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# Produce Outbreaks in Mid to Late 2006

2006

JUNE

JULY

AUG

SEPT

OCT

NOV

DEC

## June

Utah had an *E. coli* 0121:H19 outbreak affecting **73** people. The outbreak was traced to iceberg lettuce served by a Wendy's restaurant.

## September

A multi-state outbreak of *E. coli* 0157:H7 sickened **205** people. The outbreak was traced to bagged spinach. It affected people in 26 states. At least three people died after eating the contaminated spinach, while 103 were hospitalized and 31 developed kidney failure.

Another produce outbreak followed shortly, this time with tomatoes. The pathogen was found to be *Salmonella* Typhimurium. There were **183** confirmed cases in 21 states. The outbreak was linked to tomatoes served in restaurants in the affected states.

## October

Between June and October 20, 2006, tomatoes contaminated with *Salmonella* Newport caused **98** illnesses in 19 states. The affected states were mainly in the eastern portion of the United States. Illnesses are thought to be tied to tomatoes served in restaurants primarily in the early fall months.

## November – December

Case-control studies linked *E. coli* 0157:H7 to lettuce served in Taco Bell restaurants. Five northern states reported a total of **71** "probable or confirmed" cases. Among the 71 cases, 53 were hospitalized and 8 developed a type of kidney failure called Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (HUS).

On the heels of the Taco Bell outbreak came another outbreak with *E. coli* in lettuce, this time at Taco John restaurants in the midwest. The strain of *E. coli* O157:H7 associated with the outbreak was found in dairy farms near a lettuce growing area in California. The outbreak sickened approximately **81** individuals in three states. Twenty-six people were hospitalized, and two suffered kidney failure.