

From: Alliance for Sustainability [jasa@mtn.org]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 2:16 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: organic standards & factory farmed animals

Dear Ms. Benham,

I am horrified to learn that producers of factory farmed livestock are lobbying for organic certification. This type of livestock production clearly & egregiously violates established conventions of organic practice. I therefore urge you & the NOSB Livestock Committee to please DENY approval of organic certification for these producers for the sake of consumers, the animals & our environment.

Sincerely,
Krista Leraas
Minneapolis, MN

From: Ariana Mei [ariana_rad@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 1:25 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: organic poultry standards

I respectfully urge you to not allow factory farm interests to usurp the "organic" label by using it for chickens who are raised in industrialized farms.

Clearly, the organic label was meant to apply to chickens who are allowed a natural diet, free roaming space, and who are not glutted with antibiotics. Allowing factory farms, an industry that tortures its animals, to use the organic label would be disingenuous, at best, and would tremendously harm the animals, the environment, and human health.

Sincerely,

Ariana Huemer
5222 Dantes View Drive
Agoura, CA 91301

Send and receive Hotmail on your mobile device: <http://mobile.msn.com>

From: CAPODICI Amy [amy.capodici@atofina.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 2:01 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: "organic" label

Katherine Benham
USDA-AMS-TMP-NOP:

Factory farming industry members are trying to usurp the "organic" label and use it on chickens that they raise in extremely inhumane, factory farming conditions. The factory farming industry's attempt at creating an illusion of humaneness and good health is outrageous and disingenuous. If allowed, it will only strengthen an industry that does immeasurable harm to animals and the environment.

I urge you to DENY the organic label to factory farms. An industry that thrives on overuse of antibiotics and inhumane confinement systems has no business using the "organic" label. This would be misleading to the average consumer.

-Amy

From: asolomon22@comcast.net%inter2 [asolomon22@comcast.net]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 3:41 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: "organic chicken"

If a bird isn't raised humanely, i.e., can walk around, no debeaking, access to fresh air and sunlight, can nurture it's young and spend hours grooming themselves and each other as well as scratching for food and are not fed ANY antibiotics or unnatural foods, then it CAN NOT be organic. NO question about it. aj Solomon, highlands, nj

From: Arleen Wiley [asw@arkansas.net]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 10:58 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: Responsible Stewardship of Organic Products

Dear Ms. Benham,

Please utilize the powers of your position to their fullest extent as a Steward of the Land to DENY use of the organic label to factory farms.

There is nothing organic about Factory Farms...they overuse antibiotics and operate inhumane confinement systems. People that look for and purchase organic products should be able to do so with full faith and trust that those products are as pure as possible, free of any chemicals. Organic chickens should be raised without antibiotics, on feeds free from pesticide residue and not containing animal flesh or by-products, and on land that is organically managed and not treated with pesticides. I do not believe that Factory Farms meet any of these criteria.

I applaud those foreign countries that refuse to purchase adulterated chicken flesh from America.

Sincerely,

Arleen S. Wiley
130 Polk 238
Mena, Arkansas 71953-9688

From: Ariana Mei [ariana_rad@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 1:25 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: organic poultry standards

I respectfully urge you to not allow factory farm interests to usurp the "organic" label by using it for chickens who are raised in industrialized farms.

Clearly, the organic label was meant to apply to chickens who are allowed a natural diet, free roaming space, and who are not glutted with antibiotics. Allowing factory farms, an industry that tortures its animals, to use the organic label would be disingenous, at best, and would tremendously harm the animals, the environment, and human health.

Sincerely,

Ariana Huemer
5222 Dantes View Drive
Agoura, CA 91301

Send and receive Hotmail on your mobile device: <http://mobile.msn.com>

From: CLVallone@aol.com%inter2 [CLVallone@aol.com] on behalf of CLVallone@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 11:22 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: Please do not let the poultry industry hijack organic standards

Dear Ms. Benham:

I am writing to respectfully urge you to DENY the organic label to factory farms. An industry that thrives on overuse of antibiotics and inhumane confinement systems has no business using the "organic" label.

It is apparent that factory farming industry members are trying to usurp the "organic" label and use it on chickens that they raise in extremely inhumane, factory farming conditions. The factory farming industry's attempt at creating an illusion of humaneness and good health is outrageous and disingenuous. If allowed, it will only strengthen an industry that does immeasurable harm to animals and the environment.

Thank you for accepting my comments.

