



DuPont Agriculture & Nutrition

December 13, 2002

VIA E-MAIL

Email: <http://www.fda.gov/dockets/ecomments>

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)  
Docket No. 94P-0036

Food and Drug Administration  
5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061  
Rockville, MD 20852

Re: Food Labeling: Trans Fatty Acids in Nutrition Labeling, Nutrient Content Claims, and Health Claims. Proposed Rule; Reopening of Comment Period.

Dear Sir/Madam:

The following comments are provided in response to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) proposed federal actions to provide for mandatory declaration of trans fat content on a separate line within the Nutrition Facts panel. These comments are submitted on behalf of E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Company (DuPont). DuPont is a science company, delivering science-based solutions that make a difference in peoples lives in food and nutrition, health care, apparel, home and construction, electronics and transportation. For over 20 years we have been building a world-class capability in biotechnology and molecular biology to enhance our base in chemistry, engineering and information science.

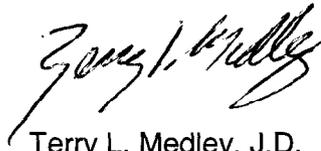
Trans fatty acids are commonly found in foods and the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences (IOM/NAS) report (dietary references intakes for energy, carbohydrate, fiber, fat, fatty acids, cholesterol, protein, and amino acids) acknowledges the difficulty in complete elimination of trans fatty acids from the diet and thus recommends that "trans fat consumption be as low as possible while consuming a nutritionally adequate diet." FDA provides additional supporting conclusions to the IOM/NAS when noting the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2000, and guidelines from the National Cholesterol Education Program.

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FDA proposes to make a public health recommendation with regard to trans fatty acids as a label statement with regard to trans fatty acid which would inform consumers that "intake of trans fat should be as low as possible." We support FDA's adoption of the IOM/NAS recommendation that "trans fat consumption be as low as possible while consuming a nutritionally adequate diet." We believe that inclusion of the "while consuming a nutritionally adequate diet" in the footnote will allow consumers to make better informed choices with regard to their diet.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Terry L. Medley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Terry L. Medley, J.D.  
Vice-President - Global Regulatory Affairs  
DuPont Agriculture and Nutrition