



## HUMAN HEALTH AND INDUSTRIAL FARMING

Below is your June 2012 newsletter from the [Pew Campaign on Human Health and Industrial Farming](#). In this edition:

- There's Still Time: Urge FDA to Strengthen Its Antibiotic Policies
- Consumers Union Asks Grocery Stores: Where's the Meat Raised without Antibiotics?
- FDA Releases Updated Plan on Food Safety
- Looking To Be Inspired?

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### There's Still Time: Urge FDA to Strengthen Its Antibiotic Policies

We have until July 12 to comment on the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) recently released draft guidelines to curb the misuse and overuse of antibiotics in meat and poultry production. While these guidelines are a crucial first step, [we need your help](#) to strengthen them. Currently, FDA does not close a loophole in which industrial farm animals can continue to use antibiotics to compensate for overcrowding and unsanitary living conditions; FDA also does not provide measures for monitoring the effectiveness of its voluntary guidelines. We need to change this. [If you have not already done so, please click on this link and urge the FDA to improve the guidelines and safeguard antibiotics from overuse on America's industrial farms.](#) You can also help by posting this action alert on your Facebook page and tweeting about it to your followers.

Share:  

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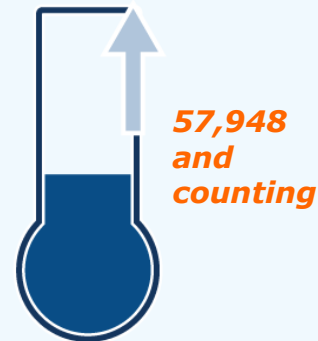
### Consumers Union Asks Grocery Stores: Where's the Meat Raised

**\*\*Important Take Action\*\***

[Urge FDA to Strengthen Measures to End Overuse of Antibiotics on Industrial Farms](#)

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**Help Us Reach Our Goal: 100,000 Supporters!**



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**More...**

*Take Action:* Ask your members of Congress to [co-sponsor the Preservation of Antibiotics for Medical](#)

## without Antibiotics?

Last week, Consumers Union released a report, titled “Meat On Drugs: The Overuse of Antibiotics in Food Animals and What Supermarkets and Consumers Can Do to Stop It,” focused on the nation’s top 13 largest grocery retailers and their selection of meat raised without antibiotics. Consumers Union focused on the retailers’ current products, pricing, and labels. The organization is calling on these retailers to commit to carrying meat raised without antibiotics while directing consumer attention to individual supermarkets. Consumers Union has partnered with other national organizations in asking consumers to take action and change the marketplace by calling for a reduction in use of antibiotics in food animal production. “Antibiotics are losing their potency in people, leading to a major national health crisis, and we need to drastically reduce their use in food animals,” said Jean Halloran, Director of Food Policy Initiatives for Consumers Union. Learn more [here](#).

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## FDA Releases Updated Plan on Food Safety

FDA’s Center for Veterinary Medicine has updated its National Antimicrobial Resistance Monitoring System (NARMS) Strategic Plan, a document that outlines the program’s commitment to sustained food safety through monitoring and research.

Established in 1996, NARMS is an interagency program among the CDC, U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) that monitors and tracks antibiotic-resistant bacteria found in humans, retail meats, and food animals. This updated plan includes strategic goals moving forward including: developing a sampling strategy that is more representative of food animal production and consumption and more applicable to trend analysis; optimizing data acquisition, analysis, and reporting; strengthening collaborative research projects; and collaborating with international institutions that promote food safety, especially those focused on mitigating the spread of antimicrobial-resistant bacteria. [Learn more on FDA’s website](#).

[Treatment Act](#).

[Email us](#) to share why you are concerned about the misuse of antibiotics in food animal production.

Visit our [newsroom](#).

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## Looking To Be Inspired?



View [photos](#) from our recent Supermoms Against Superbugs advocacy day. For those who did not have the opportunity to participate this year, this could be you next year!

Check out this new [video](#) on antibiotic overuse in food animal production. It was created by [FixFood](#), a social media action project led by award-winning filmmaker Robert Kenner.

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## SaveAntibiotics.org

[The Pew Campaign on Human Health and Industrial Farming](#) is working to protect antibiotics by phasing out the overuse of the drugs in food animal production. We work with public health and food industry leaders, veterinarians, agricultural interests, academics and citizens groups who share our objective of preserving the integrity of antibiotics as a means of protecting human and animal health.



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