Sincerely,

Cheryl L. Vallone
10 Ivy Lane
Ashland, MA 01721-1020
clvallone@aol.com

From: MRBOWTIE25@aol.com%inter2 [MRBOWTIE25@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 5:58 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: Organic foods

Dear Katherine Benham,

It is my understanding that factory farming industry members are trying to usurp the "organic" label and use it on chickens that they raise in extremely inhumane, factory farming conditions that destroy the environment and the public health. How this could be considered organic, I do not understand. If the NOSB Livestock Committee allows factory farms to use the organic label, I will no longer have any faith whatsoever in products labelled "organic", and will inform everyone I know that this label has become virtually meaningless. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Daniel Elstein
Haverford College
370 Lancaster Ave.
Haverford, PA 19041
610-795-6414

From: CALVEGGY@webtv.net%inter2 [CALVEGGY@webtv.net] on behalf of CALVEGGY@webtv.net
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 2:18 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: DENT "organic" label to horrrific factory farms.

Please DENY the use of "Organic" on farms notorious for their abuse. Humanely, Carolyn Repeta..a consumer po box 19872 sarasota, fl 34231

From: CHurtel@aol.com%inter2 [CHurtel@aol.com] on behalf of CHurtel@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, May 02, 2002 9:03 AM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: May 6th Deadline.....

Please Ms. Benham:

PLEASE DENY the organic label to factory farms. The industry thrives on overuse of antibiotics and inhumane confinement.

Thanks for your support.

Cindy Hurtel
Metairie, Louisiana

From: CLNHSE@aol.com%inter2 [CLNHSE@aol.com] on behalf of CLNHSE@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, May 02, 2002 8:53 AM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: Please DENY the organic label to factory farms

Dear Katherine:

I urge you to DENY the organic label to factory farms. An industry that thrives on overuse of antibiotics and inhumane confinement systems has no business using the "organic" label. Thank you.

Pandora George
744 Rockridge Drive
Manchester, MO 63021

From: Barbara Warner [bkwarner@kyol.net]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 2:31 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: Label

Please deny the organic label to factory farm products. Thank you. Barbara Warner, Secretary marion Co. Humane Society, Inc.

From: f.lemburg [f.lemburg@inter-linc.net]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 4:22 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: Organic factory farms

Dear Ms Beham: I strongly urge you to deny the use of the "organic" label to businesses that deal in factory farming. Thank you, Beverly Lemburg f.lemburg@inter-linc.net

From: Danica Siefken Billingsly [pinuchkin@greenwood.net]
Sent: Thursday, May 02, 2002 8:23 AM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: standards for "organic" labeling

Ms. Benham -

I am writing with extreme concern over the proposed awarding of the label "organic" to several national factory farming operations. My family and I began eating organic food approximately 6 years ago, when we discovered that my husband has an allergy to preservatives and that the growth hormones and antibiotics in large-facility meat were impacting our reproductive systems. Since then we have been very healthy, with less upper respiratory infections, fewer gastrointestinal problems, and our reproductive systems have been declared back to normal.

We rely heavily on the NSOB for reliable labeling of organic produce. Organic can be a dangerous word if used too loosely; many others like us across the nation take the word to mean without added antibiotics, growth hormones or other chemicals, plants grown without herbicides and chemical fertilizers. Most local organic farmers are also free-range farmers.

People who buy organic produce don't want to eat hormones, preservatives or other chemical concoctions. We want to eat food that lived in or on healthy soil with clean air. Every large production farm I have visited fails each of those tests. I have seen cows who have never encountered a blade of grass. I have seen chicken kept in tiny cages that they can't stand up straight in. The recent problems with the Tyson chicken farms in the south are a prime example of exactly what level of concern is given by large-scale farms to the animals they raise and the consumers they serve.

Please don't let your actions be influenced by the pressure of the large-scale farm industry. You have a great opportunity this summer to protect consumers and ensure that the high standards of quality from the NSOB remain in place.

Thank you sincerely -

Danica Siefken Billingsly
2834 Highway 25 North
Hodges, SC 29653

864-229-4624

From: detroitdiva [detroitdiva@mindspring.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 7:18 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: Deny Organic Label for Factory Farms

Dear Ms. Benham,

PLEASE DENY the organic label to all factory farms, as these farms are not only raising and keeping animals in inhumane and cruel confinement, they use antibiotics!

This goes against everything that we believe in as natural/ organic in terms of food that is labeled organic. This would seriously hurt the ENTIRE organic food/drink labeling for all truly organic products that we go out of our way to consume, plus hurts those who are truly organic... wouldn't want to see lawsuits as a result of this! let alone a bad rap.

Kind Regards,
Susan Howard

From: DGreenhalgh@webtv.net%inter2 [DGreenhalgh@webtv.net] on behalf of DGreenhalgh@webtv.net
Sent: Thursday, May 02, 2002 8:21 AM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: help the chickens!

I am in agreement with the HSUS about this issue, please do what you can.

