

August 28, 2000

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Dr. Jane Henney, Commissioner  
Food and Drug Administration  
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 14-71  
Rockville, MD. 20857

Dear Dr. Henney:

A new study published in the New England Journal of Medicine links the use of antibiotics in poultry to America's growing resistance to antibiotics. The study of which I am sure you are aware states that when livestock is given antibiotics to prevent infection and spur growth, they begin to build a resistance to the antibiotics. Repeated exposure caused resistant strains to evolve. I stopped eating nothing but organic 15 years ago, including milk.

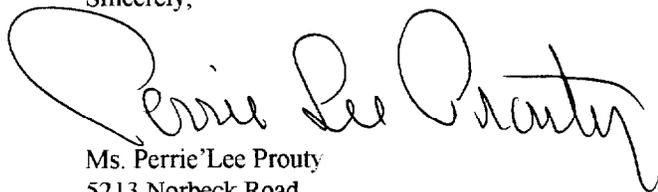
These antibiotics are being used by agriculture to promote growth or prevent disease NOT treatment.

I am writing you to urge you to ban the use of antibiotics as livestock growth promoters.

- Foreign countries have acted to reduce the use of antibiotics in agriculture
- The European Union has banned the use of 4 antibiotics in animal feed, and is considering the elimination of 4 others.
- Due to increasing evidence, the CDC and the FDA agree that the agricultural use of antibiotics is a significant source of antibiotic resistance among foodborne pathogens.
- Elimination of use of antibiotics as growth promoters will decrease the occurrence of antibiotic-resistant strains of bacteria. Illustrated by recent case in Denmark where, avoparcin is banned.

I would like to know how you stand on the issue.

Sincerely,



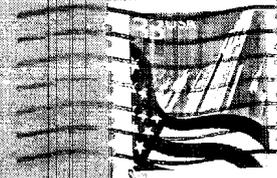
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