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9 September 00

Commissioner, Food and Drug Administration  
Fishers Lane, Room 1471  
Rockville, MD 20857

I am writing to you because I am extremely concerned about genetic engineering of my food. I urge you most strenuously to mandate an **immediate minimum 5-year moratorium** on the release of all genetically engineered organisms into any and all levels of the food chain - from seed to table; to require **mandatory rigorous pre-market safety testing** to ensure the continued viability of an uncontaminated food source for America. I further expect **clear and accurate labeling** of all foods already on the market containing genetically modified organisms.

We have a right to know what we are putting into our bodies. No one has a right to indiscriminately alter the make-up of foods we have been eating for years as they come from Mother Earth, integrate them into our lives without rigorous safety protocol and not advise us of what they have done.

I have read that the proponents of genetic engineering say it will feed more people and make crops more disease resistant, among other revolutionary scientific miracles. This sounds good on the surface, but according to opponents it could also result in unpredictable and unknown health problems, including allergies; create pesticide-resistant bugs and weeds that will require the use of even more and stronger pesticides; kill off nonpest species such as ladybugs and butterflies; contaminate non-genetically-engineered crops with wind-borne pollen; and irreversibly pollute our ecosystem.

**KILL OFF LADYBUGS AND BUTTERFLIES!!????!!!!** How can anyone ignore that? And, since little testing has been required, who knows if it will or won't? If the proponents really believe it won't then they shouldn't balk at mandatory testing or labeling. I am appalled that more research isn't being done on the potential risks and hazards of GMOs and I demand that this research begin immediately.

According to Natural Health Magazine, (September, 1999) consumer concern over genetically engineered foods is not reason enough for the FDA to label these foods. Are the PEOPLE at the FDA not consumers? Do you not care what you are eating? The FDA's Jim Maryanski says "There has to be something else driving it." Like what? Ladybugs and butterflies becoming extinct? People becoming incapacitated from food borne allergies? What? He goes on, "And since we don't have any proof that genetically engineered products are different in safety than traditional plant crops, we cannot consider labeling." **CANNOT CONSIDER** labeling?!? *Do we have any proof that genetically engineered products are NOT different in safety than traditional plant crops? Where are you people coming from?*

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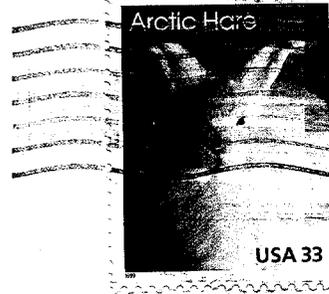
I am vehemently opposed to genetic engineering period, but to have this quietly slipped into my food, forced upon me, is outrageous and diabolical. It is unfair and unconstitutional. For the sake of our children and our planet, REQUIRE RIGOROUS TESTING AND MANDATORY LABELING FOR ANY AND ALL PRODUCTS THAT CONTAIN GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS, AND AN IMMEDIATE MINIMUM 5-YEAR MORATORIUM ON THE RELEASE OF ALL GMOs INTO ANY AND ALL LEVELS OF THE FOOD CHAIN.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Deedee Green".

Deedee Green

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Point, Ms  
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