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Jane E. Henney MD
Commissioner
US Food and Drug Administration
5600 Fisher Lane
Rockville, MD 20857-0001

Annette Weaver
1906 E. Clarendon
Phoenix, AZ 85016

January 9, 2001

Dear Ms. Henney,

Why is it we always wait until it is too late? The misuse of antibiotics for non-therapeutic purposes such as growth promotion is a crime against life. I am no scientist but I know overuse of antibiotics leads to resistance in disease causing bacteria. This issue is a time bomb waiting to explode. The immune systems of the Earth, which is simply her living, viable soil, and the immune systems of the animals and humans that live on her are all compromised by this misuse of antibiotics.

A system for collecting basic data on agricultural antibiotic use in the US is desperately needed. In my estimation the fear of implementing such a system would be in this systems ability to tie many problems to the overuse of antibiotics to where the money is being made on antibiotic products. I ask the question, perhaps you may have an answer, "Who would fear that most?" The fear at my end is the horror of antibiotics that are no longer effective. How can we live in on the edge before we lose our balance and fall? The resulting injuries from the fall will depend on our ability to change how we care for the Earth and ALL her inhabitants.

Sincerely
Annette Weaver



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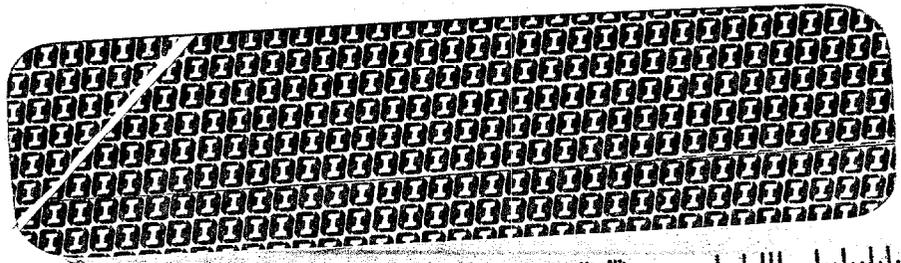
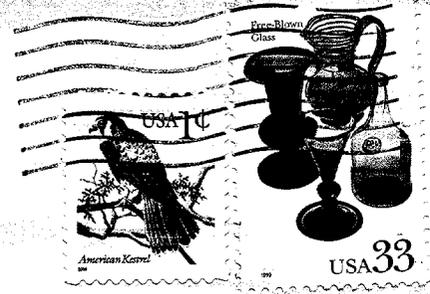


Annette Weaver
 1906 E. Clarendon Ave.
 Phoenix, AZ 85016-6405

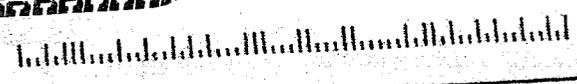
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