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September 7, 1999

June 28, 1999: USDA analysis of tissue samples collected from your animal (USDA Sample No. 327431) identified the presence of Gentamicin residue of 2.7 ppm in the kidney.

Our investigation revealed the use of 2x 2x2 (sulfadimethoxine injection 40%) and 2x 2x2 (Gentamicin, Dexamethazone, Neomycin). The presence of sulfadimethoxine and Gentamicin drugs at the levels found in the edible tissue from these animals cause the food to be adulterated within the meaning of section 402(a)(2)(C)(ii) of the Act.

Our investigation also found that you hold animals under conditions which are so inadequate that diseased and/or medicated animals bearing potentially harmful drug residues may enter the food supply. For example, you lack an adequate system for assuring that animals medicated by you have been withheld from slaughter for appropriate periods of time to permit depletion of potentially hazardous residues of drugs from edible tissues. Food from animals held under such conditions are adulterated within the meaning of section 402(a)(4) of the Act.

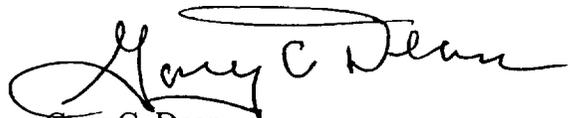
It is not necessary for you to personally ship an adulterated animal in interstate commerce to be responsible for a violation of the Act. The fact that you caused the adulteration of an animal that was sold to a slaughterhouse that ships in interstate commerce is sufficient to hold you responsible for a violation of the Act.

You should notify this office in writing within 15 working days of the steps you have taken to bring your operation into compliance with the law. Your response should include each step being taken, that has been taken, or will be taken to correct the violations and prevent their recurrence. If corrective action cannot be completed within 30 working days, state the reason for the delay and the time frame within which the corrections will be completed. Please include copies of any available documentation demonstrating that corrections have been made.

Your response should be sent to H. Tom Warwick, Compliance Officer, Food and Drug Administration, P.O. Box 25087, Denver, Colorado, 80225-0087. He may be reached at (303) 236-3054 if you have any questions about this matter.

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Sincerely,


Gary C. Dean
District Director