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# STATE OF ALASKA THE LEGISLATURE

FOUCH Y - STATE CAPITOL  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811  
907-465-3800

## LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE LIBRARY

May, 1988

Copies of minutes listed below were originally included in this file. The minutes are available on the STAIRS database CMPR. In order to save space copies of minutes have not been left in the files.

Mary Van Nimweger

H HESS	2-3-88	8:30 a.m.
H HESS	2-17-88	8:30 a.m.
H HESS	2-23-88	8:30 a.m.

# HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date referred: 1/22/88

FURTHER REFERRALS: Judiciary

DATE: 2-23-88

The Health, Education and Social Services Committee has considered HB 388

"An Act relating to irradiated food."

**RECOMMENDS:**

- replace with CS HB 388 (HESS)  the same title
- attached amendment(s)  a new title
- do pass
- do not pass
- no recommendation
- individual recommendations
- additional referral to the \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

**ADOPTS:**  \_\_\_\_\_ letter of intent

**ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):**

- fiscal impact  same as previous fiscal note published \_\_\_\_\_
- zero fiscal note  same as previous zero fiscal note published \_\_\_\_\_
- zero with analysis

**SIGNING DO PASS:**

**SIGNING OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:**

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FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: 1/22/88  
Title: An Act relating to irradiated food.  
Sponsor: Phillips and Goll  
Requestor: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency Affected: Health & Social Services  
BRU: State Health Services  
Components: \_\_\_\_\_

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
CAPITAL						
REVENUE						

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

The enactment of HB 388 would have no direct fiscal impact on the Department of Health and Social Services.

Prepared by: Elizabeth Ward, Director *Elizabeth Ward* Phone: 465-3090  
Division: Public Health Date: 2-2-88

Approved by Commissioner: Mika M Munson Date: 2-2-88  
Agency: Department of Health & Social Services

Distribution (by preparer):  
Legislative Finance  
Legislative Sponsor  
Requestor  
Office of Management and Budget  
Impacted Agency(ies)

POSITION PAPER  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

House Bill No. 388

February 2, 1988

"An act prohibiting the sale of irradiated food."

Department position:

The Department has not taken a position on this bill for the following reasons. The Department has no staff with training and experience in the irradiation of food. The Department's expertise regarding food products is inspecting the sanitary operations of food production facilities. There is a large amount of information and scientific data on this issue. Although review and analysis of the available data are beyond the Department's current capacity to effectively review and analyze, we are pleased to assist the committee in identifying useful information, including the following background.

FDA Requirements

The treatment of certain food products and spices with ionizing radiation is approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). FDA has approved the following application dosages: for foods which can comprise more than 0.01% of the daily diet, the dosage cannot exceed 1 kilogray (KGy); for foods which can comprise less than 0.01% of the daily diet, dosage cannot exceed 50 KGy.

FDA Approved Sources of Irradiation

Approved irradiation sources include: radioactive isotopes (Cobalt-60 or Cesium-137) and machines (x-ray or electron beam).

FDA Foods Approved for Irradiation

FDA has approved the application of irradiation to the following foods: fruits/vegetables (slow growth and ripening and control insects); dried spices and herbs (kill insects and control microorganisms); pork (control trichinosis); white potatoes (growth and maturation inhibition); and wheat and wheat flour (control insects).

FDA Labeling Requirements

Labeling requirements have also been imposed by FDA to ensure that the consumer is aware that food they are consuming has been irradiated. Treated products contain a label statement that contains the international irradiation process logo (tulip) and

the statement "treated with radiation" or "treated by irradiation". On April 18, 1988 the requirement for the written warning is scheduled to be withdrawn. This action would leave only the international irradiation process logo on retail packages. FDA has informed DEC that this will probably not occur since the average consumer probably does not know what the logo symbolizes.

#### Enforcement

The department would enforce the provisions of this bill by inspecting food distributors, warehouses, and retail and wholesale outlets for food labeled with the federally required irradiation symbol and product statement. If irradiated food was found during the course of inspection, the department would embargo the product under the authority in 17.020.230 and require that it be destroyed or returned to an out-of-state distributor.

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: -  
Title: An Act relating to irradiated food.  
Sponsor: Peter Goll and Randy Phillips  
Requestor: Randy Phillips

Agency Affected: Environmental Conservation  
BRU: Environmental Health

Components: Sanitation

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93
PERSONAL SERVICES	-	14.9	14.9	14.9	14.9	14.9
TRAVEL	-	-	-	-	-	-
CONTRACTUAL	-	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
SUPPLIES	-	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
EQUIPMENT	-	-	-	-	-	-
LAND & STRUCTURES	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRANTS, CLAIMS	-	-	-	-	-	-
MISCELLANEOUS	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL OPERATING	0	17.9	17.9	17.9	17.9	17.9
CAPITAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
REVENUE	0	0	0	0	0	0

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	0	17.9	17.9	17.9	17.9	17.9
FEDERAL FUNDS	0	0	0	0	0	0
OTHER	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	17.9	17.9	17.9	17.9	17.9

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	-	-	-	-	-	-
PART-TIME	-	1	1	1	1	1
TEMPORARY	-	-	-	-	-	-

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Attached.

Prepared by: Douglas C. Donegan Phone: 465-2609  
Division: Environmental Health Date: 2/2/88

Approved by Commissioner: Dennis D. Kelso Date: February 2, 1988  
Agency: Environmental Conservation

Distribution (by preparer):

Legislative Finance  
Legislative Sponsor  
Requestor  
Office of Management and Budget  
Impacted Agency(ies)



**STATE OF ALASKA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

**BILL ANALYSIS**

DEPARTMENT Environmental Conservation	DIVISION Environmental Health	BILL NUMBER HB 388	SPONSOR Peter Goll and Randy Phillips
SHORT TITLE OF BILL "An Act relating to irradiated food"			
DEPARTMENT POSITION The passage of HB 388 would require that the Department expand it's inspection activities at approximately 500 retail markets to ensure that irradiated products were not being sold. The additional time per inspection is estimated to be approximately (Continued)			
PREPARED BY Douglas C. Donegan	DATE 2/2/88	COMMISSIONER'S SIGNATURE Dennis D. Kelso	DATE

**SUMMARY**

OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED BY BILL	CONSTITUENT GROUP(S) AFFECTED BY BILL
ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORT FOR BILL	ORGANIZATIONAL OPPOSITION TO BILL

FISCAL IMPACT:       NONE       FISCAL NOTE ATTACHED

BACKGROUND/LEGISLATIVE INTENT

ANALYSIS OF BILL/PROGRAM EFFECTS

AMENDMENTS PROPOSED

PLEASE ATTACH A SEPARATE SHEET FOR ADDITIONAL COMMENTS OR ANALYSIS.

HB 388 Analysis (Continued)

one (1) hour per inspection. These facilities are inspected once per year.

The Department would begin inspecting 51 retail markets in the Municipality of Anchorage, which are not currently inspected by the department. It is estimated that the inspection of these markets would be approximately 2 hours including travel time.

This inspection effort would amount to a total of 602 hours/year or about four months/year.

Position Title Environmental Sanitarian II		No. of Positions 1	Range/Step 16/A	Barg. Unit G
Time Status F	Staff Months Four (4)	Location Anchorage, Ak.		Election District 7
		Justification		
Type of Expenditure		Amount		
1	2	3		
Salary	11.2			
Benefits	3.7			
Premium Pay	-			
Other	-			
Total Personal Services		14.9		
Travel		-		
Contractual		2.0		
Commodities		1.0		
Equipment		-		
Other		-		
Total Cost		17.9		
Funding Source for Total Cost				
Federal Receipts	1002	-		
G. F. Match	1003	-		
General Fund	1004	17.9		
GF Program Receipts	1005	-		
Other		-		
		<p>This position is required to support the implementation of HB 388 "An Act relating to irradiated food." Approximately 500 retail markets would be inspected to ensure that prohibited products were not being sold. All retail markets would be contacted and notified of the new law. It is estimated that the inspection of these facilities would require approximately 2 hours each, including travel time.</p> <p>The additional inspection effort would amount to a total of 602 hours per year or about four months per year.</p>		

**Request For  
New Position**

Agency Environmental Conservation  
 BRU Environmental Health  
 Component Sanitation

Page 1 of 1  
 Revised Date

**FY 89**

Position Paper

HB 388

For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to irradiated food."

HB 388 prohibits the sale of irradiated food including spices and food that contains an irradiated ingredient unless the only irradiated ingredient is a spice. While it appears passage of this bill would have economic impact due to the long established practice of irradiating spices, the scope of this position paper is limited to the health considerations of irradiated food.

Background

The health aspects of irradiated food have been studied for many years. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has conducted exhaustive reviews of all available studies and has determined that irradiated food is safe for human consumption. The FDA has concluded there is no scientific evidence meeting FDA standards for toxicological studies that shows adverse effects on health from the consumption of irradiated food. Results of studies used to support claims of harmful effects have been rejected due to lack of adequate scientific controls or design, including radiation doses far in excess of those considered acceptable for food processing. In its conservative approach, the FDA has approved the irradiation of certain foods only, and it has limited the radiation doses to one-tenth of those shown to be safe. This position is supported by such diverse groups as the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology, the World Health Organization, the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations, the American Medical Association, and the International Atomic Energy Agency.

In addition to the FDA, numerous national and international organizations recognized in health, food technology, and radiation safety have closely examined claims of harmful effects presently being made by those opposed to food irradiation. In every case, these organizations have judged irradiated food to be safe for human consumption.

Position

Without acceptable scientific evidence showing that irradiation is harmful to health, the department believes it is inappropriate to forbid the sale of irradiated food in the state. Proper labeling of irradiated foods will allow those opposed to it to exercise their choice in the foods they purchase.

The Department of Health and Social Services opposes passage of HB 388.

**POSITION PAPER/Department of Health & Social Services**

Recommended by: Elizabeth Ward  
Elizabeth Ward, M.N.  
Director  
Division of Public Health

Date: February 2, 1988

Approved by: Myra M. Munson  
Myra M. Munson  
Commissioner  
Department of Health and  
Social Services

Date: Feb 2 1988

from Super Value Skippers for...

SAFETY AND HEALTH

# The Zap Factor

Section of a...  
Medical...  
Department

Irradiation Process Sparks National Controversy



Imagine strawberries that stay red and firm for more than a day or two, two-week-old bread that's still fresh, and onions that can stay in the pantry for months without sprouting. That's the promise of food irradiation, a process that advocates say could transform the way food is handled in the U.S.

Zapping food to keep it fresh is not new. Some two dozen nations have approved food irradiation, some as long as 20 years ago.

The U.S. government, which has approved the sale of irradiated fruits and grains, currently is debating whether to broaden the use of irradiation technology for other types of foods.

The process uses gamma, beta, or x-rays to disinfect food, kill microorganisms and bacteria that cause disease, or slow down spoilage. It is used in the U.S. to decontaminate spices, disinfect wheat, inhibit sprouting of white potatoes, control trichinosis in pork, and kill insects in fresh fruits and vegetables.

