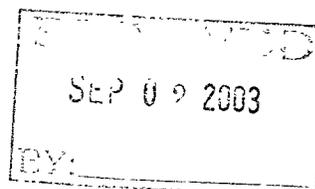




90 Orville Drive, Bohemia, NY 11716-2510 ■ Phone: (631) 567-9500 ■ Fax: (631) 218-7480

Office of Nutritional Products
Labeling & Dietary Supplements
Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition
Food and Drug Administration
5100 Paint Branch Parkway
College Park, MD 20740-3835

August 13, 2003



Dear Sir or Madam:

This letter will serve as a 30-day notification pursuant to Section 6 of the Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act of 1994 that NBTY Inc. is using the following statements on the Ester-C® supplements under the Duane Reade brand name.

Ingredients: Vitamin C, Calcium, Citrus Bioflavonoid, Rutin, Hesperidin Complex

- Helps Maintain the Immune system
- Stomach Friendly
- Vitamin C plays an important role in supporting immune system health.
- As an antioxidant, Vitamin C fights free radicals in the body.
- Free radicals can contribute to oxidative stress, which leads to the premature aging of cells.
- Vitamin C also forms the molecular basis for healthy skin, hair and nails.

The above statements are accompanied by the required disclaimer pursuant to Section 6 of the Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act.

Sincerely,

Joanne DeCandia, MS, RD
Director of Nutrition Communications

JD/nk

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