

142 Lawrence Road  
Medford, Massachusetts 02155  
March 15, 2001  
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FDA Commissioner  
Docket No. OON-1396 / OOD-1598  
FDA Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)  
Food and Drug Administration  
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061  
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear FDA Commissioner,

I am writing to urge you to mandate the labeling of all products that contain genetically engineered ingredients and to place a moratorium on genetically engineered foods until long-term studies prove that they are safe for human health and the environment.

Several studies have raised concerns about the safety of genetically engineered foods. Studies on animals have shown that eating genetically engineered crops can result in depressed immune systems, damaged internal organs, shorter life-spans and behavioral aberrations. All of these findings indicate that genetically engineered foods may pose serious problems, and more research should be done immediately before allowing more genetically engineered products to flood the marketplace.

In addition to these concerns, people with allergies have no way of knowing if the food they buy contains the allergens that they must avoid. There are other groups of people who must also avoid genetically altered foods, such as those on kosher diets, vegetarians, and people who have religious objections to genetic modification. Consumers have no way of knowing which foods have been genetically modified, and surveys have shown that over eighty-five percent of the public want labels.

I therefore urge you to immediately call for mandatory labeling of genetically engineered products and to place a moratorium on such products until research shows that they are safe for human health and the environment. Furthermore, all genetically engineered foods should be taken off supermarket shelves until they have been tested, proven to be safe, and labeled accordingly.

Thank you very much for your attention to this important matter. I would appreciate receiving a reply stating what you intend to do.

OOD\_1598

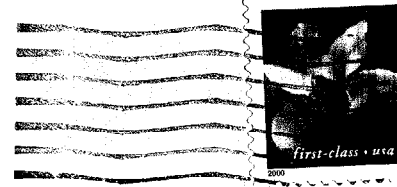
Sincerely,

Phyllis Wolff

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