

8/7/00

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Dockets Management Branch
Docket No. 98F-0165 HFA-305
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Re: Irradiation in the Production, Processing and Handling of
Eggs

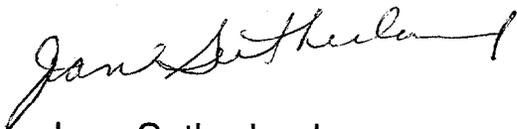
I request that implementation of the new egg irradiation regulation be delayed and that a public and Drug Administration's decision to legalize the irradiation of hearing be held concerning the Food and Drug Administration's decision to legalize the irradiation of eggs.

Hens are laying contaminated eggs for human consumption in crowded, filthy buildings with filthy cages, with the manure dripping down and encrusting the bars of the wire cages and piling up in the pits beneath the cages. It includes the toxic excretory ammonia gases from the decomposing uric acid in the manure and are subjected to a variety of disease-inducing practices including stressful lighting programs and the intentional starvation of the hens known as forced molting. These practices impair hens' immune systems, predisposing them to Salmonella infection

These are horrible conditions for the chickens and in my opinion a barbaric and cruel way for any feeling animal to live. It is bad enough to kill and eat them (I do not) but to show no decency is horrible.

Please insist the chickens be kept in better conditions thus eliminating the various infections.

Thank you for your attention to this horrible situation.



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