

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## Recall of Honey Dates from China due to the presence of an undeclared allergen, sulphur dioxide

The Singapore Food Agency (SFA) has detected sulphur dioxide in Honey Dates from China, which was not declared on the food packaging label.

- 2 As sulphur dioxide is an allergen, SFA has directed the importer, Yan Tai Yit Pte Ltd, to recall the implicated products. The recall is ongoing.
- Allergen in food could result in allergic reaction to individuals who are sensitive to it. Presence of excessive levels of sulphur dioxide in food could result in allergenic reactions in individuals who are hypersensitive to sulphite<sup>1</sup>, with symptoms such as hives, itchiness, stomachache, diarrhoea, and vomiting. Under Singapore's Food Regulations, food products containing ingredients that are known to cause hypersensitivity must be declared on food packaging labels to protect consumers with food allergies. All ingredients in prepacked food should also be specified on the product label in descending order of the proportions by weight in which they are present.
- Sulphite does not pose a food safety issue to consumers at large, except for those that are intolerant of or allergic to sulphites. Consumers who have purchased the affected product, and who are intolerant of or allergic to sulphites, should not consume them. Those who are intolerant of or allergic to sulphites, and have consumed the implicated product should seek medical advice if they have concerns about their health. Consumers may contact their point of purchase for enquiries.
- 5 Details of the product are as follows.

**Product name:** Honey Dates (500g)

Best Before date: 02/03/2025

**Country of origin**: China



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Sulphites is commonly used as a food additive and is typically tested for as sulphur dioxide (a gaseous substance)

**Issued by the Singapore Food Agency**