The irradiation process involves placing items on a conveyor belt that passes a cylinder of radioactive material. Because dosages are low, the food does not become radioactive, but bacteria, insects, and other organisms are killed, allowing the products to stay fresher longer.

Presently, only spices are routinely irradiated in the U.S. Irradiated pork, fruits, and vegetables are not yet available in U.S. markets, although irradiated mangoes and papayas were test-marketed in Miami Beach and Los Angeles supermarkets last year on a limited basis.

Despite the availability of the technology, however, irradiation has not become the dominant method of food processing, partly because of economic considerations. Other processing methods generally are cheaper and at least as effective for most food products.

But the potential for widespread use on products such as poultry and fish has prompted questions about the safety of irradiation technology to both workers and consumers.

Arguments abound as to whether food irradiation is a blessing or a scourge.

Proponents—including the U.S. government, some food companies, and the irradiation industry—assert that zapping food with radiation is a safe and effective way to preserve food. Irradiation not only

kills organisms that cause food spoilage, they say, but irradiated food also can be stored without refrigeration, which could have important applications to food supplies in developing countries where refrigeration is limited or nonexistent.

Opponents—mostly environmental and health advocates—point out that available scientific studies fail to prove beyond a doubt that irradiated food is safe to eat.

Although irradiation does not make food radioactive, it does create new chemical substances in the food called "unique radiolytic products" (URPs), some of which are known to be harmful. Many of these URP byproducts have yet to be identified and tested for toxic effects.



*Irradiation keeps food fresh longer but studies indicate that the process causes a slight loss in nutrients. The U.S. government is considering whether to allow widespread use of irradiation technology.*

2  
Critics note that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved the technique relying on the results of only five studies, even though more than 30 other studies showed that serious toxic effects may occur.

Studies also indicate that food irradiation depletes foods of vitamins and minerals. Although the nutrient loss is slight, if a sizable portion of the public's diet is irradiated, the cumulative effect would be more serious.

Another controversial issue is labeling. Under current FDA regulations, irradiated foods must be labeled "treated

Written labels on irradiated food will be replaced with a new symbol in 1988.

with radiation" or "treated by radiation." (Products that are not irradiated but contain irradiated ingredients—such as spices—require no special labeling.)

After 1988, however, irradiated foods will be required only to display a flower-like symbol to indicate that radiation was used. Many consumer groups argue that consumers will not know what the symbol means, and will not be fully informed when the purchase the products.

Handling irradiated produce and other products is not hazardous to supermarket workers or consumers because the products aren't radioactive.

There is speculation that if irradiation expands into the meat and poultry industries, however, workers at the plants could face risk if irradiators are installed in individual plants.

Most irradiation likely would take place in large facilities where workers could be exposed to radioactive materials during use, maintenance, and clean-up of the facilities.

Radiation exposure is known to cause cancer and reproductive and genetic damage. The government has established safety standards that regulate maximum allowable exposure levels for workers, but safety advocates say the standards need to be strengthened.

Whether food irradiation will become widespread is uncertain. Until now, negative public reaction made the food industry think twice before making a major commitment to this controversial technology.

A recent survey revealed that only 16 percent of consumers would purchase irradiated food, compared with 36 percent who wouldn't, and 48 percent who didn't know. Consumers may make the ultimate decision on the issue.

February 8, 1988

Honorable Niilo Koponen  
Health, Education & Social Services Committee  
P.O. Box V (MS 3100)  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Mr. Koponen,

The Department of Energy provided a grant to the University of Alaska in Fairbanks to conduct a feasibility study on building a demonstration food irradiation facility in Alaska.

Irradiation creates toxic substances, radiolytic products (RPs), which:

- sterilize fruit flies and spoilage microorganisms such as trichina, salmonella and bacteria.
- kill enzymes that produce sprouts in potatoes and onions.
- disable microbes and bacteria necessary for the body's immune system.
- deplete essential vitamins, nutrients and amino acids.
- and as studies indicate cause cancer and genetic mutations.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) refutes claim of any ill-effects using theoretical calculations backed by 5 studies out of 441 it reviewed. Many of the 436 studies that the FDA dismissed show maladies to animals and humans. (See enclosed articles)

John Gofman, M.D., Ph.D., and professor emeritus of medical physics at U. C. Berkeley who "from a lifetime of research in both heart disease and cancer" claims, "I know what sort of studies are required to ascertain the delayed affects and the cumulative affect on humans of biological agents.... The kind of epidemiologic study required to find out whether or not a diet of irradiated food will increase (or decrease) the frequency of cancer or genetic injuries among humans simply has not been done."

The cornerstone of FDA approval of irradiation is the final report of the FDA Bureau of Foods Irradiated Foods Committee (BFIFC) released in July 1980. The report states, "Calculations based on radiation chemistry clearly indicate that irradiation doses of 100 krad (maximum approved dosage) or less yield a concentration of total radiolytic products in food that is so limited that it would be difficult to detect and subsequently

measure potential toxicological properties. In addition, at this dose unique radiolytic products (URPs) (chemicals found only in irradiated food, toxicity unknown) will be on the order of 3 ppm (parts per million).... Hence because of the low level of total unique radiolytic products produced, it is concluded that food irradiated at doses not exceeding 100 krad is wholesome and safe for human consumption."

Dr. Gofman responds, "Our ignorance about these foreign compounds (RPs & URPs) makes it simply a fraud to tell the public that 'we know' irradiated foods would be safe to eat."

George Tritsch, Ph.D, cancer research scientist at Roswell Park Memorial Institute in Buffalo, New York responds, "I am opposed to consuming irradiated food because of the abundant and convincing evidence in the referred scientific literature, that the condensation of free radicals formed during irradiation (RPs & URPs) produce statistically significant increases in carcinogenesis, mutagenesis and cardiovascular disease in animals and man."

In recognition of the conflicting evidence of food irradiation safety, please support House Bill 388 which bans the sale of irradiated food in Alaska. In addition please ban food irradiation facilities and/or resolve that the U of A Fairbanks end the feasibility study until the Federal government initiates and concludes an inquiry into the wholesomeness and safety of irradiated food. (The Food Irradiation Safety and Labeling Requirement Act of 1987 [HR 956 & S 461] if enacted mandates an inquiry).

We would appreciate a response.

Sincerely,

*William Thomas*  
*Sylvia Thomas*  
*Denny Thomas*

William, Sylvia & Denny Thomas  
9040 Emerald  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Enclosures:

- Food Irradiation Safety and Labeling Requirement Act of 1987 (Summary)
- "Zap, Crackle, Pop" & "No Fried Food in New Jersey", Magazine Articles
- Food Irradiation Fact Sheet
- Food Irradiation Article, Anchorage Daily News
- Letter to Anchorage Daily News



# Alaska State Legislature

## House

Official Business

P.O. BOX V  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

### MEMORANDUM

TO: House HESS Committee

FROM: Representative Randy Phillips *R.E.P.*

DATE: February 1, 1988

RE: House Bill 388  
An Act relating to irradiated food

House Bill 388 would prohibit the sale of irradiated foods within the State of Alaska. According to advice from Terry Bannister, Legislative Counsel, while this particular bill does not prohibit the manufacturing of irradiated food, AS 17.20.340 indicates that such manufacturing would also be prohibited (See Attachment 1).

The provisions contained in House Bill 388 would be added to the Alaska Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and this would mean that certain enforcement provisions included in that act would follow with the adoption of the language in this bill. Criminal penalties would be those as set out in AS 17.20.310 (See Attachment 2) and injunctive relief would be as provided in AS 17.20.280 (See Attachment 3). As currently written, the bill does not include provisions for embargo and destruction of these items.

The language in the bill is based on a law adopted in Maine in 1987. Maine is the first state to ban the sale of irradiated foods.

In 1987 the New Jersey Legislature adopted a food irradiation ban; however, the Governor vetoed the bill. Vermont has enacted strict labeling requirements in the event the federal requirements are lifted. Legislation proposing a ban on irradiated food has been reintroduced in New Jersey and is also being considered in New Hampshire, New York, Pennsylvania and Vermont. A list of the states considering food irradiation legislation is attached as Attachment 4. There is legislation also pending in the United States Congress regarding both the food irradiation and labeling issues (H.R. 956 and S. 461).

Food irradiation is being considered as a possible food preservation method. The actual process involves the use of cobalt-60 (an isotope that must be manufactured in nuclear reactors from nonradioactive cobalt-59) or cesium-137 (a water soluble byproduct of both nuclear weapons production and nuclear power generation). (See Attachment 5 for an article explaining this process and Attachment 6 for a history of food irradiation.) In 1958, Congress classified food irradiation as a food additive. This meant that before the process could be used,

HOUSE HESS COMMITTEE

February 1, 1988

Page 2

it had to be approved by the FDA under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. While the FDA has approved food irradiation for five different uses [control of insects in wheat (1963), inhibit sprouts in potatoes (1964), control of trichinosis in pork (1985), slow growth and ripening and control pests in produce, and to kill insects and microorganisms in herbs and spices (1986)] the only use in the United States at the present time is in some spices and herbs. I have attached a list of spices and herbs that are being irradiated at the present time (See Attachment 7).

The greatest concerns I have with the food irradiation process are as follows:

1. Safety of the process and effect on humans ingesting irradiated foods.

2. Questions about the wholesomeness of irradiated foods (See Attachment 8).

3. Risks to the environment from the irradiator plants. There is danger both to the workers in an irradiation plant as well as residents of the surrounding area. I have attached a list of incidents that have occurred at some of the forty irradiation plants that current operated within the United States (See Attachment 9). Attachment 10 shows the location of the forty irradiation facilities in the U.S.

3. Possible creation during the process of mutant and/or radiation resistant bacteria and the effect of the elimination of nonresistant bacteria making it easier for the mutant bacteria to survive.

4. Possible creation during the process of potent carcinogens called aflatoxins.

5. Possible elimination of the organisms that produce signals and odors that alert people to food spoilage while the bacteria that causes food poisoning may be more resistant to radiation and therefore still present.

6. Radioactive food may occur if the process is not handled properly.

8. Transportation of radioactive materials. If Alaska were to have an irradiator plant, and this is one of the areas being researched by the University of Alaska at Fairbanks, the radioactive materials would have to be brought in from somewhere. To my knowledge, the nearest stockpile of cesium-137 is at Richland, Washington, near the Hanford plant and this would mean that such products would have to be trucked, barged or flown to Alaska. In addition, since cesium-137 is water soluble, if there were an accident enroute or at any such plant, the results could be devastating.

HOUSE HESS COMMITTEE

February 1, 1988

Page 3

9. Safety questions exist concerning the storage of the radioactive material.

For your information, I have also attached a list of articles that I have available on this subject (See Attachment 11). If you wish to do further review on the matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I would appreciate your support of this legislation.

