

Hardwick farm beef products part of recall

BY STEVEN H. FOSKETT JR.
TELEGRAM & GAZETTE

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has ordered a New Hampshire farm to recall around 8,800 pounds of raw beef products, including beef sold last month by Chestnut Farms in Hardwick, that may be contaminated with E. coli, the agency’s Food Safety and Inspection Service announced this week.

The recall was issued after the

FSIS was notified of a cluster of E. coli illnesses affecting 14 people — 10 from New Hampshire, two from Massachusetts, one from Maine and one from Vermont. The illnesses were traced back to the PT Farms, a Haverhill, New Hampshire, slaughterhouse and beef processor.

The raw, intact and non-intact beef product items, including ground beef, ground beef patties, and other sub-primal cuts were produced between June 6 and June 16, according

to the USDA. Various weights and sizes of raw and raw non-intact beef products, packed in cardboard boxes, from the following farms are subject to the recall: Chestnut Farms, PT Farm, Miles Smith Farm and Robie Farm. The products bear establishment number M8868 inside the USDA mark of inspection. Consumers who have purchased these products are urged not to consume them; they should be thrown away or returned to the place of purchase.

session are encouraged to attend Business Basics first.

Berman & Simmons law firm recognized

LEWISTON — Berman & Simmons once again has been ranked by Chambers USA as the best law firm in Maine for the representation of plaintiffs.

The firm earned the highest possible ranking in the “Litigation: Mainly Plaintiff” practice area, and was the only firm in Maine to be ranked in that practice area in the annual Chambers USA directory released this spring.

Additionally, Chambers USA selected only seven individual lawyers in Maine for recognition as outstanding lawyers for plaintiffs. Four of the seven are from Berman & Simmons: Steven Silin of Freeport, Julian Sweet of Portland, Jodi Nofsinger of Portland and Benjamin Gideon of Freeport.

Silin and Sweet were recognized as “Band 1” lawyers, the highest possible ranking, in both the “Medical Malpractice” and “Mainly Plaintiff” categories.

Nofsinger and Gideon were recognized in the “Medical Malpractice” and “Mainly Plaintiff” categories.

Additionally, lawyer Jack Simmons was honored as a “Senior Statesman,” whose work has been pivotal to the firm’s success.

The rankings reflect the law firm’s longstanding reputation as the dominant firm in Maine for personal injury and medical malpractice cases. Based in Lewiston, the law firm has three regional offices and 17 lawyers serving clients throughout Maine.

funds available to more than \$30,000. For information, visit uvec.org or call Jeff Package at 365-7631.

Jump-start your business plan

HOULTON — Jump-start your \$35,000 Houlton Entrepreneurship Challenge business plan submission, brush up on business basics and get on solid ground this summer with a tuition-free three-session business planning class offered by New Ventures Maine, 9:30 a.m.-noon Fridays, Aug. 5, 12 and 19, at the Houlton town office, 21 Water St.

The nine-hour class covers the basics of a business plan, marketing and cash planning and is suitable for those thinking about or in the early startup phase of a new business.

The Business Basics class is open to all entrepreneurs. The class is suitable for those who are thinking about starting their own business, those in the early start-up phase, or established business owners who want a refresher on planning for successful business operation or expansion.

Pre-registration is required by Wednesday, Aug. 3. For information or to register, call 768-9468, email karin.petrin@maine.edu or go online to register at newventures-maine.org/schedules/business-basics34/. Class is limited to 15.

New Ventures Maine also will offer a free 12-session business planning class, “Venturing Forth: Business Planning for Entrepreneurs,” Sept. 6-Dec. 13 in Presque Isle. Those interested in the Venturing Forth

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they might seek to focus the state’s forest products industry, as communities such as East Millinocket and Lincoln remain particularly hard-hit.

Penobscot County has been hit harder than other areas with papermaking jobs.

Average paper industry employment dropped 85 percent in Penobscot County last year. With the shuttering of the Lincoln mill, the number of paper manufacturing establishments dipped below three, marking the industry’s disappearance from the county-level statistics.

Somerset County, where Madison Paper industries shut its doors in May, led the state for the highest concentration of paper mill employment. It also has Sappi’s Skowhegan mill. The Androscoggin mill in Jay largely helped keep that county in second place, but it, too, faced a recent loss.

