

Pious Lion of Asheville and Buffalo Distro Group of Mechanicsville, Va. are voluntarily recalling kratom powder distributed in North Carolina.

The companies launched the recall after samples collected from a retail location by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Rapid Response Team tested positive for Salmonella, which may cause life-threatening illness.

“This is a very serious issue and consumers should take immediate action if they have these products in their homes. Consumers are advised to discard these products and are warned not to consume them,” said Joe Reardon, assistant commissioner of regulatory programs.

The following products are included in this advisory:

- Pious Lion Pure Premium Potent Limited Release Pink Bali, 1 oz
- Pious Lion Pure Premium Potent White Maeng DA, Bright Uplifting Energy, 4 oz
Pious Lion may distribute these products in other size packages, and none of the packages bear code information, Reardon said.
- Buffalo Distro Group Red Maeng Da Organic Kratom Powder (All sizes) – Distributed between April 1 – May 15, 2018

Any containers used to store the kratom product should be thoroughly washed and sanitized. In order to prevent cross-contamination, consumers should wash their hands, work surfaces and utensils thoroughly after contact with these products, and not prepare any food in the area at the same time.

The products were collected for testing by the NCDA&CS Rapid Response Team after notification by the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services of a possible association of these products with an illness attributed to Salmonella. DHHS, the Centers for Disease Control and other states have been investigating Salmonella illnesses associated with a variety of kratom products, resulting in multiple recalls of different kratom products.

Because no common source of Salmonella-contaminated kratom has been identified, DHHS and CDC are recommending against consuming kratom. For more information on the national investigation, go to <https://www.cdc.gov/salmonella/kratom-02-18/index.html>.

Salmonella can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems. Symptoms of Salmonella include nausea, vomiting, diarrhea or bloody diarrhea, abdominal cramping and fever. Rarely, Salmonella can result in more serious ailments. People exhibiting any symptoms after having consumed this product should contact their healthcare providers.