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Docket No. 99D-4488 and 99D4489

FDA  
Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)  
5630 Fishers Lane, rm. 1061  
Rockville, MD 29852

In response to Guidance for Industry: Reducing Microbial Food Safety Hazards for Sprouted Seeds and Guidance for Industry: Sampling and Microbial Testing of Spent Irrigation Water During Sprout Production.

My concern is the preservation of organic sprouts, a vital food source for me. The organic growers who supply me are from certified organic seeds—thus they are of highest quality. Also, organic standards mean minuscule risk of contamination from raw manure—in the field, during transportation, and storage. **ORGANIC GROWERS NEED TO BE EXEMPT FROM THE PROCESSES BEING RECOMMENDED.** Moreover, the FDA should direct its attention to the real source of contamination, the seed. If guidelines are being set, let them be for conventional farmers to **ENCOURAGE CONVENTIONAL GROWERS TO MEET THE SAME SAFE STANDARDS AS ORGANIC GROWERS.**

Secondly, I am extremely concerned about the amount of chlorine being used directly on food and seed. **PLEASE DIRECT YOUR ATTENTION TO ALTERNATIVE METHODS THAT ARE LESS CAUSTIC TO THE ENVIRONMENT AND TO THE HEALTH OF GROWERS AND CONSUMERS.**

Sterilized and irradiated food does not mean safe and clean food.

I request that you leave intact an important raw, unprocessed food source.

Sincerely yours,

*Iona Singleton*

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