Cascades Auburn Fiber announced in June that it would close July 15.

While it varies throughout the state, most communities that lost paper mills in recent years have persistent unemployment at levels higher than the state average.

East Millinocket remained highest among those in June, with an unemployment rate of 9.1 percent

cows were used for Chestnut’s Waltham Community-Supported Agriculture program that went out June 25. She asked anyone who has Chestnut Farms beef from the end of June to please return it to the farm for a full refund or replacement.

“We have worked with [PT Farms owner] Pete Roy for over a decade and have faith in him,” Denney said in the email. “But things happen and we are grateful the USDA inspection process caught this.”

in June, averaged over the previous 12 months. That compares with the statewide average of 3.9 percent and Lincoln’s rate, at 8.3 percent. Old Town was an exception, with an unemployment rate lower than the state average, at 3.4 percent.

Losses in the paper industry challenge other forest products businesses. The decline of the paper industry ripples through the economy, especially a drop in demand for softwood species of trees driven by mill closures.

That drop in demand has left loggers looking for other markets, such as biomass. But biomass plants, which use waste wood to produce electricity, face headwinds, too, as the lingering low price of oil has made it more difficult for them to produce power at competitive rates.

Fuel consumption by biomass generators serving the regional power grid continued to drop in January — typically their busiest month — after a recent peak during the winter of 2014, according to statistics from the U.S. Electricity Information Administration.

Fuel consumption for January was down about 12 percent, according to Electricity Information Administration data, after dipping slightly in January 2015.

A decline in biomass generation was what fueled the state’s effort to prop up the industry with a \$13.5 million bailout.

That batch of money, too, has some big shoes to fill.