**FOOD IRRADIATION  
1987 INTRODUCED AND ENACTED LEGISLATION**

**S** BILL #  
**T** OR  
**A** CHAPTER #  
**T** (1987 Laws/  
**E** Acts)

**SUMMARY**

AK SJR 33 (Intro 5/87)	Makes provisions relating to irradiated food.
HI SB 971 (Intro 3/87)	Makes an appropriation to promote consumer acceptance of irradiated agricultural products from Hawaii.
IL HB 212 (Intro 2/87)	Amends Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act. Requires labeling of irradiated foods sold at retail for off-premise consumption.
MA SB 47 z (Intro 5/87)	Provides for an investigation and study by the Department of Public Health relative to the potential health risks of food irradiation.
ME Chap. 174	Prohibits the knowing sale of irradiated food, with the exception of irradiated spices when those spices are only an ingredient in the food. Provides that irradiated spices are irradiated food and their knowing sale is prohibited.
NH HB 1082 (Intro 1/88)	Relates to irradiated food.
NJ AB 3150 (Intro 11/87)	Prohibits distribution and sale of irradiated food.
NJ SB 2571 (Intro 1/88)	Prohibits distribution and sale of irradiated food.
NJ SR 43z (Intro 2/87)	Memorializes Congress to rescind Food and Drug Administration's approval of food irradiation.
NY AB 4106 (Intro 5/87)	Defines "irradiated food"; makes it unlawful for any merchant, broker or processor to knowingly sell any irradiated food until studies of the effects on human health, on consumers, and on workers so exposed and impacts associated with transportation of radioactive materials used in processing are received and accepted by various state commissioners.
NY AB 5442 (Intro 6/87)	Defines food exposed to any process of irradiation as adulterated food.
PA HB 1632 (Intro 7/87)	Prohibits the sale of food products which have been exposed to or treated with radiation for preservative purposes or any other reason.
PA HB 1912 (Intro 10/87)	Defines adulterated food in relation to radiation under the Pure Food Law.
VT HB 635 (Intro 1/88)	Prohibits the sale of irradiated foods.

# Irradiating food growing preservation method

Most groups say irradiation is the safest way to keep food from spoiling and to kill bacteria

Recent federal initiatives are paving the way for a significant increase in the use of irradiation on foods in the United States.

The Dept. of Health and Human Services (HHS) regulations, if approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), will permit irradiation of pure and fresh fruits and vegetables. Sweeping legislation now before Congress would further encourage irradiation of foods — a practice considered beneficial because it destroys insects, parasites, and microorganisms, including those that cause disease and promote spoilage.

In irradiation, food is exposed to ionizing energy from radioactive isotopes of cobalt or cesium or from devices that produce controlled amounts of beta rays or x-rays. For at least 20 years, some food and food products, including wheat and potatoes, have been irradiated abroad without adverse effects. At least 28 countries now irradiate some foods.

But the process has been little used in the United States. Although existing Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations now allow irradiation for insect disinfection in wheat, sprout inhibition in white potatoes, and control of microorganisms and insects in herbs and spices, only the latter use has been widespread.

**THIS MAY CHANGE**, however, as the HHS reviews new uses and regulations for irradiation:

- In July, 1985, HHS gave the go-ahead for irradiation in the processing of pork, a process that is believed to eliminate the threat of trichinosis even if the pork is undercooked or eaten raw. These regulations — with comment from the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA), which regulates pork — are nearing OMB review completion.

- Just before leaving office, HHS Secretary Margaret Heckler signed off on regulations that would permit the irradiation of fresh fruits and vegetables to kill pests and prolong shelf life.

- HHS is considering extending the irradiation process to poultry, and studies of this application are now under way.

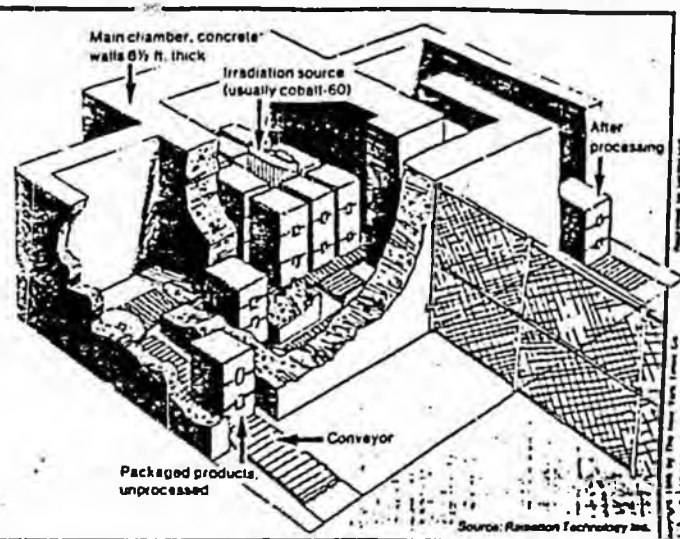
**FOOD IRRADIATION ALSO** has occupied the attention of federal legislators recently. Four House committees are considering H.R. 696, a food irradiation development and control bill that would allow irradiation of many foods at regulated doses (the lowest level to achieve effectiveness).

Under the proposed legislation, the FDA would retain general authority to regulate food irradiation. But the definition of irradiation in the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act would be changed so that it would be regulated as a process, like boiling or freezing, rather than a food additive.

The legislation would also require na-

## How Food Is Irradiated

In a food irradiation facility, packaged food rides on a conveyor to a chamber, where it is exposed to gamma rays emitted by a source of radioactive energy, usually cobalt-60, an isotope produced in nuclear reactors. The fence separates products to be irradiated from those already processed.



tional uniformity in the regulation of food irradiation and would create a commission to coordinate and consolidate all food irradiation research, encourage investment by private sources in food irradiation, and promote a wider public understanding through educational programs.

A companion bill, S 208, with similar provisions, has not been debated.

**THE CURRENT INTEREST** in food irradiation springs from concern about the safety of pesticides, particularly when used in the post-harvest desinestation of fruits and vegetables. Specifically, the discovery in 1984 that the post-harvest fumigant ethylene dibromide (EDB) leaves a toxic residue on food — followed by the banning of EDB by the Environmental Protection Agency — encouraged consideration of irradiation as an alternative to pesticide use.

The FDA, HHS, and USDA — as well as other proponents — all contend that irradiation in low doses actually has a wide variety of beneficial applications: It eliminates trichinae spiralis in pork, the Medfly in citrus fruits, and the codling moth in apples; could destroy *C. botulinum* and salmonella in red meat, poultry, and fish; and extends the shelf life of fresh fruits, vegetables, and grains.

In November, 1985, the American Medical Association testified in favor of the proposed federal irradiation legislation before the House Agriculture Committee's subcommittee on Department Operations, Research, and Foreign Agriculture.

A. Harold Lubin, MD, director of AMA's Dept. of Foods, Nutrition, and Personal Health, testified that food irradiation produces no significant reduction in the nutritional quality of food and has a number of important beneficial effects, including killing the microorganisms that cause food spoilage.

**JOSEPH A. LUIZZO**, PhD, professor of food science at Louisiana State U. in Baton Rouge, praised the process as a food preservative.

"We've found that 90-95% of all bacteria are killed during the irradiation process," said Dr. Luizzo, who once worked under contract from the Atomic Energy Commission on food irradiation in the

preservation of shrimp. "Food irradiation would allow the people in places like Iowa and Kansas to have fresh shrimp," he said, noting that his studies showed a 39-day shelf life for shrimp kept on ice after irradiation.

"There was no destruction of nutrients, either," he added.

**THERE MAY BE** drawbacks to the process. For example, research shows that some foods undergo color or texture changes when irradiated. Ironically, this may lead the public to assume that a food is not fresh when actually the shelf life has been extended.

In addition, some opponents to the process have suggested that food irradiation presents a hazard to the public and to plant workers.

Robert Alvarez, who is director of the Nuclear Weapons and Power Project of the Environmental Policy Institute, a public-interest group based in Washington, D.C., testified before Congress that the irradiation of food involves an ultrahazardous technology, which he said "poses several types of risks to the public and workers."

Food irradiation facilities would generate as much as 10 times more low-level radioactive wastes than all sources combined in the United States for the year 1981, he said, adding that existing irradiation facilities are poorly regulated. Alvarez also contended that irradiation facilities intended to eliminate one food hazard may intensify another — for example, by producing radiation-resistant bacteria and viruses.

Other critics, such as the Health and Energy Institute of Washington, D.C., another public-interest group, claim that carcinogenic or genetic problems could arise from irradiating foods.

**BUT THE MAJORITY** of observers contend that irradiation is safe. HHS and FDA have both taken this position, as has the AMA.

"It is important to note that food irradiation does not make the irradiated food radioactive, since it is done at energy levels well below those required to induce radioactivity," the AMA's Dr. Lubin said in testimony before Congress. He added that, given widespread public interest in nutrition and health, physicians will need

to be in a position to reassure patients who are concerned about the safety of the process.

A committee formed by the World Health Organization to study the subject of food irradiation in other countries in 1981 issued a report on "The Wholesomeness of Irradiated Food," which called the process safe and "free from toxicological hazard."

In a lengthy report on food irradiation, the American Council on Science and Health, a national association that is devoted to consumer education, states that the levels of radiation approved for treatment of foods "do not have enough energy to induce residual radioactivity in the food."

The council also said that workers who take proper precautions need not worry about adverse health risks. Irradiation facilities must comply with regulations issued by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and the FDA, the council noted.

**THE SAFETY ISSUE** of food irradiation has been a problem for HHS, which has had difficulty finding a acceptable way to explain irradiation to the public. Reluctant to require the use of the word "irradiation" for package labels because the word alone could arouse consumer fears and cause misunderstanding, HHS, against the advice of some in the FDA, ultimately substituted the word "picowave," meaning low-level ionizing energy, for "irradiation."

Irradiated foods must now carry the word "picowaved" on their labels together with the international logo symbolizing irradiated foods. The circular symbol that holds a stylized rose with two petals was developed in the Netherlands several years ago and is used on many packaged irradiated foods abroad.

Most of the handful of irradiation firms in this country currently earn their money by sterilizing medical equipment and supplies and some food spices. They have stated in reports that public endorsement of the irradiation process by just one large, well-known food company would persuade consumers that the process is safe.

—Linda Bossy



Irradiated foods must now carry the word "picowaved" on their labels together with the international logo symbolizing irradiated foods.

## History of Food Irradiation

1898 - Bactericidal effects of x-rays first observed.

1905 - Patents for food irradiation process first issued in United States and Europe.

1920 - U.S. patent granted for irradiating beetles in tobacco with x-rays.

1930 - French patent issued for preserving food by irradiation.

1943 - U.S. Army contracts with Massachusetts Institute of Technology to study feasibility of extending shelf life of food with irradiation.

1947 - MIT reports that shelf life of food can be extended through irradiation, offering a new method for assuring provisions for combat troops in remote battlefields.

1953 - U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps takes up food irradiation study at its laboratory in Natick, Mass., in conjunction with MIT, in federally funded study of irradiation of meat, fish, fruits, vegetables and dairy products.

1963 - U.S. Food and Drug Administration approves gamma irradiation to preserve canned bacon and for insect disinfestation of wheat and wheat products.

1964 - FDA approves irradiation for sprout inhibition of white potatoes.

1966 - FDA approves labeling requirements for irradiated foods.

1968 - FDA rescinds bacon irradiation rules after finding the studies on which original approval was made were based on poor laboratory quality controls.