DON'T LET THE POULTRY INDUSTRY HIJACK ORGANIC STANDARDS Factory farming industry members are trying to usurp the "organic" label and use it on chickens that they raise in extremely inhumane, factory farming conditions. As the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) Livestock Committee meets to establish national standards for organic poultry, giant corporations are intensively lobbying the Board to allow their industrialized factories to be certified as "organic!" These industrial producers have even succeeded in getting one of their representatives onto the NOSB Livestock Committee. The factory farming industry's attempt at creating an illusion of humaneness and good health is outrageous and disingenuous. If allowed, it will only strengthen an industry that does immeasurable harm to animals and the environment. **WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Please contact the NOSB Livestock Committee **BY THE MAY 6th DEADLINE**, and tell them to **DENY** the organic label to factory farms. Tell them that an industry that thrives on overuse of antibiotics and inhumane confinement systems has no business using the "organic" label. Faxed comments will be the most helpful.

Diana

From: Zelnio, Diana [dbzelni@sandia.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 5:50 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: Outrageous

Ms. Benham:

I would like you to DENY the organic label to factory farms. An industry that thrives on overuse of antibiotics and inhumane confinement systems has no business using the "organic" label.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.
Diana Zelnio

From: donna blischke [dblischke@adelphia.net]
Sent: Thursday, May 02, 2002 7:37 AM
To: Benham, Katherine

Dear Ms. Benham,

I'm writing today to urge you not to include factory farms into organic certification. The high quality of animal care included in the standards will never be achieved by the factory farming system. If an animal is given antibiotics, and not allowed outdoor access it should not be labeled organic. I have a small organic farm and am very committed to giving my animals the best possible existence. They have only organic feed, indoor shelter with constant outdoor access. I've worked very hard to achieve these high standards for my animals. A compromise to accommodate large factory farms would result in a demotion of what organic means. Please keep organic to the highest standards possible and do not certify the factory farms. Thank you Donna Blischke Web of Life Organic Farm Mass/NOFA certified

From: DreaBates@aol.com%inter2 [DreaBates@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 5:09 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: DENY: Organic Label to Factory Farms

Dear Ms. Benham:

The purpose of thei email is to encourage you(the NOBS Livestock Committe) to DENY the organic label use by factory farms. An industry that thrives on overuse of antibiotics and inhumane confinement systems has no business using the "organic" label. To allow factory farms to use this label would mislead the public at large and be in violation of the standards set forth by the FTC.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Regards,

Andrea E Bates
526 Hardendorf Ave
Atlanta, GA 30307

From: Egress Etch [egress@dotnet.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 3:13 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: I oppose the "Organic" label for "Factory Farm" eggs!

Dear Ms. Katherine Benham

I am writing to ask that you DENY the organic label to factory farms and their products. To allow factory farms to use the "organic" label is nothing more than allowing a mass scam for the consumer public seeking out healthy, organic products from animals farmed in a humane way.

The factory farming industry could not exist at all without the massive overuse of antibiotics and inhumane confinement systems. These methods of "farming" are anything but "organic" and should not be labeled as such.

Thank you for considering my views.

Eilene Ribbens Rohde
111 S. East Street
Elkhart Lake, WI 53020-0034

920-876-2272
egress@dotnet.com

From: Emarg@aol.com%inter2 [Emarg@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 5:26 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: poultry 'organic' labeling

After reviewing the above issue, I urge you to DENY it to factory farming businesses. There's an overuse of antibiotics and inhumane confinement systems in that industry.

Thanks for considering this.

P.Grame
99 San Juan Ct.

Los Altos, CA 94022

From: Coralie DeWald [dewcor@wcta.net]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 3:11 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: "Organic" label for factory poultry farms

Dear Ms Benham:

I urgently request that you do all you can to not permit the "Organic" Label to be used on Poultry raised in the inhumane ways that the large factory organizations do. The Inhumane housing for poultry, and the extreme overuse of antibiotics make a mockery of the "organic" labeling. The defenseless victims of this huge "business" need our help. Therefore, my plea that this "mis-labeling" not be permitted to take place. Thank you for your efforts. Sincerely, Coralie DeWald 12616 231st Ave Staples, MN 56479 dewcor@wcta.net

From: Jen (038) Dick [dartley@mtida.net]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 7:33 PM
To: Benham, Katherine

May 1, 2002

Dear Katherine,

My wife and I buy products that are organic if they are available. This is very important to us. The factory farming industry is are trying to use the organic label without any justification. In fact, from what I know about the tragedy of factory farms, they are the last that should be allowed to use it.

The specific point I want to make in this letter relates to the chicken industry.

When the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) Livestock Committee meets to establish national standards for organic poultry, corporations are lobbying the Board to allow their animal factories to be certified as organic.

These industrial producers have even succeeded in getting one of their representatives onto the NOSB Livestock Committee. Is there an advocate of organic food on the board too? If there is not, the factory farming industry?s representative should be removed.

Please DENY the organic label to factory farms and remove this factory person from the NOSB Livestock Committee.

