

Toddy Perryman
1525 Silver Sage Ln.
Corvallis, MT 59828
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7 March 2001

FDA Commissioner
Docket No. 00N-1396/ OOD-1598
FDA Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

To the FDA,

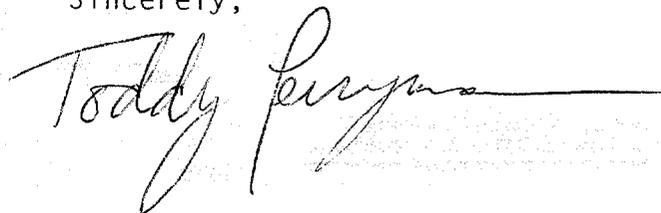
It is completely unacceptable that the agency has failed to require safety testing and mandatory labeling for genetically engineered (GE) foods.

GE foods should not be assumed to be safe and should be subject to mandatory premarket safety testing. But instead of mandating safety testing, the new rules require that food producers must notify the FDA before marketing a GE food. How will this protect public health? Will the FDA be doing any safety tests to help protect public health? It is no wonder that people are choosing to purchase organically produced foods more and more.

All labelling of GE foods will be voluntary, according to the proposed rules. Under these rules, consumers will have no way of knowing which foods have been genetically engineered. Will the FDA be publishing a list of producers that will be marketing GE foods so that consumers can find out which products to avoid?

I believe that all GE foods should be taken off supermarket shelves until they have been safety tested and labeled. There should be long-term studies done to prove that they are safe for human consumption before products appear on the shelves.

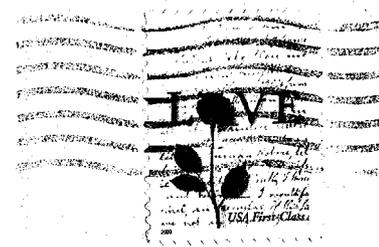
Sincerely,



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