

Ms. Eileen Stommes
USDA, National Organic Standards
USDA, AMS, Room 4007-S
AgStop 0275, PO Box 96456
Washington DC 20090-6456
Docket #TND-94-00-2

Dear Ms. Stommes:

I am writing to express my concern about USDA's proposed organic standards. I am extremely disturbed that USDA has chosen to allow practices to be included that violate the spirit of organic farming and ignore years of effort by the organic industry.

There are many aspects of USDA's proposed standards which do not belong under the organic label. The following are the ones I find the most disturbing and the greatest threat to the integrity of organic products and farming:

Irradiation in the handling of organic food. Opposed by the National Organic Standards Board.

Genetic engineering in organic products. Opposed by the National Organic Standards Board.

Municipal sludge for use in growing organic products. Opposed by the National Organic Standards Board.

Antibiotic use on livestock. Opposed by the National Organic Standards Board.

Animal feed for organically raised livestock. Opposed by the National Organic Standards Board.

Heavily contaminated areas like Superfund sites being considered acceptable for organic production without adequate cleanup first. Opposed by the National Organic Standards Board.

I wish to add my voice to that of the National Organic Standards Board and insist that the USDA propose standards which are in keeping with true organic practice.

Sincerely,