

### ***Salmonella* Enteritidis /Shell eggs/Apr 2025 - CARA ID 1300**

On 4/14/2025, CORE Signals was notified by CDC of a *Salmonella* Enteritidis (SE) cluster (2504CAJEG-1). The sequencing tree also contains cluster 2503MLJEG-2, which was being investigated concurrently, and had a similar case distribution pattern to 2504CAJEG-1. CDC noted that this strain of SE appears to be quite clonal. Most of the cases for the cluster reside in CA or reported travel to CA during their exposure window. The outbreak included 134 cases from 10 states: AZ (8), CA (109), CO (2), KS (1), KY (1), NE (2), NJ (2), NV (4), UT (1), and WA (4). All isolates were related within 0-7 alleles by cgMLST with common allele code SALM1.1-6.6.6.6x.8x. Reported onset dates (n=116) ranged from 2/24/2025 to 6/6/2025. Ages ranged from 1 to 90 years (median: 46 years), and 59% were female. Of 112 patients with outcome information, 38 (34%) were hospitalized. One death was reported from California. Whole genome sequence analysis (WGS) reported that all isolates were related between 0-29 SNPs. The samples taken from (b)(4) August Egg Company, 19 environmental isolates from (b)(4), and 103 clinical isolates matched within 0-17 SNPs (mean 5.19). FDA's Office of Inspections/Office of Human Food Inspectorate Central 1 (OII/OHFI/HFIC1) under the direction of the Chicago Emergency Response Coordinator (CHI ERC) initiated a records and information collection assignment for (b)(4). FDA/OII/OHFI Central 5 (HFIC5) under the direction of the Dallas ERC (DAL ERC) initiated a records and information collection assignment for (b)(4). FDA/OII/OHFI West 2 (HFIW2) under the direction of the San Francisco ERC (SAN ERC) initiated one records and information collection assignment for (b)(4) on 5/20/2025 and two sampling, records collection, and inspection assignments for (b)(4) August Egg Company (Turlock, CA) and (b)(4). No 483 was issued for either inspection. It was noted that (b)(4). FDA collected five environmental samples, two from (b)(4) and three from (b)(4), during the inspections. All of the samples taken were positive for *Salmonella* Enteritidis and matched the outbreak strain. Based on available epidemiologic data, FDA and California state partners initiated a traceback investigation for eggs consumed by 12 cases in California. Three subclusters were identified at (b)(4). (b)(4) Points of Service received eggs sourced from (b)(4) and processed by August Egg Company. On 6/6/2025, August Egg Company (Turlock, CA), a subsidiary of (b)(4), issued a recall for all eggs processed at (b)(4) from 2/1/2025-5/6/2025. Beginning on 4/23/2025, this outbreak was listed on the CORE Investigation Table and on 6/6/2025 FDA and CDC issued webposts informing the public of the outbreak and associated recall. Based on available traceback, laboratory and epidemiologic evidence, shell eggs were identified as the confirmed vehicle for this outbreak. A common egg processor and egg farm were identified based on the traceback analysis, which had previously tested positive for *S. Enteritidis*. Brown, organic shell eggs supplied by (b)(4) and processed by August Egg Company were identified as the source of illnesses. A source of contamination was unable to be identified during the investigation.