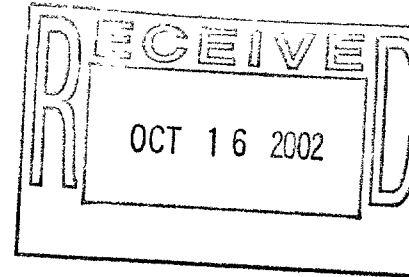




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Office of Nutritional Products  
Labeling & Dietary Supplements  
Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition  
Food and Drug Administration  
5100 Paint Branch Parkway  
College Park, MD 20740-3835

October 14, 2002

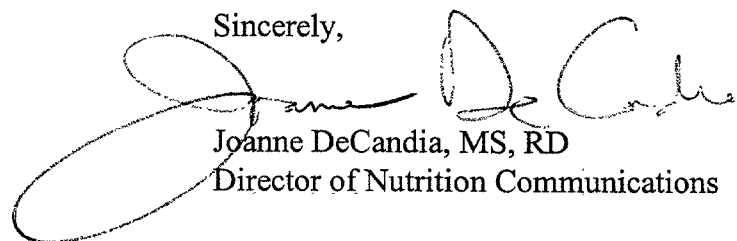
Dear Sir or Madam:

This letter will serve as a 30-day notification pursuant to Section 6 of the Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act of 1994 that NBTY Inc. is using the following statements on our Ester C® 500 mg supplements under the Spring Valley label:

- Non-Acidic Stomach Friendly
- Vitamin C plays an important role in supporting immune function.
- As an antioxidant, Vitamin C helps neutralize harmful free radicals in cells.
- Ester C® is the only Vitamin C that contains metabolites and may enhance the delivery of essential Vitamin C to the body.

The above statements are accompanied by the required disclaimer pursuant to Section 6 of the Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act.

Sincerely,



Joanne DeCandia, MS, RD  
Director of Nutrition Communications

JD/je

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