Market Review

Consolidated Stocks							
	Close	Chg	Div		Close	Chg	Div
3M Co	178.29	-0.07	4.4	Kohls	41.14	-0.45	2.0
ABB Ltd	21.07	-0.18	0.8	LillyEli	83.18	+0.29	2.0
AbbVie	66.94	+0.71	2.3	Loews	40.52	-0.81	0.3
AbtLab	45.29	+0.54	1.0	Lowes	82.31	+0.03	1.4
AEP	69.31	+0.01	2.2	McDnlds	118.01	+0.36	3.6
Aetna	114.45	-0.76	1.0	Merck	58.66	...	1.8
AFLAC	71.58	-0.70	1.6	MetLife	42.55	-0.19	1.6
AK Steel	6.25	-0.31	0.0	Microsoft	56.58	-0.10	1.4
Allergan	254.86	+1.91	...	Mondeliez	43.48	-0.50	0.8
Allstate	88.39	+0.06	1.3	Monsanto	105.80	-0.97	2.2
Altria	67.65	-0.05	2.3	MorgStan	28.50	-0.23	0.8
AMOVill	11.55	+0.02	0.3	NewellRub	53.97	+1.51	0.8
Anadarko	51.85	-2.68	0.2	NextEraEn	128.50	+0.21	3.5
Apache	38.12	-2.63	0.4	NipponTT	48.12	+0.69	1.0
ApldMat	26.27	-0.02	0.4	NokaCp	5.66	-0.11	0.3
Apple	106.05	+1.84	2.3	NorthropG	216.69	+0.06	3.6
AT&T Inc	43.18	-0.11	1.9	OneokPtrs	39.52	-0.71	3.2
Autodesk	59.74	+0.29	0.0	Oracle	41.15	-0.11	0.6
AvidTch	6.89	-0.18	...	Orange	15.30	+0.07	0.7
BcoSanSnt	4.11	-0.13	0.2	Penn Gmng	14.94	-0.08	...
BestBuy	33.47	-0.13	1.1	Pennney	9.71	+0.05	0.0
BkNYMbl	39.20	-0.20	0.8	PepsiCo	108.93	+0.01	3.0
BkoAm	13.23	-0.16	0.3	Pfizer	37.31	+0.42	1.2
Boeing	133.21	-0.45	4.4	PhilpMor	100.15	-0.11	4.1
BP PLC	33.18	-1.22	2.4	PPL	37.60	-0.11	1.5
BrkIdas	34.42	-0.15	0.5	Praxair	115.90	-0.64	3.0
BrkMySq	76.19	+1.38	1.5	ProctGam	86.41	+0.82	2.7
Caterpillar	81.95	-0.81	3.1	Prudnt	34.78	-0.54	1.9
CBS B	52.10	-0.12	0.7	QstDiag	86.24	-0.12	1.6
CenterPnt	23.67	-0.25	1.0	Rayonier	27.45	+0.23	1.0
Chevron	99.11	-0.37	4.3	Raytheon	140.24	+0.71	2.9
Citigroup	43.42	-3.39	0.6	ReynAmer	49.84	-0.22	1.8
CocaCola	43.45	-0.18	1.4	RylCarb	71.86	-0.58	1.5
Corning	22.29	+0.07	0.5	Schwab	28.34	-0.08	0.3
Deere	77.69	-0.02	2.4	ShersHlids	14.80	-0.61	0.0
Disney	95.54	-0.41	1.4	Sherrwin	29.36	-2.37	3.4
DowChem	53.65	-0.02	1.8	SiderunMac	3.23	-0.16	0.1
DukeEmrg	85.65	+0.06	3.4	Siemens	108.54
DuPont	47.83	...	1.9	SonyCp	32.50	-0.91	0.2
ExxonMbl	85.86	-3.09	3.0	Starbucks	57.63	-0.42	0.8
Facebook	124.31	+0.37	...	SwstAir	37.04	+0.03	0.4
FedExCp	161.66	-0.24	1.6	Symantec	20.55	+0.12	0.3
FidNFin	37.72	+0.05	0.8	Target	75.51	+0.18	2.4
FidNatInfo	79.20	-0.33	1.0	Textron	38.67	-0.33	0.1
FrontierCm	5.08	-0.12	0.4	Toyota	111.23	-0.37	3.6
GenElec	31.15	-0.01	0.9	Travelers	116.81	+0.59	2.7
GlassKln	45.25	+0.18	2.2	UPS B	20.01	+0.09	3.1
GoldmanS	158.18	-0.63	2.6	ValeroE	51.63	-0.65	2.4
Google	772.88	+4.09	...	Vodafone	30.75	-0.15	1.7
Hershey	110.89	+0.13	2.5	WalterEn	0.06	...	0.0
HewlettP	14.18	+0.17	0.5	Waste Mngt	66.48	+0.36	1.6
Hitachi	45.50	...	1.5	WellsFargo	47.81	-0.16	1.5
HomeDp	138.77	+0.53	2.8	Yahoo	38.80	+0.61	...
Honda	27.29	+0.17	...	Zimmer	131.06	-0.08	1.0
IBM	161.45	-0.83	5.6				
Intel	34.85	-0.01	1.0				
InttBsch	27.33	-0.09	0.6				
JPMorgCh	63.80	-0.17	1.9				

Indexes										
	52-Wk High	52-Wk Low	Close	Chg	Chg%	Wk	Mo	Qtr	1 Yr	Chg%
Dow Jones indus.	18622	15370	18404.51	-27.73	-0.15	▼	▲	▲	+4.04	...
Dow Jones Transport	8531	6403	7815.65	-30.76	-0.39	▼	▲	▲	-6.87	...
Dow Jones Utility	724	540	710.77	-0.65	-0.09	▼	▼	▲	+21.72	...
Nasdaq composite	5184	4210	5184.20	+22.07	+0.43	▲	▲	▲	+1.09	...
NYSE AMEX composite	2437	1869	2386.21	-31.19	-1.29	▲	▼	▲	-1.38	...
NYSE composite	10933	8938	10730.20	-55.31	-0.51	▼	▲	▲	-1.40	...
S&P 500	2177	1810	2170.84	-2.76	-0.13	▲	▲	▲	+3.18	...
S&P Mid cap 400	1563	1215	1555.08	-4.38	-0.28	▲	▲	▲	+3.47	...
Wishire 5000	22587	18462	22501.74	-46.18	-0.20	▲	▲	▲	+1.45	...
Russell 2000	1245	943	1219.13	-0.82	-0.07	▲	▲	▲	-1.58	...

