

On 5/26/2026, the FDA NYK-DO ERC notified CORE Signals of a *Listeria monocytogenes* investigation (b)(5) involving two soft ricotta cheese samples that were confirmed positive for *Listeria monocytogenes* (WGS pending). On 5/27/2026, CDC also notified CORE Signals of the cluster and corresponding investigation involving 8 cases from 3 states: MD (3), NY (2), and VA (3). Traceback of the requeston cheese consumed by four cases identified three points of sale, three distributors, and one manufacturer, Clover Hill Dairy, LLC (Mechanicville, MD; FEI: 3011502661). Records obtained from Maryland state partners indicated that the manufacturer sourced milk from five dairies, all located within the state of Maryland. Maryland Department of Health's Center for Milk and Dairy Product Safety issued a summary of suspension notice, which suspended the Manufacturing Grade Milk Processing Permit for Clover Hill Dairy (Mechanicsville, MD). Clover Hill Dairy, LLC issued a voluntary recall of all requeston/soft ricotta products produced by the firm and subsequently expanded the recall to include all cheese products within expiry. The distributor, Nelson & Isa Lacteos, LLC also issued a recall for all requeston (soft cheese) distributed by Clover Hill Dairy, LLC. Based on epidemiologic, traceback, and laboratory data, soft cheese, specifically requeston, was confirmed as the source of this outbreak. The investigation determined that the soft cheese was manufactured at Clover Hill Dairy, LLC. The outbreak strain was detected in nine samples (product and environmental) from FDA and state partners. FDA partnered with New York and Maryland state authorities, who worked in tandem with the agency to collect records and samples and conduct inspections at both the manufacturer and distribution center. At the conclusion of the outbreak, there were fifteen cases in four states: IL (1), MD (4), NY (6), VA (1).