

3634 '00 JAN -7 P1:49

7-19-99

Commissioner Jane E. Henney  
Food and Drug Administration  
5600 Fishers Lane  
Rockville, Maryland 20857

Dear Commissioner Henney,

Canada and the European Union have banned the use of Bovine Growth Hormone (prosilac), citing its toxicity to both cows and humans. Since prosilac increases the incidence of udder cell infections (inflammation of the mammary gland), the result is a swollen and red udder and pus in the milk. The milk is contaminated by prosilac residue, pus and antibiotics used to treat the infection. Also, the milk from hormone treated cows contains increased levels of IGF-1, which is a suspected risk factor in breast and colon cancer, especially in young children.

Every year since the mid-1950s, the US has produced far more milk than its citizens can consume and our government has spent billions of dollars sopping up the milk surplus to keep milk prices from plummeting. So why did the FDA decide to approve the use of Monsanto's Bovine Growth Hormone? The answer seems not to be sound science, or concern for the public's welfare, and certainly not that we need more milk.

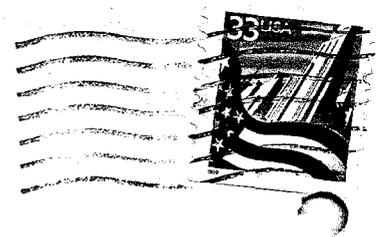
Sincerely,

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