4/18/00

DEAR DR. HENNY,

I READ RECENTLY THAT THE NATIONAL MILK PRODUCERS FEDERATION HAS PETITIONED THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION TO DISALLOW USE OF THE TERM "MILK" IN THE MARKETING OF BEVERAGES MADE FROM SOYBEANS. LOOKING IN THE DICTIONARY, I FOUND THAT THE DEFINITION OF "MILK" INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING: "ANY LIQUID RESEMBLING THIS, (IS A WHITE LIQUID SECRETED BY THE MAMMARY GLANDS OF FEMALE MAMMALS ...") IS THE LIQUID WITHIN A COCONUT."

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I URGE THE FDA TO PERMIT CONTINUED USAGE OF THE GENERIC TERM "MILK" FOR NON-DAIRY BEVERAGES, AND I WOULD ALSO SUGGEST THAT MILK FROM COWS SHOULD CLEARLY BE LABELED AS "COWS' MILK." THIS MAY PROMPT CONSUMERS TO THINK MORE CAREFULLY ABOUT THE PROVENANCE OF THEIR FOOD AND THE CONDITIONS IN WHICH "FOOD ANIMALS" ARE MAINTAINED.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION OF MY COMMENTS.

SINCERELY, Karen A. Smith

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BLOOMINGTON, IN 474
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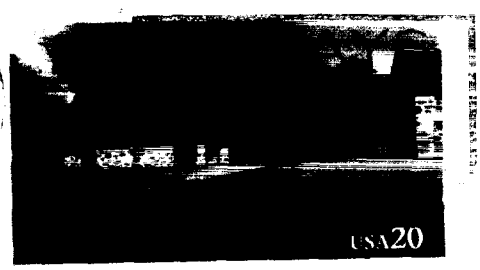

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