Local Stocks										
	52Wk Hi	52Wk Lo	Close	Chg	Chg%	Wk	Mo	Qtr	P/E	Div
Bank of America (BAC)	18.09	10.99	14.33	-0.16	-1.10	▼	▼	▼	-14.85	12.9
Bar Harbor (BHB)	37.69	28.97	35.85	-0.83	-2.26	▼	▲	▲	...	14.2
Camden Nat'l (CAC)	47.49	37.23	43.54	+0.06	+0.14	▼	▼	▲	-1.25	15.8
Cisco (CSCO)	31.15	22.46	30.73	+0.20	+0.66	▼	▲	▲	+13.17	15.2
Domtar (UFS)	42.95	29.88	39.17	-0.20	-0.51	▲	▲	▲	+6.01	27.5
Dover (DOV)	73.58	50.91	69.93	-1.50	-2.10	▼	▲	▲	+14.06	20.7
Fairchild SC (FCS)	21.71	12.22	19.74	▲	▲	▼	-4.68	0.0
General Dynamics (GD)	153.76	121.61	149.09	+2.20	+1.50	▲	▲	▲	+8.54	15.5
General Electric (GE)	33.00	19.37	31.15	+0.01	+0.03	▼	▲	▲	...	29.5
HCA Holdings (HCA)	94.41	43.91	75.52	-1.61	-2.09	▼	▼	▼	+11.67	13.3
Idexx Labs (IDXX)	95.55	63.48	93.51	-0.28	-0.30	▲	▲	▲	+28.24	45.3
ImmuCell (ICCC)	11.40	5.60	6.94	-0.08	-1.14	▲	▲	▲	-7.96	20.1
International Paper (IP)	48.23	32.50	45.50	-0.31	-0.68	▲	▲	▲	+20.69	24.5
KeyCorp (KEY)	15.09	9.88	11.48	-0.22	-1.88	▼	▲	▲	-12.96	12.0
Kimberly-Clark (KMB)	138.87	103.04	130.81	+1.26	+0.97	▼	▲	▲	+2.76	24.0
Kraft Heinz (KHC)	90.26	61.42	85.97	-0.42	-0.49	▼	▲	▲	+18.16	27.9
Lake Sunapee Bank (LSBG)	18.89	13.25	18.03	-0.41	-2.22	▼	▲	▲	+28.51	17.0
Northeast Bancorp (NBN)	11.72	9.56	11.05	-0.25	-2.21	▼	▲	▼	+5.24	14.0
People's United Fin (PBCT)	16.93	13.62	14.98	-0.18	-1.19	▼	▼	▼	-7.24	17.4
PNC (PNC)	99.91	77.40	82.42	-0.23	-0.28	▼	▼	▼	-13.52	11.3
RR Donnelley (RDD)	19.83	12.07	17.89	-0.03	-0.17	▲	▲	▲	+21.54	22.2
Sappi Limited (SPPJY)	5.13	2.67	5.05	▲	▲	▲	...	0.0
State Street (STT)	79.80	50.60	65.94	+0.16	+0.24	▲	▲	▲	-0.63	15.1
Sysco (SYS)	52.31	35.73	51.92	+0.13	+0.25	▼	▲	▲	+26.63	37.4
The First Bancorp (FNLC)	23.37	17.37	22.22	+0.17	+0.77	▲	▲	▲	+8.55	13.9
United Technologies (UTX)	108.49	83.39	106.94	-0.71	-0.66	▲	▲	▲	+11.31	24.3
Unum Group (UNM)	37.26	23.99	33.01	-0.40	-1.20	▲	▼	▼	-0.84	9.2
Verizon Comm (VZ)	56.95	38.06	54.50	-0.91	-1.64	▼	▲	▲	+17.91	15.7
Verso (VRS)	13.60	11.00	11.75	+0.10	+0.86	▲	▼	▼	...	0.0
WalMart (WMT)	74.35	56.30	73.78	+0.81	+1.11	▲	▲	▲	+20.36	16.1

