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March 2, 2001

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

Dear Commissioner,

As a health conscious consumer and an organic grower I have concerns about the lack of testing of genetically engineered (GE) crops before they are released on the food market. I see the FDA as the regulatory agency that should make sure these crops are safe.

These are points that should be addressed by the FDA:

- \* Require mandatory pre-market safety testing;
- \* Require mandatory pre-market environmental review;
- \* Require mandatory labeling of GE foods,

Simple notification to consumers of GE foods coming on the market is inadequate.

Because of the inadequate study of GE plants and their effect on the environment and human and animal health more study needs to be done. As a consumer I feel like a guinea pig testing the products as we go, while the companies who hold patents on these plants are making large profits at the public's expense.

A responsible government agency would put the safety of its citizens over the profits of the corporations.

Thank you for considering this matter.

Sincerely

DDN 1396

Patti McKee