



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
P.O. Box 42560 • Olympia, Washington 98504-2560 • (360) 902-1800

November 20, 2003

Jim and or Barrie Wilcox
Wilcox Family Farms
40400 Harts Lake Valley Rd
Roy, Washington 98580

**CERTIFIED LETTER:
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED
and FIRST CLASS MAIL**

Dear Sirs:

The Washington State Department of Agriculture's (WSDA) Food Safety Program has reviewed a new dairy product label being used by your company. The program is concerned that labeling claims such as no antibiotics, all natural, cows "raised and fed in a natural and healthy environment", etc, may be misleading to the consuming public.

This new Wilcox labeling appears to create the false and misleading impression with the consuming public that these dairy products are somehow different from other milk or that these cows are healthier than other cows.

The statement "All Natural" implies that no hormones are added. If the artificial growth hormone rbST or other hormones are in fact not being used by any of your producers, do you have documentation to support this fact? Are they required to sign a company affidavit? Does your company have a verification process in place to monitor the non-use of such hormones?

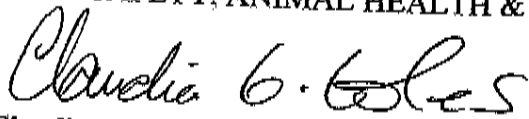
Your company's label statement of "No Antibiotics" gives the impression that there is no use of ~~any type of antibiotic products when in fact virtually all commercially available artificial~~ insemination products include the addition of antibiotics such as Gentamycin. Furthermore, under the state's current drug residue-monitoring program, which your processing plant and producers participate in, the program only tests for the presence of beta-lactum drugs. Is your company verifying that no other antibiotics are in fact being used by any of your producers? Do you have documentation to support the verification?

Wilcox Family Farms also has a history of purchasing raw milk from a "pool" of dairy producers and yet this label indicates that the milk comes from Wilcox Family Farm producers. Our program documentation shows that milk has been received from other producer sources such as Northwest Dairy Association and Safeway producer groups. Who are your Wilcox Family Farm Producers? Do you have a dedicated supply or is this milk from the dairy producer "pool"?

If you have any further questions or would like additional information, please contact me at 360-902-1905.

Sincerely,

FOOD SAFETY, ANIMAL HEALTH & CONSUMER SERVICES DIVISION



Claudia G. Coles, Program Manager
Food Safety Program

cc: **Jim Presseley, Assistant Program Manager**
Steve Matzen, Washington Dairy Products Commission
Jay Gordon, Washington State Dairy Federation
Chris Swanson, Assistant Attorney General
Walter Strong, Food Safety Officer
Lucy Severs, Food Safety Supervisor
File (Dairy Labeling)



March 31, 2004

Claudia Coles
Washington Department of Agriculture
Post Office Box 42560
Olympia, Washington 98504

Dear Ms. Coles:

This letter, along with the accompanying attachments, verifies Wilcox Farms is using milk 100% certified to come from cows not treated with rBST in our rBST-free line of milk.

Smith Brothers Dairy of Kent is packaging this milk for Wilcox Farms and have provided the attached documentation to this effect.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brent Wilcox".

Brent Wilcox
Director of Sales & Marketing

~~ENCLOSURE~~
Enclosures

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOOD SAFETY & ANIMAL HEALTH
DIVISION



August 17, 2003

Smith Brother's Farms Inc.
27411 68th Ave, South,
Kent WA,

Attention: Alexis Koester, President

RE: rbST-Free Milk Agreement: " Wilcox Family Farms rbST- Free Milk "

This letter certifies that the cows producing milk at Smith Brother Farms are free from the use of the artificial growth hormone rbST. All cows used for the raw milk of "Wilcox Family Farms rbST-Free Milk", will come from Smith Brother Farms, therefore guaranteeing that the milk will be free of rbST Hormone. If at any time, Smith Brothers is unable to confirm the above statements are true it will provide immediate verbal and written notice to Wilcox Farms management.

If the terms of this agreement are acceptable, please have an authorized person date and sign these duplicate originals in the space provided below and return a signed original to me.

Wilcox Dairy Farms, LLC.

By: Bonnie F Wilcox
Bonnie Wilcox
Its: President

Smith Brother Farms Inc.

By: Alexis J Koester
Alexis Koester
Its: President

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FOOD SAFETY & INSPECTION SERVICE
DIVISION

WILCOX FARMS 40400 Harts Lake Valley Road Roy, WA 98580 1-800-568-6456