



**CHIEF EXECUTIVE PRIVILEGED STATEMENT
UNDER SECTION 289 OF THE FOOD ACT 2014**

Issued at Wellington at 1500 on 23 September 2015

I, Martyn Dunne, Chief Executive of the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI), for the purposes of protecting human life, public health and informing the public, issue the following statement under section 289 of the Food Act 2014:

MPI has been informed by Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) of a number of coconut milk drinks that have been recalled due to the presence of an undeclared allergen, that being milk and milk products.

Under Australia and New Zealand food legislation, products which contain a presence of milk or milk products, must state the presence on the label.

There have been two reported cases in Australia of severe allergic (anaphylactic) reactions associated with the consumption of coconut milk drinks. There have been no reported associated cases in New Zealand at this time.

MPI has received information that the following coconut milk drinks have the presence of an undeclared allergen, that being milk and milk products:

- Greentime brand Coconut Milk Drink, 500ml can, manufactured in Taiwan
- Coco Joy brand Pure Coconut Milk, (Banana, Chocolate, Coffee flavours) 500ml bottle, manufactured in Vietnam
- V Fresh brand Coconut Milk Drink, 240ml can, manufactured in Thailand
- Orthodox Coconut Palm brand, Coconut Palm Coconut Juice, 245ml can, 245ml Tetra-pak, 1000ml Tetra-pak, manufactured in China

All batches and sizes of these products are affected.

People with a milk allergy or intolerance should not consume these products.

MPI is working with related importers to ensure they meet the requirements to declare food allergens on the food product label. Additional testing of coconut milk drinks is currently underway and may result in additional statements.

If you have any concerns about these products, please call MPI's consumer helpline on 0800 693 721. If you have any health concerns please seek medical advice, see your GP or call Healthline 0800 611 116.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Martyn Dunne'.

Martyn Dunne
Chief Executive
Ministry for Primary Industries