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Safeway to Stop Selling 'Pink Slime' Textured Beef

By [ABC News](#) | [ABC News Blogs](#) – 8 hrs ago

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Safeway, America's second largest supermarket chain, has announced it will no longer sell what the meat industry calls "lean finely textured beef" and the public has come to call "pink slime".

Safeway says in a statement "considerable consumer concern" led to its decision even though the chain believes its beef with the controversial filler in it is safe

"Safeway is committed to providing our customers with the highest-quality products," the company said in a statement. "While the USDA and food industry experts agree that lean finely textured beef is safe and wholesome, recent news stories have caused considerable consumer concern about this product. Safeway will no longer purchase ground beef containing lean finely textured beef."

Makers of "lean finely textured beef" and the USDA say that it is not an additive and need not be

labeled, and is safe to eat. But critics, including former USDA scientists, contend the ammonia treated "pink slime" - made from low quality scraps once used for dog food and cooking oil - is less nutritious than pure ground beef.

"It's not fresh ground beef. It's a cheap substitute being added in," microbiologist Gerald Zirnstein said.

Seventy percent of all store bought ground beef contained "pink slime," but since ABC News exposed its widespread use many grocery stores have told shoppers their meat counters are free of the mixture.

The USDA announced last week that it will disclose to school districts which of its suppliers use pink slime so administrators can decide whether to purchase it.

Safeway has 1400 stores coast to coast, second only to Kroger. The chain now joins Publix, HEB, Whole Foods and Costco promising their ground beef is additive free.

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Scott T • Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania • 6 hrs ago

233 4

Pink Slime today. Soyilent Green tomorrow.

[▶ 16 Replies](#)



David McClellan • 7 hrs ago

358 8

Should never have begun selling it to begin with.

[▶ 16 Replies](#)



Chipmonk • 7 hrs ago

139 2

Buy your own beef and grind it yourself!

[▶ 20 Replies](#)



Mr. Mackey, Mkay • 3 hrs ago

41 0

As a taxpayer, that's it for me....I want USDA and FDA overhauled to remove all the politics from my dinner table!

[▶ 3 Replies](#)



RyanS • 6 hrs ago

302 7

Sell it or don't sell it, either is fine. However, arguing that you should not have to label it as containing the pink slime is unethical. Put the label and there and let us choose. We'll see how the free market treats the pink slime.

[▶ 14 Replies](#)



Chris • 6 hrs ago

76 1

Why did it take so long for the public to find out about pink slime? Why are people always putting profit above quality. It should be quality first.

[▶ 11 Replies](#)



Hounddoggin • Canton, Georgia • 6 hrs ago

171 4

For the price that ground beef is now it should be made from 100% filet mignon.

[▶ 4 Replies](#)



Get Newtrich • 3 hrs ago

35 0

@Jordan - Jordan - I don't want connective tissue used to add volume to my meat. The use of ammonium hydroxide may be harmless but withholding information is not. You know full well that people thought they were buying red meat, not bone, added fat, connective tissue, facia tissue and so on. Wake... [More](#)

[▶ 2 Replies](#)

Get Newtrich • 4 hrs ago

61 1

Food fit for a King. Here King! Good boy!

[▶ 9 Replies](#)

Bill • 4 hrs ago

90   2

If they have to add ammonia, to kill the massive amount of bacteria these scraps have accumulated, I sure don't want to eat it.

[▶ 4 Replies](#)

James • Mays Landing, New Jersey • 5 hrs ago

117   3

"Safeway is committed to providing our customers with the highest-quality products," But they've been selling you this crap for how long?

I love how they try to say we're concerned by our customers' health. Not that you caught us selling you nasty crap and now we'll stop.

[▶ 9 Replies](#)

Keeping It Real • 4 hrs ago

26   0

If you can't read it or pronounce what is written on the label...you don't need to eat it.

[▶ 3 Replies](#)

PProf • New Richmond, Wisconsin • 4 hrs ago

97   3

I think Walmart needs to follow suit and they also need to stop injecting their meats with water. I am tired of buying a 4 pound roast only to end up with a cassette sized slab when cooked. It doesn't even feed the family!

[▶ 15 Replies](#)

Mimi • 6 hrs ago

162   6

It's sad that we are even having this conversation. Just say no to factory food.

[▶ 3 Replies](#)

RonB_Sr • 5 hrs ago

43   1

Let's see, it's added to the ground beef but the USDA says it's not an additive, WHAT? Just shows you what kind of freaking idiots we have in government protecting the public! It's a total freaking joke, are you kidding me....holy crap

[▶ 6 Replies](#)

Mark • 5 hrs ago

43   1

It was done purely for the profit. Had nothing to do if it was safe or not. They knew if they put it on the label people would not buy it. When you see "New and Improved" that means "new way of improved profits for us". I cannot believe how small boxes of cereal are becoming? Not to mention other... [More](#)

[▶ 2 Replies](#)

Author - The Third Cell • Boca Raton, Florida • 6 hrs ago

61   2

The USDA announced last week that it will disclose to school districts which of its suppliers use pink slime so administrators can decide whether to purchase it.

Whose side is this Government agency on? Aren't they supposed to be in the business of protecting the consumer?

Let's hope this... [More](#)

[▶ 4 Replies](#)

Meow! • 6 hrs ago

98   4

Way to go Safeway! I wish I had a grocery store near me that didn't use pink slime in its ground beef, but other than Costco (I'm not a member) all the stores near me use it. Time to buy a meat grinder.

[▶ 18 Replies](#)

JO-EL • 1 hr 51 mins ago

13   0

We dont have to worry about outside terrorists anymore! We have far worse right here in our own Corporate America!

[▶ 2 Replies](#)

Tim N • Athens, Georgia • 6 hrs ago

121   6

Now they stop selling it once it is brought to the public spot light. Our corporations will do whatever it takes to earn the extra penny regardless of the consequences to public health or well being. The problem with capitalism is there are no ethics. I think it is the best system there is but a... [More](#)

[▶ 13 Replies](#)

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