

Stores taking EDB contaminated foods off shelves

By SARAH OATES
Senior Staff Writer

Spicy-Apple and blueberry muffin addicts beware. Being leery is safer than being overjoyed at a sudden price drop on these mixes because that "bargain price" probably means the mix is contaminated with high levels of EDB.

According to a recent alert issued by the Consumer Protection Division of the Attorney General's office, some grocers

may be "dumping," or slashing prices on EDB contaminated foods to cut their losses on sales of the products.

Many grocers in College Station already have pulled grain products containing the powerful carcinogen EDB (ethylene dibromide) off their shelves, but consumers should be wary of grain items suddenly offered at lower prices.

Although many local grocery stores such as Skaggs' Alpha Beta on South College, the

Kroger Family Centers and Safeway stores have voluntarily pulled these products from their shelves, products to watch out for are:

- Duncan Hines Spicy Apple Muffin Mix.
- Duncan Hines Blueberry Muffin Mix.
- Comet Natural Brown Long Grain Rice.
- Texas Long Grain Basmati Rice by Texas Rice Production Co.
- Mary Lee White Cake Mix.

The Environmental Protection Agency issued guidelines for acceptable levels of EDB in food on Feb. 2, but Texas did not adopt them until Feb. 7. Local grocery store managers declined comment about the products' removal.

Carmen Lovell, consumer affairs director for the Kroger Co., said the company received word from the Texas Department of Health on Feb. 3 that the EPA guidelines had been established. She said Kroger

stores all over the state voluntarily removed products shown to contain unacceptable levels of EDB the same day.

Bill Wade, senior vice president of advertisement for the Skaggs Alpha-Beta corporate offices in Salt Lake City, Utah, said, "We have pulled all the products identified by the TDH. (Texas Department of Health)."

"We're responding to the advice of various agencies involved in this project."

The EPA guidelines for residues of EDB in food are as follows:

- Raw grain intended for human consumption — 900 parts per billion.
- Milled grain products which require cooking, such as flour, corn meal, cake and muffin mixes — 150 parts per billion.
- Ready-to-eat foods, such as loaves of bread and orange juice — 30 parts per billion.

The Consumer Alert said

that Texas includes orange juice in the ready-to-eat category because some Florida orange juice contained nearly 900 parts per billion and Mexican orange juice could be even higher in EDB content.

"Only specific batch numbers (a code number on a product's container) of the products had unacceptable amounts," said Kent Milton, public relations manager of the Houston division of Safeway.

Parents say son Moreno insane on killing spree

United Press International

WESLACO — The father of Eliseo Moreno, who was described as quiet and law-abiding until he went on a spree that left six people dead, Thursday appealed for public support to overturn his son's death sentence.

Elderly F.C. Moreno, who suffers from epilepsy, said both he and his wife are ill and the knowledge their son was given the death sentence for the slaying of a state trooper was causing them "to die slowly and very painfully."

The series of shootings began after Moreno's wife, Blanca, left him and sought refuge with her brother in Bryan. Moreno first allegedly killed his brother-in-law, Juan Garza, Juan's wife, Esther, then gunned down Texas Highway Patrolman Russell Lynn Boyd, 25, who attempted to stop him during his flight.

Later he allegedly kidnapped two people, shot three elderly residents to death and stole a couple of cars trying to make his way back to his native Lower Rio Grande Valley.

"It is true that my son killed the Garzas (Moreno's brother-in-law and wife) and the state trooper," the defendant's father, F.C. Moreno, wrote in a signed statement he gave to the correspondent for the three Valley Freedom Newspapers on

behalf of the family. "But they were killed while my son was insane and in a moment of madness."

The family statement appealed for Rio Grande Valley residents to write to the Morenos or to an appeals court in Houston requesting mercy. "Your letters may help my son's life," the father wrote.

"They say my son is a murderer but the real truth is that the prosecutor, the jurors and the judge just heard what the D.A. showed and said," the letter said. "They didn't and don't want to listen to the facts and circumstances of the case."

The elder Moreno said "my son suffers from two different diseases. First alcoholism and second jealousy. Put them both together and they can drive any man or woman to the wall. My son loved his wife Blanca very, very much. So much that he left his common-law wife and three sons for her. And in return for all he did and left behind for her, she leaves him."

"... Now the jury sentenced my son to die. I just hope these people can sleep well each night because they not only sentenced my son to die but also his parents to die slowly and very painfully... My son didn't know at the time what was going on. Any fool can see that very clear; that my son did not premeditate all those killings."

Health center director calls \$1 lab fee 'pointless'

By LORRAINE CHRISTIAN
Reporter

The Student Government finance committee has recommended a \$1 user fee for laboratory tests at the A.P. Beutel Health Center, but the director of the center says such a fee is pointless.

Dr. Claude Goswick, health center director, said all profits from the fee would be lost in billing costs. He said if a fee is to be charged, it should be large

enough to offset the expense of the lab report. Lab reports are issued on bloodtests, mono spots, urine analysis and glucose tolerance tests, Goswick said.

Dr. John Koldus, vice president for student services, who must approve the recommendation, also expressed reservations about it. He called the practice of assessing user fees "hazy." He said he would have to study the matter before coming to a decision.

Mike Cook, vice president of

the Finance Committee, said the \$1 charge was chosen so that students could pay immedi-

ately after undergoing the lab test. He said that would eliminate billing problems. Cook es-


timated that about \$15,000 could be made with such a proposal.

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