

MANASOTA-88

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A Project for Environmental Quality 1968-2088

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January 3, 2000

Chairman

Gloria Rains

Commissioner Jane Henney, M.D.
Food & Drug Administration
5600 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1471
Rockville, MD 29857

Dear Dr. Henney:

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Manasota-88, a 2500 member environmental health organization, urge the U.S. Food & Drug Administration to join the European Union in banning animal uses of growth-promoting antibiotics used in human medicine.

Overuse of antibiotics as growth-promoters in livestock has been linked to the emergence of antibiotic-resistant diseases. Many of the drugs used to enhance growth in chickens, pigs and cattle are the same as, or closely related to, those used to treat people. According to Richard Novick of New York University, "The most important source of environmental, antibiotic-resistant bacteria is domestic animals."

Again, please follow the European Union's lead and act immediately to ban animal use of growth-promoting antibiotics used in human medicine. Thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,
Gloria C. Rains
Gloria C. Rains
Chairman

GWR:mwl

Information Office

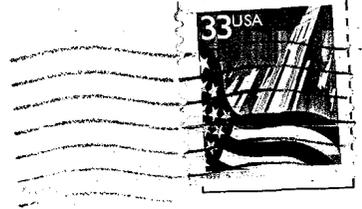
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