Late 1960s - American astronauts and Russian cosmonauts begin eating radiation sterilized foods in space.

1969 - United Kingdom approves use of radiation sterilized foods in hospitals.

1975 - American astronauts and Russian cosmonauts share a meal of irradiated food in space aboard connection of Apollo-Soyuz capsules. Space explorers continue to dine on radiation sterilized food, as do others requiring such food in isolation, such as hospitalized bone marrow transplant patients.

1979 - FDA's Director of Bureau of Foods establishes the Irradiated Food Committee to provide a total reassessment of all relevant issues applicable to irradiated foods.

1981 - FDA publishes advanced notice of proposed rules on food irradiation in the *Federal Register*.

1981 - FDA offers to approve the use of irradiation for treating the California medfly crisis, provided certain conditions were met. Process not used because no person or organization applied for its use.

1983 - FDA approves irradiation of a specific list of spices and vegetable seasonings for microbial decontamination.

1984 (Feb. 14) - FDA publishes its proposed rule in *Federal Register* to allow irradiation of fresh produce for sprout inhibition, shelf-life extension and insect disinfestation of fresh produce and for sterilizing spices.

1984 (June 19) - FDA approves irradiation treatment to control insect infestation in garlic powder, onion powder and dried spices.

1985 (April) - FDA expands list of dried spices and vegetable seasonings that can be irradiated.

1985 (June) - FDA allows certain dried enzymes to be irradiated to control insect and microbial infestations.

1985 (July) - FDA approves low dose irradiation of pork and pork products to control trichinosis, the parasitic worm found in the muscles of some infected hogs.

1985 (December) - Canadian government announces it will allow food irradiation at up to 1,000 kilorads, 10 times the dose allowed in the United States, with only limited labeling requirements.

1986 (January) - The U.S. Department of Agriculture approves its own rules and guidelines for irradiating pork products.

1986 (April) - FDA publishes its final rule on post-harvest, low dose irradiation treatment of fresh fruits and vegetables and high dose irradiation of spices in the *Federal Register*.

1986 (June) - The British Advisory Committee on Irradiated and Novel Foods issues report recommending that food irradiation be legalized in the United Kingdom at doses up to 1,000 kilorads and that labeling be required.

1986 (June) - The People's Republic of China opens a commercial-size food irradiation plant in Shanghai and announces plans to build five regional food irradiation plants around the country.

1986 (July) - The U.S. Department of Energy announces it will build six regional food irradiation demonstration centers in the states of Alaska, Florida, Hawaii, Iowa, Oklahoma and Washington. A transportable cesium food irradiator is already operational under the DOE's Byproducts Utilization Program.

1986 (September) - Irradiated Puerto Rican mangoes go on sale in a one-time only test market in North Miami Beach, marking the first time in history that irradiated food is made commercially available in the U.S. The two tons of irradiated mangoes, at \$1.49 a pound, are sold out within a week.

1986 (September) - Canadians announce plans to open food irradiation demonstration center in Montreal.

1987 (January) - USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's rules for irradiating Hawaiian papaya are published in the *Federal Register*.

1987 (February) - USDA's petition for irradiation of chicken and poultry products to control salmonella is published by the FDA in the *Federal Register*.

1987 (March) - FDA rejects requests to put a hold on its new food irradiation rules adopted in April 1986, pending its decision on whether to hold requested public hearing on the new rules.

1987 (March) - FDA publishes petition from Radiation Technology, Inc., requesting irradiation treatment of poultry to control salmonella. Petition is similar to one published in February by the USDA.

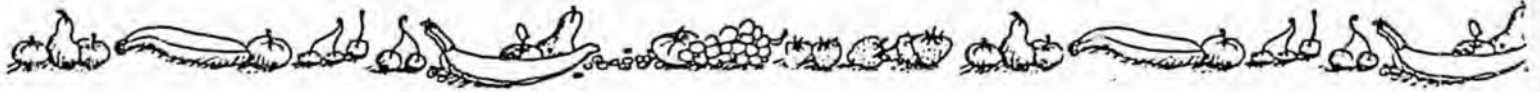
# FDA'S LIST OF FOODS AUTHORIZED FOR IRRADIATION

## FOODS:

Fruits and Vegetables (April 18, 1986)  
Pork (July 22, 1985)  
Wheat, Wheat Flour  
White Potatoes  
Dried Enzyme Preparations

## HERBS AND SPICES (Dried): (since July 1983)

Allspice	Cardamon	Cloves	Fenugreek	Marjoram	Oregano	Poppy Seed	Spearmint
Anise	Celery Seed	Coriander	Garlic Powder	Mustard Seed	Paprika	Rosemary	Star Anise Se
Basil	Chamomile	Cumin Seed	Ginger	Mustard Flour	Parsley	Saffron	Tarragon
Bay Leaves	Chervil	Dill Seed	Grains of Paradise	Nutmeg	Pepper, Black and White	Sage	Thyme
Caraway Seed	Chives	Dill Weed	Horseradish	Onion Powder	Red Pepper	Savory	Turmeric
Black Cumin	Cinnamon	Fennel Seed	Mace	Orange Petals	Peppermint	Sesame Seed	



\* All the above listed foods are *authorized* for irradiation. That means they could legally be irradiated at any time. Presently we know of no whole foods that are routinely being irradiated and sold on a retail level with the following exceptions:  
Puerto Rican mangoes were test marketed on a limited basis in Miami,

Florida in Sept. 1986. (See Consumers Take Notice, Vol. 1, No. 4). A small amount of spices being used in processed foods. Although they are considering a request from Radiation Technology, Inc. the FSIS has not yet authorized any commercial irradiator to treat pork.



## HOT NEWS

### Cesium Salad

#### Brussels

Wild mushrooms in Belgium and Luxembourg have been found to contain dangerously high levels of radioactive cesium 16 months after the Chernobyl nuclear disaster in the Soviet Union, officials said yesterday.

A Luxembourg government official said it had banned the sale of one type of mushroom after tests showed cesium levels greater than recommended safety levels.

P.S.: Cesium never quits.

#### Home-Dumping

### Radioactive Waste Dump Plan Ratified

California has ratified a four-state compact that provides for the dumping of low-level radioactive waste in the state's eastern desert into the next century.

Legislation ratifying the pact was signed Thursday by Governor Deukmejian.

The bill by Assemblyman Steven Peace, D-Chula Vista, puts California into compliance with a 1980 federal law that requires the states to dispose of low-level radioactive wastes within their borders. If ratified by North and South Dakota and Arizona, it would be the first pact of its kind in the nation.

The waste — to be buried 40 feet underground in a dump site as large as three football fields — will consist of contaminated items, such as gloves, tools and other supplies used by hospitals, laboratories and nuclear plants. It will not include spent fuel from nuclear reactors.

## CHERNOBYL'S LEGACY

It seems radiation, like guilt, keeps on giving. According to a study of the April 26, 1987 Soviet accident by the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in Livermore, California, the nuclear accident released as much long-term radiation into the world's air, topsoil and water as all the nuclear tests and bombs ever exploded. The report goes further to say this long-term radiation may contain 50% more cesium-137 than the total radiation produced by all atmospheric tests. Cesium-137 does not decay into harmless products for more than 600 years.

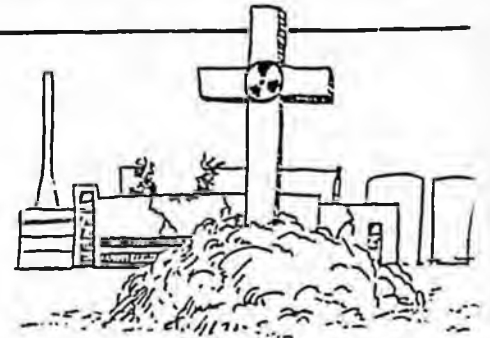
Using computer projections, Dr. John Gofman, Professor Emeritus of Medical Physics at the University of California (Berkeley), estimated that 1 million people, including over half a million outside the Soviet Union, will develop cancer as a result of the Chernobyl accident and half of these cancers would be fatal.

In a separate projection Ernest Sternglass, Ph.D., of the Radiology Department at The University of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, arrived at a similar estimate: 150,000-600,000 additional cancer deaths in Europe resulting from Chernobyl.

Both these estimates are derived from research by Dr. Abram Petkau, published in 1972 (the Journal of Health and Physics). Dr. Petkau's experiments showed that very low dose radiation over a prolonged period (protracted low dose exposure) produces unexpectedly large free radical damage compared to short exposures to medical x-rays or direct radiation from atomic fallout. This occurs, according to Petkau, because the free radical process becomes extremely efficient at low levels of radiation. Low dose radiation produces fewer free radicals which are statistically better able to do damage to the cell membrane. The insidious action of radiation on DNA in the cell produced mutations that lead to cancer, cancer is a free radical process. However, at high doses of radiation over a short period of time, the free radical process becomes very inefficient due to the extremely large number of free radicals generated per unit volume. These radicals are so reactive they smash into each other and literally wipe themselves out.

Dr. Petkau's observation seems to explain why less people died immediately after Chernobyl and Hiroshima than anticipated. Based on data from the Hiroshima experience, leukemia and other cancers are currently occurring among children and adults at 100-1000 times the predicted rate 40 years after the bomb.

You'd think we might have learned by radiation is unforgiving.



## LOOKING FOR THE K.O.

In the August 21st issue of the Food and Drug newsletter, the editors of this industry bulletin analyzed the food irradiation controversy with some interesting insights.

"Food producers aren't enthusiastic about the process. They hesitate because of certain unproven aspects of the technology, high costs and popular rejection of irradiated foods as dangerous. Retailers share the anxiety about customer resistance."

In an interview with Sharon Bomer, *ex-director* of The Coalition For Food Irradiation (CSFI), Bomer confesses "there were irradiation companies that tended to blow the issue out of proportion and to make fantastic claims." Bomer was talking about companies in the business of irradiating medical supplies and who wanted to move into food irradiation.

George Giddings, formerly of Isomedix, a company that irradiates medical supplies, feels that what hurt food irradiation was The Department of Energy (DOE).

"The DOE program is the single most controversy-raising aspect of food irradiation," said Giddings. "The strident anti-nuclear types see (it) as a ploy of DOE in favor of the nuclear power industry. They see a conspiracy to push food irradiation... If this program were eliminated and there was no hypothetical possibility of implementing this cesium plutonium scenario, I think much of the crazy food irradiation controversy would evaporate in no time."

Bomer blames the commercial irradiators and Giddings blames the DOE for the failure of food irradiation. Both of them seem to ignore the fact that the people in the anti-food irradiation movement have a deep commitment to safety of the food supply and the environment.

The Food & Drug newsletter editors conclude "If this debate were a boxing match, it would be even at

# Coalition for Alternatives in Nutrition and Healthcare (CANA H)

P.O. Box B-12  
Richlandtown, PA 18955

## Compilation of Bioassay Data on the Wholesomeness of Irradiated Food Items by Dr. J. Barna

Dr. Jozsef Barna of Budapest, Hungary published "A review of 1223 studies on the wholesomeness of some 278 different irradiated foods and feeds concerning the period from 1925 to date" [1979 when his report was published in *Acta Alimentaria*, Vol. 8 (3) pp. 205-315].