Top Mutual Funds											
Last	Chg	1Yr Rtn	Fund	Last	Chg	1Yr Rtn	Fund	Last	Chg	1Yr Rtn	Fund
JPMORGAN											
22.67	-0.04	+2.6	Core Bond Sel	12.01	-0.03	+5.9	GI Bond Adv	11.23	+0.02	-4.4	THORNBURG
69.14	+0.18	-2.5	LAZARD				Growth A	22.16	-0.07	-7.1	
9.51	unch.	+1.7	Emg Mkt Ex Inst	16.25	+0.22	+1.7					
101.47	+0.09	+1.0	LOOMIS SAYLES				Intl Val I	23.55	-0.09	-9.7	VANGUARD
31.43	-0.08	unch.	Bd Inst	13.83	-0.03	+4.6					
34.68	-0.05	-7.7	OPPENHEIMER				500 Index Adm	200.54	-0.25	+5.3	
15.69	-0.03	+2.3	Dev Mkts A	32.72	+0.16	-2.9	GNMA Adm	10.86	unch.	+4.2	THORNBURG
12.87	-0.02	+1.7	PERMANENT				Health Care Adm	92.05	+0.38	-2.1	
15.69	-0.03	+1.0	Port Permanent	39.81	-0.08	+11.4	Inf-Pro Inv	13.67	-0.08	+5.2	
39.77	+0.64	+0.1	PIMCO				Ins T StMk Ins+	49.00	-0.07	+4.5	VANGUARD
11.69	-0.01	+3.6	All Asset Inst	11.31	+0.03	+3.9	Inst Index Inst	198.59	-0.25	+5.4	
49.40	-0.17	-1.0	Comm RR Str Inst	6.91	+0.08	-9.2	Intl Inv Adm	10.12	-0.02	+7.8	
90.52	-0.12	-0.4	High Yield Inst	8.69	-0.01	+4.3	Intl-Tm TxEs Adm	14.56	unch.	+6.3	THORNBURG
20.99	-0.01	+2.1	Low Dur Inst	9.87	+0.01	+1.0	Intl Gro Inv	21.88	-0.05	-1.6	
76.42	-0.09	+5.3	Real Rtn Inst	11.19	+0.02	+3.8	Ltd-Tm TxEs Adm	11.11	unch.	+2.6	
11.60	-0.03	+6.7	Tot Rtn Inst	10.39	unch.	+4.6	PRIMECAP Inv	104.71	+0.3	+5.5	THORNBURG
10.77	-0.01	+5.3	Uncons Inst	10.43	unch.	-0.5	Sh-Tm Inv Adm	10.79	-0.01	+3.6	
10.82	-0.03	+6.4	JPMORGAN				Sh-Tm Tx-Ex Adm	15.86	unch.	+1.2	
56.70	-0.09	+9.0	Cap S&P 500 Idx	33.91	-0.04	+5.3	STAR Inv	24.43	-0.06	+3.0	VANGUARD
			T ROWE PRICE				T StMk Idx Inv	54.13	-0.08	+4.3	
7.80	-0.02	+10.0	BC Gro	72.46	+0.24	-0.9	Tgt Ret2015 Inv	15.08	+0.03	+3.7	
2.22	-0.02	+3.9	Cap App	26.97	+0.01	+7.1	Tgt Ret2020 Inv	28.86	-0.06	+3.5	THORNBURG
			Ex Idx500	58.47	+0.07	+5.1	Tgt Ret2025 Inv	16.62	+0.03	+3.1	
21.07	+0.02	+11.3	Eq Inc	30.89	-0.23	+0.2	Tgt Ret2030 Inv	29.47	+0.07	+2.6	
			Gro Stk	53.67	+0.15	-1.8	Tgt Ret2035 Inv	17.89	-0.04	+2.1	VANGUARD
60.56	+0.18	-2.8	MC Gr	77.96	-0.24	+4.2	Tot Bk Adm	11.12	-0.02	+6.4	
			New Inc	9.76	-0.02	+5.9	Tot I Stk Inv	14.85	-0.06	-4.1	
14.91	unch.	+1.2	Ret 2020	20.95	-0.02	+3.0	Wellseyes Adm	63.69	-0.24	+10.1	THORNBURG
15.53	unch.	-0.2	Value	32.87	-0.14	+2.5	Wellington Adm	67.21	-0.23	+5.6	
							Winsdor II Inv	35.18	-0.16	+1.3	