

KEEP ANTIBIOTICS WORKING

The Campaign to End Antibiotic Overuse

www.KeepAntibioticsWorking.com

STEERING COMMITTEE

Center for Science in the
Public Interest

Environmental Defense

Food Animal Concerns
Trust

Global Resource Action
Center for the Environment

Humane Society of the
United States

Institute for Agriculture
and Trade Policy

National Catholic Rural Life
Conference

Natural Resources Defense
Council

Physicians for Social
Responsibility

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

Sierra Club

Union of Concerned
Scientists

Waterkeeper Alliance

February 6, 2006

Mr. James A. (Jim) Perdue
Chairman, CEO, and CFO
Perdue Farms, Inc.
31149 Old Ocean City Road
Salisbury, MD 21804

Re: Perdue Farms' dramatic success in reducing antibiotic use in chicken production

Dear Mr. Perdue:

On behalf of the Keep Antibiotics Working coalition, I write to congratulate you on Perdue Farms' success in dramatically reducing the quantity of antibiotics that are 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 that Perdue has entirely eliminated the routine use of all feed grade antibiotics used to promote growth. In addition, the story states that "at any given farm in [Perdue's] system, only one flock in five years receives antibiotics, either to halt a disease outbreak or because birds are threatened with infection." 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.

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
Ph. (773) 525-4952
Email. RRWood@FACT.cc