The following is an extrapolation of the information which indicates "adverse effects are indicated in italics":

### Albumin - ovalbumin

*anaphylactic reaction*  
*increased serological activity*  
*increased precipitation in serological test*  
*loss of serological activity*  
*reduced capacity to sensitization*

### Amino Acids in Medium

*inhibition of bacterial growth on pH3*

### Apple Juice

*inhibited growth of seeds*  
*increased chromosome aberration in plant cells*  
  
*cytotoxic in plant*  
*antibacteric (bactericide and bacteriostatic)*  
*radiomimetic effect*

### Apricot

*retarded growth*  
*reduced body weight*  
*reduced weight gain*

### Aqua Destillata

*cytotoxic in plant*

### Bacon

*worse acceptance*  
*retarded growth*  
*reduced body weight*  
*reduced weight gain*  
*loss of body weight*  
*disturbance in breeding performance*  
*reduced number of progeny*

### Bacon (Cont'd.)

*reduced viability of offspring*  
*reduced RBC*  
*reduced haemoglobin content*  
*more frequent incidence of cataract*  
  
*increased mortality*  
*increased postnatal mortality*  
*more frequent tumour incidence*  
*increased malignity of tumour*  
*more hypophysis tumour*

### Barley

*increased chromosome aberration in plant cells*

### Bean

*reduced biological value*

### Beef

*reduced biological value*  
*reduced food efficiency*  
*reduced protein utilization*  
*reduced food consumption*  
*worse acceptance*  
*disturbance in development*  
*reduced growth*  
*reduced body weight*  
*reduced weight gain*  
*reduced weight of testicle*  
*increased relative weight of epididymis*  
*increased liver weight*  
*reduced reproductive performance*  
*decrease in breeding performance*

# Coalition for Alternatives in Nutrition and Healthcare (CANA H)

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Compilation of Bioassay Data (Cont'd.)

Page 2

## Beef (Cont'd.)

disorder in reproductivity  
earlier manifestation of first oestrus  
reduced fertility  
fertility disorder  
conceptual difficulties  
reduced number of progeny  
less parturition of pregnant  
reduced number of pups per litter  
increased haematocrit value  
increased haemoglobin content  
incidence of primary lymphocytic thyroiditis  
extension of prothrombin time  
lower prothrombin rate  
hypoprothrombinaemia  
glycosuria  
disturbances in metabolism of fat and vitamins  
increased phagocytosis due to antigen effect  
increased liver cytochromoxidase activity  
increased liver tributyrinase activity  
increased fat content in the liver  
lower riboflavine excretion to urine  
reduced serum vitamin E level  
vitamin E deficiency  
vitamin B<sub>2</sub> deficiency  
vitamin K deficiency  
insufficient coprophagia  
reduced coprophagia  
reduction of life span  
increased mortality  
increased mortality of progeny  
haemorrhagic syndrome

## Blood Serum/Plasma

inhibited growth of microorganism

## Bread

lymphopenia  
worse acceptance

## Butter

disorder in reproductivity  
reduced fertility  
fertility disorder  
conceptual difficulties  
reduced total number of young born

## Butter (Cont'd.)

reduced number of pups per litter  
reduced number of young at weaning  
reduced vitamin E level in liver  
increased mortality of progeny  
reduced number of progeny

## Cabbage

reduced SGPT activity  
reduced AP activity in intestinal mucosa  
reduced GOT activity in tissues  
increased esterase activity in tissues  
reduced AP activity in tissues  
reduced MAO activity in tissues  
increased alanin-beta-aminopeptidase in tissues  
reduced amino-oxidase activity in tissues  
changed condition of pelage and skin

## Cakes

worse acceptance

## Carbohydrate Solution

increased chromosome aberration in microorganisms  
inhibited growth of microorganism  
antibacteric (bactericide, bacteriostatic) effect  
growth inhibition in cell culture  
mutagen effect

## Carrot

reduced food efficiency  
reduced growth rate  
retarded growth  
reduction of body weight  
reduced weight gain  
reduced vitamin A level in liver  
increased malignity  
formation of toxic substances radiotoxins

# Coalition for Alternatives in Nutrition and Healthcare (C A N A H)

P.O. Box B-12  
Richlandtown, PA 18955

Compilation of Bioassay Data

Page 3

## Casein

reduced biological value  
reduced digestibility  
reduced growth  
increased kidney weight  
influenced moving activity  
increased mortality  
inhibited growth of microorganisms  
late effect on microorganisms  
lower number of emerging insect  
longer duration of larval development

## Cauliflower

worse acceptance

## Celery

formation of toxic substances, radiotoxins

## Cereal (Grain)

more frequent diseases  
chronic nephritis  
peritonitis

## Chicken (cooked, stewed)

reduced nutritive value of lipid  
reduced biological value  
retarded growth  
reduced intensity of growth  
increased liver weight  
increased kidney weight  
conceptual difficulties  
reduced number of pups per litter  
glycosuria  
increased haematocrit value  
increased haemoglobin content  
increased SGOT activity  
reduced SGPT activity  
reduced AP activity in intestinal mucosa  
reduced GOT activity in tissues  
increased GOT activity in tissues  
increased esterase activity in tissues  
reduced AP in tissues  
reduced MAO activity in tissues  
increased alanin-beta-aminopeptidase  
in tissues

## Chicken (Cont'd.)

reduced amino-oxidase activity  
in tissues  
incidence of primary lymphocytic  
thyroiditis  
increased phagocytosis due to  
antigen effect  
reduced ascorbic acid content of  
adrenal  
increased mortality of progeny  
inhibited growth of microorganisms  
antibacteric (bactericide, bacteriostatic) effect

## Clam

affected liver weight  
affected kidney weight  
affected spleen weight  
increased kidney weight  
reduced testis weight  
increased BUN level  
reduced body weight  
reduced measure of testis  
reduced fertility  
reduced viability of embryos  
reduced hatchability

## Coconut

extended chronaxy time

## Coconut Milk

decreased gain in plant tissue  
weight  
antimitotic effect (retardation  
or inhibition of mitosis  
in animal cells)

## Codfish

reduced biological value  
reduced organ weights  
reduced weight of liver in female  
reduced uterus weight  
reduced weight of caecum in female  
increased weight of spleen in female

# Coalition for Alternatives in Nutrition and Healthcare (CANA H)

P.O. Box B-12  
Richlandtown, PA 18955

Compilation of Bioassay Data (Cont'd.)

Page 4

## Codfish (Cont'd.)

increased spleen weight  
increased kidney weight  
reduced testes weight  
disorder in reproductivity  
inhibition of spermiogenesis  
reduced resistance of spermatozoa  
reduced activity of spermatozoa  
reduced osmotic resistance of spermatoids  
lengthening of the oestrus cycle  
higher globulin alfa-fraction value  
reduced serum A/G quotient  
increased SGOT activity  
reduced SBChE  
elevated  $S_{A}^{P}$   
increased serum aminotransferase  
lower serum cholesterol level  
reduced GPT activity in liver  
increased liver aminotransferase  
decreased liver BChE  
decreased liver succinate dehydrogenase  
decreased liver alanin aminotransferase  
reduced aminotransferase in liver  
reduced liver succino-dehydrogenase  
activity  
reduced GPT activity in kidney  
reduced succino-dehydrogenase activity  
in kidney  
reduced ascorbic acid content of adrenal  
more frequent intercurrent diseases  
increased mortality of progeny  
more frequent pituitary adenoma  
more frequent atrophy of genital tract  
degeneration (atrophy) of testicles  
degeneration of ovary

## Compte (Fruit)

increased weight of spleen  
reduced number of pups per litter  
more frequent incidence of cataract  
more frequent tumour incidence  
hypophysis tumour  
increased postnatal mortality  
increased growth

## Corn (Maize)

reduced digestibility  
reduced weight gain  
reduced weight of offspring  
lower weight of progeny at birth  
oestrus disorder  
longer reproductive cycle  
reduced fertility  
more frequent epithelioma  
increased frequency of lympho-  
blastoma in liver, thymus,  
lung, spleen, kidney

## Corn Meal

longer duration of development  
of the larvae of Tribolium

## Crackers

worse acceptance

## Cranberry

reduced growth

## Dessert Powder (gelatine, vanilla)

worse acceptance  
reduced growth rate

## Diet (complete)

reduced food consumption  
reduced palatability  
reduced nutritional quality  
reduced growth  
reduced growth rate  
reduction of weight or weight gain  
reduced weight gain in female  
slower growth of females  
reduced body weight  
increased kidney weight  
disturbance in reproduction  
disturbance in breeding  
performance  
reduced fertility

# Coalition for Alternatives in Nutrition and Healthcare (C A N A H)

P.O. Box B-12  
Richlandtown, PA 18955

Compilation of Bioassay Data (Cont'd.)

Page 5

## Diet (complete - cont'd.)

fertility disorder  
sterility  
higher male and female sterility  
elevated number of dead implantation  
reduced number of pups per litter  
reduced number of progeny  
lower live-birth percentage  
reduced litter number at weaning  
reduced lactation performance  
lymphopenia  
shift from lymphocytes towards  
neutrophilic cells  
leucopenia  
leucocyte degeneration  
reduced concentration capacity of  
kidney in female  
increased cytochrome oxidase activity  
in liver  
reduced serum transaminase  
reduced SGPT activity  
reduced SAP  
reduced vitamin A level in liver  
vitamin A deficiency  
vitamin K deficiency  
reduced transketolase in erythrocytes  
changed condition of pelage and skin  
more frequent intercurrent diseases  
rachitis  
increased mortality  
elevated mortality  
increased neonatal mortality  
increased perinatal mortality  
increased mortality of progeny  
haemorrhagic syndrome  
rupture, dilatation of heart auricle  
testicular atrophy  
histological laesion in testes, spleen  
lymph node and liver  
inhibited growth of microorganisms  
increased polyploidia  
increased backmutation frequency  
mutagen by DNA repair  
mutagen effect by HMA

## Diet (test)

reduced food consumption  
reduced nutritive value  
reduced protein quality  
reduced digestibility of starch  
reduced body weight  
reduced growth  
reduced growth rate  
delayed appearance of pelage  
delayed opening of eyes  
reduced thymic involution  
increased thymus weight  
affected sexual function  
disturbed reproductive function  
disturbed reproductive performance  
reduced fertility of male  
extended mating period  
longer time for producing  
prolonged gestation length  
reduced number of viable offspring  
reduced viability of offspring  
reduced litter number at weaning  
more frequent cannibalism  
reduced lactation performance  
lymphopenia  
reduced leucocyte count  
higher number of neutrophilic leucocytes  
increased serum nucleic acids (RNA, DNA)  
content  
hypoproteinaemia  
reduced serum A/G quotient  
increased blood AChE activity  
increased serum aldolase activity  
reduced serum BChE  
reduced serum tributyrinase  
increased cytochromoxidase activity  
in liver  
reduced activity of transketolase in  
erythrocytes  
antifolic acid effect  
vitamin E deficiency  
ascorbic acid deficiency  
folic acid deficiency  
more frequent intercurrent diseases

# Coalition for Alternatives in Nutrition and Healthcare (C A N A H)

P.O. Box B-12  
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Compilation of Bioassay Data (Cont'd.)

