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Position Statement, Food from Cloned Animals

United Natural Foods does not support the use of genetic engineering or cloning processes in the production of food products, and strongly encourages the Food and Drug Administration to enact a moratorium on the introduction of food products from cloned animals into the nation's food supply.

A September, 2006 Pew Foundation survey found that 64% of consumers are uncomfortable with the idea of animal cloning, with 46% being very uncomfortable.

Many consumers oppose animal cloning on moral, religious, scientific, and animal welfare grounds. Groups including the Organic Trade Association, The Humane Society of the United States, The Center for Food Safety, The Consumer Federation of the United States, and Friends of the Earth are strongly opposed to the introduction of cloned animals into the food supply.

A 2004 New England Journal of Medicine report stated, "Given the available evidence, it may be exceedingly difficult, if not impossible, to generate healthy cloned animals." Until significant research demonstrates that there are no harmful impacts on the health of humans or the environment from cloned animals, it is premature to even consider allowing these products to be marketed.

United Natural Foods believes the vast majority of natural and organics products consumers do not support the introduction of food from cloned animals.