

KEEP ANTIBIOTICS WORKING

The Campaign to End Antibiotic Overuse

www.KeepAntibioticsWorking.com

February 6, 2006

STEERING COMMITTEE

Center for Science in the
Public Interest

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Food Animal Concerns
Trust

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Responsibility

Safe Tables Our Priority
(S.T.O.P.)

Sierra Club

Union of Concerned
Scientists

Waterkeeper Alliance

Mr. Ron Foster
CEO and President
Foster Poultry Farms
1000 Davis Street
Livingston, CA 95334

Re: Foster Farm's dramatic success in reducing antibiotic use in chicken production

Dear Mr. Foster:

On behalf of the Keep Antibiotics Working coalition, I write to congratulate you on Foster Farm's success in dramatically reducing the quantity of antibiotics used in chicken production, as reported by *USA Today* on January 24. These reductions help decrease the development and spread of antibiotic-resistant bacteria both on food and via the environment, thus protecting human and animal health by extending the effectiveness of antibiotics in combating bacterial disease.

Specifically, *USA Today* reports that only one percent of Foster Farms' flocks currently receive antibiotics and that the company has entirely eliminated the routine use of all antibiotics as feed additives to promote growth. These substantial reductions in antibiotic use are important not only in themselves, but also because they demonstrate that chicken can be produced without the extensive use of antibiotics.

KAW hopes that Foster Farms will consider also reducing antibiotic use in its production of turkey. I welcome the opportunity to explore this idea with you.

Thank you for being an industry leader in helping to keep antibiotics working for those who need them.

Yours Truly,

Richard Wood
Chair, Keep Antibiotics Working Steering Committee
Executive Director, Food Animal Concerns Trust
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