Page 6

## Diet (test - cpnt'd.)

increased preimplantation resorption  
increased mortality of progeny  
slower rate of thymus involution  
increased number of cell in thymus  
increased incidence of mamma  
fibroadenoma  
increased chromosome aberration in  
animal cells

## Diet Extract

increased backmutation frequency

## Diet (synthetic, semi-synthetic, purified)

reduced lipid digestibility  
reduced starch digestibility  
reduced growth  
reduced growth rate  
reduction of weight or weight gain  
loss of body weight  
increased liver weight  
decreased weight of spleen  
reduced weight of pups at weaning  
inferior reproductive performance  
reduced lactation index  
decreased peroxidation rate in  
endoplasmatic reticulum  
vitamin K deficiency  
increased mortality  
dilated coecum

## Diet for farm animals

reduced biological value  
reduced net protein digestibility  
reduced food efficiency  
reduced palatability  
reduced growth rate  
slower growth rate  
reduced body weight  
reduced egg production  
delayed age at which the first egg  
was laid  
delayed maximization of hatchability  
increased mortality

## Diet for humans (MEAL kitchen ready etc., for cosmonauts, volunteer consumers)

reduced growth

## Egg (powder, dried whole)

reduced growth  
reduced lactation index  
absence of maternal instinct  
more frequent cannibalism  
increased postnatal mortality  
increased mortality of progeny

## European Plaice Fish (Pleuronectes platc:

less quick growth of females on  
irradiated diet  
relative reduction in liver weight

## Fat

reduced biological value  
reduced digestibility  
reduced reproductive capacity  
disturbance in breeding performance  
reduced sexual function in females  
influenced motility of gastrintestinal  
tract  
extended chronaxy time  
increased mortality of progeny

## Fat (animal)

Beef fatty tissue  
reduced growth  
reduced fertility  
reduced survival of offspring  
vitamin A deficiency  
reduction of life span  
encephalomalacia

## Butter fat

reduced growth  
reproductive disturbance  
increased mortality of offspring

# Coalition for Alternatives in Nutrition and Healthcare (C A N A H)

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Compilation of Bioassay Data (Cont'd.)

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## Fat (animal - cont'd.)

### Lard

absorption disturbances  
disturbed fat absorption  
disturbed digestion  
increased mortality  
more frequent tumour incidence  
changes in fatty acid composition of  
endoplasmic retic. of liver  
decreased hydrolysis activity  
of lipase in tissues  
low lipid peroxidation rate

### Pork fatty tissue

reduced growth  
vitamin A deficiency  
encephalomalacia

## Fish (canned cooked, culinary fishery products, preserves, pasta)

reduced biological value  
reduced nutritive value of lipid  
reduced protein utilization  
reduced growth rate  
reduced weight of testicle  
increased weight of spleen  
disturbance in breeding performance  
reduced activity of spermatozooids  
extended oestrus cycle  
more frequent cannibalism  
increased SGOT activity  
reduced SGOT activity  
increased SGPT activity  
reduced ascorbic acid content of adrenal  
more frequent intercurrent diseases  
higher blood sugar level at starving  
increased mortality of progeny  
increased excitability  
inhibited growth of microorganisms

## Flounder (yellow tailed Fish (Limanda ferruginea)

reduced protein utilization  
elevated SAP in female  
more pronounced enlargement of the  
salivary gland

## Flour

increased weight of spleen  
physiopathological injuries in fertility  
reduced number of viable offspring  
increased preimplantation loss  
physiopathological changes in longevity  
increased mortality of progeny  
thyroiditis  
more frequent tumour incidence  
increased meiotic chromosome aberration

## Food (unidentified)

reduced biological value  
reduced protein quality  
worse acceptance  
retarded growth  
reduction of weight  
reduced weight gain  
reduced reproductive capacity  
disturbance in breeding performance  
reduced fertility  
sterility  
reduced sexual function in females  
reduced RBC  
increased RBC  
decreased lipid digestion  
changes in immunological reactivity  
formation of toxic substances, radiotoxin  
increased cytochromoxidase activity in  
tissues

### toxic effect

risk in irradiated food consumption  
few anomalies require further research  
more frequent incidence of cataract  
more frequent incidence of blind  
individuals

increased mortality  
increased mortality of progeny  
thyroiditis  
rupture and dilatation of heart auricle  
haemorrhagic diathesis  
more frequent tumour incidence  
reduced fecundity of insects  
functional disorder in the thyroid gland  
cytotoxic effect in animal cells  
mutagen effect on animals

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Compilation of Bioassay Data (Cont'd.)

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## Foc : Product of Plant Origin

reduced biological value  
reduced fertility  
reduction of life span  
teratogen effect  
cytotoxic effect in animal cells  
carcinogen effect  
mutagen effect on animals

## Fructose

inhibited growth of plants or plant tissues  
decreased gain in plant tissue weight  
cytotoxic effect in animal cells  
inhibited growth of normal animal cells  
inhibition of microbial growth  
impaired respiration and oxidative phosphorylation  
inhibition of the labelling of protein and DNA by radioactive precursors

## Gelatine

reduced nutritive value  
reduced growth rate  
cytotoxic effect

## Glycine

increased chlorophyll mutant rate

## Glucose

leucopenia  
lymphopenia  
disorder of haematopoiesis  
decreased gain in plant tissue weight  
lower number of emerging insect  
longer duration of larval development  
increased chromosome aberrations in animal cells  
increased chromosome aberration in plant cells  
inhibited growth of rhizoma tissue  
inhibited growth  
inhibition of microbial growth

## Glucose (Cont'd.)

impaired respiration and oxidative phosphorylation  
inhibition of the labelling of protein and DNA by radioactive precursors  
inhibited reproduction of microorganisms  
cytotoxic effect in animal cells  
inhibited growth of normal animal cells  
antibacteric (bactericide, bacteriostatic) effect

reduced rate of respiration  
cytogenetic abnormalities  
increased rate of chlorophyll mutants  
increased dominant lethality in *Drosophila*  
Increased sex linked lethal mutation in *Drosophila*  
increased autosomal recessive lethal mutation in *Drosophila*  
increased forms of phenotypic alteration in *Drosophila*  
Mutagen effect by HMA  
mutagen by in vitro microbial test

## Gluten

reduced protein value  
reduced growth rate  
reduced number of eggs laid  
reduced hatchability of eggs

## Grape

inhibited physiological activity of *Saccharomyces*

## Green Bean

reduced intensity of growth  
increased spleen weight  
fertility disorder

## Ham

retarded growth  
reduction of weight  
reduced weight gain  
reduced number of pups per litter  
reduced RBC  
reduction of life span

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Compilation of Bioassay Data (Cont'd.)

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## Herring (marinated)

extended chronaxy time  
increased excitability of CNS

## Histidine

inhibited growth of microorganisms

## Indian Mackerel Fish

(*Rastrelliger kanagurta*)

anaemia

## Jelly Powder

reduced growth

## Lima Bean

reduced biological value

## Lipid

reduced digestibility

## Macaroni

worse acceptance

## Marinades

hypothermia of central origin  
extended chronaxy time

## Meat (culinary, preprepared, etc.)

reduced fertility  
disturbance in metabolism of fat  
and vitamins  
change in allergen  
vitamin E deficiency  
vitamin B<sub>2</sub> deficiency  
internal bleeding  
increased mortality of progeny  
haemorrhagic syndrome  
inhibited growth of microorganisms  
late effect on microorganisms

## Meat (organs)

reduced body weight of youngs

## Meat Product (culinary)

vitamin B<sub>1</sub> deficiency  
vitamin B<sub>2</sub> deficiency

## Medium

inhibited growth of seeds  
inhibited growth of root tip per  
meristem  
inhibited growth of insect  
inhibited growth of plant or plants  
tissue  
supression of root hair formation  
lower number of emergin insects  
reduced emergence rate of adults insect  
increased chromosome aberration in animal  
cells  
increased chromosome aberration in plant  
cells  
increased chromosome aberration in  
microorganisms  
increased chromosome aberration in  
*Drosophila*  
increased mutation of *Drosophila*  
increased number of polyploid animal cell:  
chromatid aberrations in plants  
cytotoxic  
cytotoxic effect in animal cells  
cytotoxic effect in plant  
cytotoxic effect in *Drosophila*  
antimitotic effect (retardation or  
inhibition of mitosis) in animal cells  
antimitotic effect  
micronucleus formations  
inhibited growth of normal animal cells  
inhibited growth of microorganisms  
inhibited RNA synthesis capacity of  
fibroblast  
inhibited DNA synthesis in bacerria  
reduced DNA synthesis  
antibacteric (bactericide, bacteriostatic)  
effect  
reduced number of microbe colony  
reduced number of viable microbes  
reduced physiological activity of microor-  
ganisms  
mutagen effect on microorganisms  
increased mutations in plant tissue

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Compilation of Bioassay Data (Cont'd.)

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## Medium (Cont'd.)

increased mutation in *Drosophila*  
increased sex-linked lethal mutation  
test in *Drosophila*  
increased aberrant forms and phenotypic  
alteration in *Drosophila*  
mutagen effect on animals

## Milk (evaporated, powdered, whole)

reduced biological value  
worse acceptance  
reduced body weight  
loss of body weight  
changed anaphylactogenic activity  
increased lethal shocking dose to  
allergenic response  
reduced allergenic properties  
reduced antigen-allergen activity  
increased mortality  
antibacterial (bactericide, bacterio-  
static) effect

## Mushroom

reduced food efficiency  
reduced food consumption  
reduced weight gain  
reduced weight of liver in male  
reduced weight of pituitary  
reduced weight of uterus  
reduced weight of kidney  
disturbance in reproduction  
(unreadable) of toxic substances,  
radiotoxins  
toxic  
increased prenatal mortality  
inhibition of growth of microorganisms

## Oil

reduced reproductive capacity  
disturbance in breeding performance  
reduced sexual function in females  
increased mortality of progeny

## Oil (animal)

### Fish oil

reduced food efficiency  
reduced protein utilization  
retarded growth  
reduction of weight  
reduced weight gain  
positive BSP  
disturbances in absorption  
reduced total protein content  
hypoproteinaemia  
higher globulin gamma fraction value  
increased mortality  
pigmentation of liver  
pigmentation of spleen

### Herring oil

reduced food consumption  
reduced growth  
less rate of oxidative drug meta-  
bolism in the endoplasmic retic  
greater induction of the oxidation  
metabolism of drugs  
reduced rate of oxidative demethylati  
of aminopyrine  
increased oxidative demethylation of  
aminopyrine  
reduced hydroxylation of aniline  
lower hydroxylation of biphenyls  
reduced rate of metabolism of benzpyr  
decreased peroxide concentration of  
endoplasmic retic  
inhibited rate of lipid peroxidation  
high lipid peroxidation  
greatly increased resistance to pero-  
xidation  
increased antioxidant titer  
changes in fatty acid composition of  
endoplasmic retic. of liver

## Oil (plant)

### Cereal oil

incidence of encephalomalacia

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Compilation of Bioassay Data (Cont'd.)

