

**From:** Constance DiNatale <drdinatale@msn.com>  
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**To:** ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Comments Regarding Agriculture and Antitrust Enforcement Issues in Our 21st Century Economy

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I am a veterinarian, and I am writing because I feel our agricultural state has become a monochromatic corn/soy/wheat based subsidized nightmare.

I'm concerned for the farmers who lose giant lawsuits because their neighbors use patented crops that 'drift' onto their lands and cause copyright lawsuits that put the small farmer out of business.

I am concerned that our carnivorous dietary habits put our livestock in ethical and sanitary jeopardy. The inhumanity of the industry is shocking to anyone who sees it, and I would challenge the government to air some livestock rearing and slaughtering practices on television for a day. I've worked in the industry- it is cruel.

I am writing because only a few nutrients are added to our big crops, leaving produce that has been scientifically proven to have dramatically less nutritional content than food tested in the 50's.

Our livestock is pushed the same way, with dairy cows now having a 50% shortened lifespan (already only a few years in production before being culled) due to the hormones being added to increase milk production. These hormones cause the cow to be in severe metabolic deficiency, and to succumb at alarming rates to severe terminal mastitis and hoof problems. When I recently landed in the UK for a trip, the first announcement that came on the air was a warning that all US dairy would need to be confiscated before departure, and that it was illegal to have any US dairy produce, including baby formula(!!) in the UK. And of course we know that is not the only country that will tolerate our severe trade penalties in order to protect the right of their country's people from scientifically-proven reproductive disorders/cancers.

If the government is concerned about the health of its people, then supporting SUSTAINABLE agriculture is the way to go. If one looks at our fat, undernourished population, nutrient deficiency is rampant. In my veterinary practice, I can often restore an animal's failing thyroid, and cancerous body, back to health through improved diet and nutrient supplementation. That should not be necessary. Food should contain the nutrients we expect, and not be some tasteless anemic pabulum that we shovel into our mouths while driving, to be followed by a chunk of sugary something that we hope will fill the nutrient void that we experience.

Do the right thing for your children and grandchildren.

Constance DiNatale, DVM, BS  
742 Clay St  
Winter Park, FL 32789  
407-644-0080