

## Tainted pet food protein came from China

*by UPI*

WASHINGTON - The tainted rice protein that triggered the latest U.S. pet food recall came from China, testing by the Food and Drug Administration has concluded.

The company that imported it, Wilbur-Ellis of San Francisco, announced Wednesday it had distributed the protein to five U.S. pet foods, but only identified one -- Natural Balance Pet Foods.

That company this week recalled 60 million cans and pouches of its venison-based products for cats and dogs after receiving reports of animals suffering kidney failure, USA Today reported.

The FDA said it found traces of melamine in the protein powder. The chemical is used in the manufacture of plastics.

ChemNutra of Las Vegas recalled about 800 tons of wheat gluten imported from a different firm in China April 2 because it was also contaminated with melamine.

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