

***E. coli* O145:H28/Blueberries/Jul 2026 - CARA ID 1389**

On 7/1/2026, CORE Signals was notified by CDC about an *Escherichia coli* O145:H28 cluster. A strong epidemiological signal was present for GreenWise Organic Frozen Blueberries. After Florida state partners alerted Publix Super Markets Inc to the epidemiological link to their product, Publix sent product out for testing at a third-party laboratory and one sample tested positive for the outbreak strain. FDA conducted a traceback investigation for three cases who consumed GreenWise Organic Frozen Blueberries and also a recalled lot of product. The blueberries were all imported by (b)(4) and manufactured by Comfrut S.A. dba Frutas y Hortalizas del Sur S.A; ten growers supplied the blueberries used. During this incident, CORE issued one assignment for traceback records and information collection, one for product sampling, and one for a remote foreign inspection. A two-item remote observation was issued noting that necessary corrective actions were not made and process controls were not validated. FDA collected ten product samples during the investigation, all of which were negative. Comfrut S.A. dba Frutas y Hortalizas del Sur S.A. conducted a recall for a single lot of GreenWise Frozen Organic Blueberries and a single lot of Great Value Frozen Organic Triple Berry Blend. Publix Super Markets Inc conducted a recall for all GreenWise Frozen Organic Blueberries and GreenWise Frozen Organic Whole Mixed Berries. FDA placed Comfrut S.A. dba Frutas y Hortalizas del Sur S.A. and several associated firms on Import Alert 99-35 for frozen blueberries. Based on epidemiological, traceback, and laboratory evidence, blueberries were identified as the confirmed vehicle of illness in this outbreak. A source of contamination was not identified. As of 9/17/2026, this cluster included 17 cases from two states: FL (13) and GA (4). There have been six hospitalizations and zero deaths.