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April 20, 2000

Jane Henney
FDA Commissioner
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, rm. 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Jane Henney,

My name is Kate Farquhar and I am concerned about the abundance of genetically altered foods on the market in America. The experimentation with Genetic Engineering is a very recent development; the world is still in the premature stage of experimentation. Yet the American market is flooded with food that has been manipulated, and there is not yet enough certainty as to the consequences of the ingestion of these products. The possibility that genetically altered food influences natural healthy agricultural ecosystems negatively is also probable.

How are these new altered foods tested in the interest of human safety? Are they tested enough before they are offered on the market? Is it possible that the practice of genetically engineering foods is so new that there is not even enough understanding of it to create laws to restrict its' distribution? How can we be certain of the potential long term effects of these foods on humans?

On the nutritional information of any food package, it should be stated when it contains any genetically engineered food. It is imperative that the citizens of America, if they have such a concern, as I have, at least be given the necessary information to avoid food they find potentially harmful. The most important concern I have about genetically engineered food on our market, is that no consumer is given the information to be aware of what they are buying, and so is unable to choose not to consume Genetically Engineered products, even if this is a priority concern.

Thank you for your time. I hope to hear your thoughts on the matter.

Sincerely,

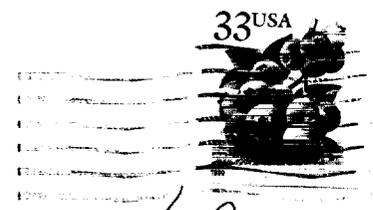


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