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## Oil (plant - cont'd.)

### Corn oil

reduced digestibility  
reduced food consumption  
reduced growth  
increased liver weight  
increased fat content in liver  
changes in fatty acid composition  
of endoplasmic retic. of liver  
less rate of oxidative drug metabolism  
in the endoplasmic retic.  
reduced rate of oxidative demethylation  
of aminopyrine  
reduced hydroxylation of aniline  
reduced rate of metabolism of benzpyrene  
greater induction of the oxidation  
metabolism of drugs  
decreased peroxide content ration of  
endoplasmic retic.  
inhibited rate of lipid peroxidation

### Cotton seed oil

reduced growth  
lymphocyte infiltration

### Soyabean oil

reduced utilization of metabolizable  
energy  
reduced digestibility  
reduced food efficiency  
reduced protein utilization  
reduced food consumption  
disturbances in absorption  
decreased or disturbed fat absorption  
reduced growth  
retarded growth  
reduced body weight  
reduction of weight  
reduced weight gain  
increased liver weight  
more fragile RBC  
hypoproteinaemia  
reduced serum protein content  
increased serum gamma globulin level  
reduced serum lipid content  
reduced serum phospholipid content  
increased serum cholesterol level  
bradycardia

## Oil (plant - cont'd.)

### Soyabean oil (cont'd.)

functional disorder of the liver  
positive BSP  
reduced thyroid function  
toxic effect  
decreased body temperature  
reduced oxygen uptake  
hypothermia of central origin  
diarrhoea  
incidence of encephalomalacia  
reduced excitability of CNS  
reduced life span  
increased mortality  
thyroid degeneration  
dilatation of small intestine, liver  
pigmentation in liver  
pigmentation in spleen  
testicular atrophy  
progressive transformation of adrenal  
cortex

### Oil (Wisson-oil)

increased frequency of lymphoblaston:  
in liver, thymus, lung, spleen,  
kidney

## Onion

increased spleen weight  
increased testicle weight  
increased liver weight  
reduced ovary weight  
reduced gonads weight  
reduced RBC  
reduced WBC  
leucopenia  
reduced haematocrit value  
fused rib cartilages  
more frequent skeletal abnormality  
higher incidence in abnormalities  
of trunk skeleton  
myeloid and RES hyperplasia  
leucocytosis in liver  
haemosyderosis  
pigmentation in liver  
pigmentation in spleen  
pigmentation in kidney

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## Onion (Cont'd.)

osteodystrophia  
deformation of testicles  
degeneration of ovary

## Orange

reduced growth rate  
haemosyderosis  
mucinous cerebral degeneration  
inhibited growth of seeds  
increased chromosome aberration  
in plant cells  
cytotoxic effects in plant  
radiomimetic effect in plants  
reduced medullar hyperplasia of  
adrenal

## Orange Juice

antimitotic effects (retardation or  
inhibition of mitosis) in plant  
cells

## Papaya

increased liver weight  
aspermia  
detrimental effect on offspring  
aplasia of small intestine

## Parsley

formation of toxic substances, radio-  
toxins

## Peach

reduced growth  
loss of body weight  
reduced weight gain  
reduced viability of offspring  
toxic effect  
more frequent tumour incidence

## Peanut

increased frequency of lymphoblastoma  
in liver, thymus, lung, spleen, kidney

## Peas

reduced biological value

## Pepton in medium

cytotoxic effect

## Pineapple

### Jam

increased haemoglobin content  
increased haematocrit value  
incidence of primary lymphocytic  
thyroiditis  
reduced fructose oxidation in heart  
glycosuria

### Juice

increased chromosome aberration in  
plant cells  
cytotoxic effect in plant  
radiomimetic effect in plant  
depressed rate of mitosis  
increased mutations in plant tissue

## Plant

allergen reaction  
formation of toxic substances, radio-  
toxins  
increased chromosome aberration in  
plant cell  
cytotoxic effects in plant  
antimitotic effects (retardation or  
inhibition of mitosis) in animal  
cells  
micronucleus formations  
inhibited reproduction of microorganisms  
increased mutations in plant tissue

## Plant Extracts (leaves, Vicia faba)

reduced growth  
inhibited growth of seeds  
inhibited development of seeds  
inhibited growth of root  
inhibited growth of plants on plants  
tissue

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## Plant Extracts (Cont'd.)

increased chromosome aberration in  
plant cells  
cytotoxic effects in plant  
antimitotic effects (retardation on  
inhibition of mitosis) in  
animal cells  
antimitotic effects (retardation on  
inhibition of mitosis) in  
plant cells  
micronucleus formations  
inhibited growth of normal animal cells  
inhibited growth of malignant tissue  
inhibited growth of microorganisms  
reduced germ cell survival  
inhibited DNA synthesis of plant  
inhibited reproduction of micro-  
organisms  
reduced number of microbe colony  
mutagen effect on microorganisms  
increased mutations in plant tissue

## Pork (corned)

worse acceptance  
decreased or disturbed fat absorption  
reduced growth rate  
retarded growth  
reduction of weight  
reduced weight gain  
reduced weight of offspring  
reduced weight of pups at weaning  
conceptual difficulties  
reduced number of progeny  
reduced number of pups per litter  
reduced number of young at weaning  
increased phagocytosis due to antigen  
effect  
reduced auto-oxidation rate  
reduced fatty acid oxidation in  
kidney mitochondria  
increased cytochromoxidase activity  
in liver  
increased cytochromoxidase activity  
in kidney  
increased cytochromoxidase activity  
in heart  
reduced transketolase activity in  
erythrocytes

## Pork (Cont'd.)

increased cytochromoxidase activity  
in tissues  
vitamin B<sub>6</sub> deficiency  
increased mortality  
increased postnatal mortality  
increased mortality of progeny  
haemorrhagic syndrome  
myocardial lesion  
thyroid gland cancer  
increased ATP-ase activity in tissues

## Potato (white, cooked, raw)

reduced net energy  
reduced biological value  
reduced food consumption  
reduced growth  
retarded growth  
reduction of weight  
reduced weight gain  
reduced weight of liver in females  
affected ovary weight  
reduced weight of ovary  
reduced relative weight of spleen  
reduction relative weight of lung  
lowered weight of progeny  
reduced weight of offspring  
delayed opening of eyes  
delayed opening of ear  
delayed appearance of pelage  
delayed coming out of teeth  
reduced fertility  
conceptual difficulties  
increased resorption  
altered measure of ovarium  
extension of gestation period  
reduced litter size  
reduced number of progeny  
influenced tolerance of galactose  
loading  
toxic effect  
more frequent diseases  
more frequent respiratory diseases  
more frequent incidence of cataract  
increased embryonal resorption  
increased embryo mortality  
increased perinatal mortality  
increased mortality of progeny

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## Potato (Cont'd.)

focal myocarditis  
coronary arteriosclerosis  
more frequent abscesses pneumonia  
bronchiectasia  
intestinal nephritis  
lesion in spleen, liver and lymph nodes  
testicle laesion  
more frequent tumour incidence  
spleen oedema  
reduced fecundity of insect females  
increased chromosome aberration in  
animal cells  
cytotoxic effect in animal cells  
micronucleus formations  
inhibited growth of microorganisms  
mutagen effect by DLT  
increased mutagen index

## Potato Extract

loss of body weight  
injured spermatozoon, early spermatid,  
developing spermatocytes  
increased postimplantation loss  
reduced WBC  
allergen reaction  
formation of toxic substances,  
radiotoxins  
toxic effect  
inhibited growth of seeds  
inhibited development of seeds  
increased chromosome aberration in  
animal cells  
increased chromosome aberration in  
plant cells  
cytotoxic effect in animal cells  
antimitotic effect (retardation on  
inhibition of mitosis) in  
animal cells  
antimitotic effects (retardation on  
inhibition of mitosis) in  
plant cells  
micronucleus formations  
inhibited growth of malignant tissue  
inhibited growth of microorganisms  
antibacteric (bactericide, bacteriostatic)  
effect

## Potato Extract (Cont'd.)

mutagen effect on microorganisms  
mutagen effect by DLT  
mutagen effect on animal

## Potato in medium

inhibited growth of seeds  
inhibited growth of root tip  
increased chromosome aberration in plant  
cells  
antimitotic effects (retardation on  
inhibition of mitosis) in  
plant cells  
micronucleus formations

## Protein

reduced biological value

## Protein (animal)

Milk protein  
reduced biological value  
change in antigenicity  
increasing lethal shocking dose  
in gross anaphylaxis  
slight diarrhoea  
Corn protein  
reduced protein digestibility

## Raisin

reduced food efficiency  
reduced growth rate  
retarded growth  
reduction of weight  
reduced weight gain

## Red Fish (Ocean Perch) (Sebastes marinus)

increased weight of spleen  
lower serum cholesterol level  
longer sleeping time from hexobarbital  
elevated SAP  
inhibited liver microsomal enzyme  
activity  
decreased liver aminopyrine N-demethyl-  
ating and aniline-hydroxy-  
lating activity

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## Ribose

inhibition of microbial growth  
reduced rate of respiration  
mutagen by *in vitro* microbial test  
impaired respiration and oxidative phosphorylation  
inhibition of the labelling of protein and DNA by radioactive precursors

## Rice (polished too)

worse acceptance  
reduced growth  
increased neonatal mortality  
increased perinatal mortality  
lower free amino acid content in liver

## Sausage

worse acceptance

## Shrimp

worse acceptance  
functional disorder of the thyroid

## Soy Bean

extended chronaxy time

## Spice Mixture

(allspice, black pepper, coriander, cumin, marjoram, nutmeg, paprika)

reduced growth rate  
slightly reduced body weight  
reduced weight gain  
reduced liver GOT activity  
reduced liver GPT activity  
reduced depot fat

## Starch

reduced digestibility  
cytotoxic effect  
reduced water intake  
reduced body weight  
reduced thymus weight in females  
reduced kidney weight in male  
increased WBC  
reduced RBC

## Starch (Cont'd.)

reduced haematocrit value  
changed blood glucose level  
increased BUN  
reduced BUN  
changed serum Na<sup>+</sup> level  
reduced serum P level  
reduced SGOT  
reduced SAP  
increased male mortality  
increased postnatal mortality  
hyperplasia of stomach mucosa  
changes in renal tubules  
incidence of kidney cyst  
cytotoxic  
altered generating time of *S. cerevisiae*

## Sterol (beef, egg, pork, yeast)

hepatoma

## Strawberry

reduced food consumption  
worse acceptance  
reduced growth  
retarded growth  
reduction of weight  
reduced weight gain  
increased weight of testicles  
increased pituitary gland weight  
reduced prostate weight  
increased rel. thyroid weight  
increased rel. adrenal weight  
increased rel. kidney weight  
reduced liver weight in female  
reduced liver weight in male  
reduced heart weight in female  
reduced spleen weight in female  
reduced weight of offspring  
first hatch chickens of F<sub>1</sub> performed poorly  
greater incidence of head abnormalities in semen  
decline in RBC  
decline in haemoglobin content  
periodical drop in egg production  
increased mortality  
increased embryo mortality

