



Recall of starch-based products from Taiwan due to maleic acid

Issued on 26 May 2013

Following the recall of Sunright brand tapioca balls in Singapore due to [Taiwan Food and Drug Administration's detection of maleic acid, an unapproved food additive, in some food products](#), AVA has conducted surveillance of other similar food products from Taiwan.

2 Of the 66 food products AVA has tested thus far, maleic acid was found to be present in 11 products. Most of the affected products were tapioca starch balls used in the preparation of bubble tea beverages. Information on the affected products is detailed in Annex A.

3 AVA has informed the importers of the affected products to withdraw them from sale immediately and withdrawal has been completed. Consumers who have bought these products should either return them to the retailer or discard them and not consume them.

Continued surveillance on Taiwan food products

4 AVA is monitoring the situation closely. We are continuing with our surveillance of products from Taiwan to ensure that they do not contain maleic acid.

Impact of maleic acid on health

5 Maleic acid is not an approved additive. It is also not an additive that is usually used in manufacturing food products. Long term consumption of high levels of maleic acid can cause kidney damage. However, occasional consumption at the levels detected does not pose any significant health risk.

Issued by the Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority of Singapore

On 26 May 2013

M E D I A R E L E A S E

Annex A

Information on the affected products from Taiwan

| Brand | Item description | Expiry/Batch | Manufacturer |
|-------|------------------|--------------|--------------|
|-------|------------------|--------------|--------------|

| | | | |
|------|----------------|------------|----------------------------|
| Hong | Tapioca Starch | 17.02.2014 | Hong Kai Foods Co., Taiwan |
|------|----------------|------------|----------------------------|



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|--------|---------------------|------------|------------------------------|
| Redman | Black Tapioca Pearl | 19.02.2014 | Possmei International Co Ltd |
|--------|---------------------|------------|------------------------------|



MEDIA RELEASE

Sun Right Indica Rice Powder 14.08.2014 Sunright Foods Corporation



Top 1 Tapioca Pearls 12.10.2013 Shang Wang 上旺食品行



MEDIA RELEASE

Tea World Tapioca NA
Starch Ball

Grand
Chainly
Enterprises
Co. Ltd.



Unbranded Starch Ball 16.09.2013



MEDIA RELEASE

Ting Long

Tapioca
Pearls

22.08.2013

Ting Long



Sun Chi

Noodles

15.05.2014

Sun Chi Zhi
Mian Chang

Tainan Shi
Guan Miao
QU
Bao Dong Yi
Jie 355 Hao
Tainan ,
Taiwan



MEDIA RELEASE

T&M
Resources
Corp

Tapioca
pearls

19.10.2013

An Li Si
安利司



Pure Tea

Tapioca
pearls
(White)

18.8.2013

M/s Taiwan
Tapioca
Foods
Company Ltd



MEDIA RELEASE

Pure Tea Tapioca
pearls
(Black)

18.8.2013

M/s Taiwan
Tapioca
Foods
Company Ltd



MEDIA RELEASE