Sincerely,

Richard Artley
415 EN 2nd
Grangeville, Idaho 83530

From: GarneteWolf01@aol.com%inter2 [GarneteWolf01@aol.com] on behalf of
GarneteWolf01@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 2:05 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: DON???T LET THE POULTRY INDUSTRY HIJACK ORGANIC STANDARDS

Factory farming industry members are trying to usurp the "organic" label and use it on chickens that they raise in extremely inhumane, factory farming conditions. As the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) Livestock Committee meets to establish national standards for organic poultry, giant corporations are intensively lobbying the Board to allow their industrialized factories to be certified as "organic"! These industrial producers have even succeeded in getting one of their representatives onto the NOSB Livestock Committee. The factory farming industry's attempt at creating an illusion of humaneness and good health is outrageous and disingenuous. If allowed, it will only strengthen an industry that does immeasurable harm to animals and the environment.

DENY the organic label of factory farms. An industry that thrives on overuse of antibiotics and inhumane confinement systems has no business using the "Organic" Label.

From: g.hatchcarlsen@att.net%inter2 [g.hatchcarlsen@att.net]
Sent: Thursday, May 02, 2002 7:35 AM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: Organic Labels for Factory Farms? NO!!!

An industry that thrives on overuse of antibiotics and documented inhumane treatment of animals forced to live in miserable conditions while polluting the environment should NOT be given official endorsement by being given "organic" labelling. The perception of organic labels is inextricably linked to "safe", "healthy", "environmentally concerned" operations - none of which apply to factory farming. Please don't allow factory farms to succeed in misleading the American public.

Thank you, Ms. Gillian M. Hatch Carlsen
2818 S. Logrun Circle
The Woodlands, TX 77380

From: heidi sowards [head_of_red@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 7:54 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: please do the right thing

DENY the organic label to factory farms. An industry that thrives on overuse of antibiotics and inhumane confinement systems has no business using the organic label.

Send and receive Hotmail on your mobile device: <http://mobile.msn.com>

From: jackie raven [jackie_raven@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 6:34 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: please DENY the organic label to factory farms.

Dear Ms Benham:

Re: PLEASE DON'T LET THE POULTRY INDUSTRY MAKE A MOCKERY OF ORGANIC STANDARDS

The factory farming industry's attempt at creating an illusion of humaneness and good health is outrageous and disingenuous. If allowed, it will only strengthen an industry that does immeasurable harm to animals and the environment.

When the National Organic Standards Board Livestock Committee meets to establish national standards for organic poultry, please deny them the organic label. An industry that thrives on overuse of antibiotics and inhumane confinement systems has no business using the organic label.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Raven

235 E. 89th Street, New York, NY 10128

Get your FREE download of MSN Explorer at <http://explorer.msn.com>.

From: Jan McCreary [cascabel@gilanet.com]

Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 2:11 PM

To: Benham, Katherine

Subject: Deny Organic Label To Factory Farms!!!

Dear Ms. Benham,

I understand that giant chicken factory farms are petitioning the NOSB to allow their chicken products to be labeled as "organic". This is completely OUTRAGEOUS!!! Poultry factory farms are notorious for their cruel treatment of chickens, use of chemicals, overuse of antibiotics, pollution of the environment, etc. etc. They have proved time and time again that they care nothing for the animals, the environment, or the health of their customers.

Consumers trust the organic label because in the past it has been judiciously applied only to those food producers who truly deserve it. PLEASE deny the label to these greedy factory farms.

Sincerely,

Jan McCreary
P.O. Box 3042
Silver City, NM 88062

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

Please contact the NOSB Livestock Committee BY THE MAY 6th DEADLINE, and tell them to DENY the organic label to factory farms. Tell them that an industry that thrives on overuse of antibiotics and inhumane confinement systems has no business using the "organic" label.

From: Janny512@aol.com%inter2 [Janny512@aol.com] on behalf of Janny512@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, May 02, 2002 2:58 AM

To: Benham, Katherine

Subject: May 2

Please deny the organic label to factory farms for the sake of the animals!

From: jcartwright@stcloudstate.edu%inter2 [jcartwright@stcloudstate.edu]
on behalf of jcartwright@stcloudstate.edu
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 8:38 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: Organic label for factory farms

Dear Ms. Benham,
Please deny the use of the label of organic to poultry factory farms. Animals raised for meat under such inhumane and unhealthy conditions as those found on factory farms should not be foisted on the public as organic. Thank you for your consideration of my thoughts.

Julie Cartwright
9400 Lakewood Shores Road NW
Rice, MN 56367
jcartwright@stcloudstate.edu

From: Jean Fox [jlfox@execpc.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 6:39 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: factory organic labels

DENY the organic label to factory farms. Tell them that an industry that thrives on overuse of antibiotics and inhumane confinement systems has no business using the "organic" label.