

FRESH FROM THE NORTHWEST
**OREGON
HAZELNUTS**



November 13, 2002

Michael A. Adams, Ph.D.
Acting Director, Division of Nutrition Science and Policy
Office of Nutritional Products Labeling & Dietary Supplements
Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition
Food and Drug Administration
Harvey W. Wiley Federal Building
5100 Paint Branch Parkway
College Park, MD 20740

ATTENTION: DOCKET #02P-0292

The Hazelnut Marketing Board is a member of the International Tree Nut Council Nutrition Research and Education Foundation (INCNREF), which submitted a petition to your office soliciting approval of a health claim on the ability of all common nuts to reduce the risk of CHD. The INCNREF petition applies to almonds, Brazil nuts, cashew nuts, hazelnuts, macadamia nuts, pecans, pine nuts, peanuts, pistachio nuts and walnuts.

As an integral part of the INCNREF coalition, members of the Hazelnut Marketing Board support the enclosed comments regarding the California Walnut Commission Petition entitled, "Health Claim Petition: Diets Including Walnuts Can Reduce the Risk of Heart Disease (Docket #02P-0292)." There is ample science to substantiate a claim for all nuts. We feel strongly that the public health will be best served with one straightforward nut claim that is based on sound science.

We respectfully request that you consider these comments as you move forward with both the Walnut Commission and the INCNREF petitions for health claims.

Thank you very much for your valuable time and effort.

Sincerely,

Polly Owen, Manager
Hazelnut Marketing Board

02P-0292

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HAZELNUT MARKETING BOARD

21595-A Dolores Way N.E. Aurora, OR 97002-9738 office (503) 678-6823 fax (503) 678-6825
www.oregonhazelnuts.org email: hazelnut@oregonhazelnuts.org