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November 19, 1999

FDA Commissioner
Jane E. Henney
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Ms. Henney,

A new antibiotic, Synercid, has been approved by the FDA in September. Synercid works when other antibiotics do not, however bacteria have started to become immune to this new antibiotic as well. Part of the problem seems to be that a close cousin of Synercid, Virginiamycin, has been routinely fed to poultry to speed growth for over a decade. This helps explain why bacteria are starting to become resistant to Synercid.

Please prohibit livestock producers from routinely adding medically important antibiotics to animal feed to promote growth. I appreciate your efforts.

Thank you,



Jean Ostendorf

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