

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 11, 2021

Empire Fruit, Inc.
Othello, WA
509-488-1049

**EMPIRE FRUIT, INC. RECALLS TART CHERRY JUICE BECAUSE OF
POSSIBLE HEALTH RISK**

June 11, 2021—Empire Fruit, Inc. of Othello, WA is voluntarily recalling SCORE Montmorency Tart Cherry Juice displaying Best By dates **2/15/2022** and **2/16/2022** because it has the potential to be contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes* (*L. mono*).

L. mono may cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems. Although healthy individuals may suffer only short-term symptoms such as high fever, severe headache, stiffness, nausea, abdominal pain and diarrhea, a listeria infection can cause miscarriages and stillbirths among pregnant women.

Anyone experiencing these symptoms should immediately contact a health care provider. At this time, there are no known illnesses associated with the recalled product.

The recall was initiated after a routine inspection conducted by the Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) revealed that two batches of SCORE Montmorency Tart Cherry Juice were not adequately pasteurized. The recalled product was bottled in 16-ounce plastic bottles and distributed to customers in Auburn, WA and Basin City, WA.

Consumers who have purchased SCORE Montmorency Tart Cherry Juice with Best By dates of **2/15/2022** and **2/16/2022** are urged not to drink the product and return it to the place of purchase for a full refund. Those with questions may contact the company at 509-488-1049 between the hours of 8AM and 5PM Pacific Time.

