



GROCERY MANUFACTURERS OF AMERICA

MAKERS OF THE WORLD'S FAVORITE BRANDS OF
FOOD, BEVERAGES, AND CONSUMER PRODUCTS

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August 9, 2000

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane
Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Docket No. 00D-1277: Draft Guidance for Industry: Fumonisin Levels in Human and Animal Feeds, Federal Register, June 6, 2000.

The Grocery Manufacturers of America (GMA) is the world's largest association of food, beverage and consumer product companies. With U.S. sales of more than \$460 billion, GMA members employ more than 2.5 million workers in all 50 states. GMA speaks for food and consumer product manufacturers at the state, federal and international levels on legislative and regulatory issues.

GMA commends the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for its thoughtful approach to the *Draft Guidance for Industry: Fumonisin Levels in Human Foods and Animal Feeds*. FDA based the recommended maximum levels on the results of scientific studies, the occurrence of fumonisin in raw corn, and the effect of processing on levels in processed products. FDA states that currently, there is no direct evidence that fumonisins cause adverse health effects in humans; however, FDA considers fumonisin guidance levels to be a prudent public health measure.

GMA supports the levels listed in the draft guidance. They are the maximum fumonisin levels that FDA considers adequate to protect human and animal health and that are achievable in human foods and animal feeds with the use of good agricultural and good manufacturing practices.

GMA appreciates the opportunity to comment on this issue.

Respectively,

Stacey A. Zavel, Ph.D.
Vice President,

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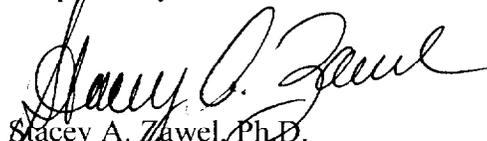
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