fresh cut lettuce products from trusted sources and believes, based on the recommendation of its Science Adviser to continue purchases until definitive information is announced through regulatory channels regarding fresh cut product. Our efforts at GreenLeaf to provide the safest and highest quality product available exceed that of those prescribed by industry, science and regulatory official sources. GreenLeaf will be first to know of any issue or recall regarding fresh cut product and will, should this situation arise advise its customer based of measures taken and to take with the product in question.

Information may be obtained by calling Dr. Karl Kolb, [702.523.2068](tel:702.523.2068)