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## Strawberry (Cont'd.)

increased mortality of progeny  
incidence of liver fatty infiltration  
increase in kidney concretions  
incidence of cystic kidney  
incidence of chronic nephritis  
more frequent tumour incidence  
trend to higher incidence of tumours  
chromatid aberrations in animals  
increased aberrant anaphase in plant cells

## Sucrose (saccharose)

growth inhibition  
inhibited lipid synthesis  
inhibited protein synthesis  
inhibited DNA synthesis  
inhibited liver mitochondrial oxidative phosphorylation  
improved oxidative phosphorylation in liver mitochondria  
inhibited growth of seeds  
inhibited growth of root tip per meristem  
inhibited growth of plants tissue per cell  
decreased gain in plant tissue weight  
increased chromosome aberration in animal cells  
increased chromosome aberration in plant cells  
chromatid aberrations in animals  
chromatid aberrations in plants  
increased meiotic chromosome aberration  
increased aberrant anaphase in plant cells  
cytotoxic effect in animal cells  
antimitotic effects (retardation or inhibition of mitosis) in animal cells  
aberrant mitosis in animal cells  
impaired respiration and oxidative phosphorylation  
inhibition of the labelling of protein and DNA by radioactive precursors  
inhibited growth of normal animals cells per tissue  
inhibited growth of malignant tissue  
inhibited growth of microorganisms  
inhibited growth of pollen  
reduced rate of respiration

## Sucrose (Cont'd.)

increased mutations in plant tissue  
increased mutation in *Drosophila*  
increased dominant lethality in *Drosophila*  
increased sex linked lethal mutation in *Drosophila*  
increased autosomal recessive lethal mutation in *Drosophila*  
increased aberrant forms of phenotypic alteration in *Drosophila*  
mutagen by *in vitro* microbial test

## Sugar

chromosome aberrations  
cytotoxic effect  
mutagen by *in vitro* microbial test

## Sweet Cherry Juice

antibacteric (bactericide, bacteriostatic) effect

## Thiamin in medium

cytotoxic effects in plant

## Tomato

permeability changes in tissue hemomembrane of different organs

## Tuna fish (*Thunnus thynnus*)

conceptual difficulties  
reduced number of pups per litter  
increased mortality of progeny

## Turkey

reduced growth  
reduced weight gain

## Vitamin Solution

increased mortality

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## Wheat

reduced protein value  
loss of body weight  
increased liver weight  
changed female liver weight  
increased testicle weight  
increased spleen weight  
affected spleen weight  
decreased spleen weight  
changed male spleen weight  
reduced reproduction of insect  
reduced spermium number  
reduced primary spermatocyte  
affected spermatogonia  
reduced spermatogonial A & B cells  
reduced fertility  
longer reproductive cycle  
reduced germ cell count in testis  
reduced RBC  
decreased reticulocyte number  
reduced number of neutrophilic  
leucocytes  
changed serum albumin level  
raised blood glucose  
changed serum Ca level  
formation of toxic substances, radio-  
toxins  
lower serum inorganic phosphatase  
level  
lower survival  
increased mortality of progeny  
pathological alteration in female liver  
incidence of oedema in liver of females  
periacinar infiltration in liver  
tendency of steatosis  
more frequent epithelioma  
more frequent tumour incidence  
more frequent incidence of lymphosarcoma  
increased embryonal death  
increased chromosome aberration in  
animal cells  
more frequent incidence of polyploida  
at weaning  
increased number of polyploida  
in animal cells  
increased meiotic chromosome aberration  
increased number of aneuploid cells  
in tests

## Wheat (Cont'd.)

aneuploidia  
aberrations in chromatids and centrome:  
cytotoxic in animal cells  
reduced germ cell survival  
reduced viability of insect  
mutagen by DLT  
increased mutagenic index  
increased chlorophyll mutants rate

## Wheat Extract

increased incidence of chromosome  
abberation  
inhibition of seed germination  
mutagen effect

## Wheat Flour (biscuit)

reduction of weight  
reduced weight gain  
increased weight of spleen  
reduced prepubertal growth  
fertility disorder  
reduced litter number at weaning  
reduced number of pups reared  
reduction of life span  
more frequent cannibalism  
more frequent tumour incidence  
more frequent mummary adenoma  
increased number of non viable progeny  
increased mortality of progeny  
increased stillbirths  
increased meiotic chromosome abberation  
in animal cells  
increased cytogenetic abnormalities

## Wheat Middling

reduced growth rate  
reduced number of eggs laid  
reduced hatchability of eggs

## Wheat Product

increased number of polyploid animal cel

## Xylose in medium

decreased gain in plant tissue weight

## Yeast (dried)

inhibited growth of microorganisms

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"Storage time following irradiation can also alter the results of animal feeding studies or cytotoxicity, mutagenicity tests in a way that changes disappear during storage or decrease gradually with it. In some cases detrimental results of feeding studies may be attributed to poor quality or improper preparation of food prior to irradiation or to inadequate storage conditions after irradiation. Adverse effects could be considerably reduced when irradiation was carried out in a nitrogen atmosphere or under buffered conditions at neutral pH."

"Often vitamin deficiencies were involved in the disorders, since supplementation of vitamins reduced or eliminated the adverse symptoms (growth retardation, fertility disturbances, increased mortality, etc.) of deficiencies. It is worth noting that supplementation of vitamin E did not necessarily reduce or eliminate the disorders in reproduction. Supplementation of other components of diets have also been observed to correct adverse effects in the parameters investigated. Thus addition of antioxidants reduced mortality and increased growth rate. Adverse effects in feeding studies have been eliminated by correcting amino acid imbalance."

"Among the biotechnical factors, adverse effects ascribed to ingestion of irradiated food may be derived from the test organisms used. Thus pathological effects observed during feeding test with irradiated food occurred spontaneously in animals fed on similar but non irradiated diet."

"The author is deeply indebted to the staff of the Biology Department of the Central Food Research Institute, Budapest, for their valuable technical assistance; he wishes also to thank Prof. K. Vas for his interest and help in this work."

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## A Short History of Trouble Irradiation Hall Of Shame

The industrial irradiation industry is relatively new. Created in the mid 1970's to sterilize medical supplies and packaging materials, this young industry has had a troublesome safety record. Problems have included radioactive leaks, spills, worker overexposures, failed or bypassed safety systems and failure to report to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The state of New Jersey hosts many of these problem plants. What follows is a summary of the 13 most significant incidents which have occurred in the last 12 years.

**JUNE 16, 1974** Chief of radiation operations at the Isomedix irradiation plant in Parsippany, N.J. received an estimated 400 rem radiation dose, when he failed to take proper safety precautions. William McKim barely survived the one or two second overexposure to 147,000 curries of cobalt-60. Mr. McKim was in critical condition for one month before recovering.

**1976-1980** In 1976 a double encapsulated cobalt-60 source was found leaking at the Isomedix irradiation plant in Parsippany, N.J. Following ion-exchange filtration, the source pool water was dumped down the plant's toilet. An extensive cleanup program followed which involved jackhammering concrete from the walls and floor of the source pool. During cleanup operation, Chem Nuclear Corp. found the toilet and toilet pipe to be radioactive. Eventually, the toilet, tools, and parts of the source pool were shipped to a radioactive burial ground.



**MARCH 14, 1977** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission fines Radiation Technology Inc. (RTI) \$4050.00 following an October 1976 inspection which identified 10 violations of RTI's license. Violations included, failure to report a leaking cobalt-60 source, failure to adequately evaluate radiation doses to workers, disposing of radioactive material as normal trash and failure to provide required training to employees.

**SEPTEMBER 23, 1977** An employee at the Radiation Technology Inc. (RTI) plant in Rockaway, N.J. entered the radiation cell for 10-20 seconds and received a whole body dose between 150-300 rems. The direct cause of the overexposure was a decision by RTI management to operate the facility with the safety interlock system inoperative.

**SEPTEMBER 2, 1982** A service technician at the irradiation plant at the Institute for Energy Technology Norway, was exposed briefly to the 650,000 curie cobalt-60 source. The plant worker received an estimated dose of 1,000 rems, and died on September 15, 1982 from radiation injury.

**JUNE 11, 1986** Radiation Technology Inc., cited in 1982 as a source of groundwater pollution, was ordered by the State of New Jersey to pay a \$600,000 directive to study the problem. Volatile organics such as trichloroethylene, methylene chloride, and trichloroethane were found in test wells drilled on RTI's 15 acre site in Rockaway, N.J. The toxic products were stored in 100 bulging, rusty, leaky 55 gallon drums on the company's property.

**JUNE 24, 1986** A federal grand jury indicts Eugene T. O'Sullivan, San Jose, Calif., and Bruce J. Thomas of Somerville, N.J., both employees of International Nutronics Inc. (INI) of Palo Alto, Calif. INI and the two employees are charged with conspiracy, mail fraud, wire fraud, and concealing a radiation spill from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). In 1982, INI found a leaking cobalt-60 source in their source pool. A cleanup was begun which involved pumping the radioactive water through filters. During the filter operations, which were left running unattended overnight, a discharge line became detached, spilling radioactive water onto the floor of the plant. INI employees were then instructed to dump the water down bathroom drains and into the public sewer system. INI then delayed an NRC inspection and attempted to hide radiation contamination from inspectors. (see detailed article in this issue)

**JUNE 24, 1986** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) revokes operating licenses for Radiation Technology Inc. (RTI) at their Rockaway, N.J. facilities. The license suspension comes after an NRC investigation into charges that RTI lied and deceived the NRC in regards to a March 3, 1986 shutdown. The March shutdown came after the NRC found RTI had bypassed safety equipment during plant operations, a repeated RTI failure, identical to the failure which led to the worker overexposure in Sept. 1977. The NRC has turned this case over to the N.J. Justice Dept. for consideration.

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### SCIENCE BOX

**COBALT-60** is a radioactive isotope of the metal cobalt. It is created by bombarding nonradioactive cobalt rods in a nuclear power reactor. Cobalt-60 gives off gamma rays and beta particles as it decays.

**REMS** are an arbitrary measure of radiation effects on living tissue. Like degrees or pounds, the number of rems increase as exposure to radiation increases. One chest X-ray, given to a 150 pound adult gives a dose of 5/100ths of one rem.

## LIST OF THE 40 IRRADIATION FACILITIES IN THE U.S.

(not including those that can be found at hospitals of Universities)

This information was received by correspondence with the NRC (Nuclear Regulatory Commission) or the state licencer's who is in charge of radioactive materials. Information on the specific irradiation companies was received by correspondence or through phone calls with the companies.

ALABAMA - None

ALASKA - None

ARIZONA - None

ARKANSAS - (1) PROCESSED TECHNOLOGY INC., P.O. BOX 256, West Memphis, AR, 72301. They irradiate: Food (on research basis), medical products, cosmetics, and pharmaceutical products with Cobalt 60. P.T.I. is a subsidiary of Radiation Technology out of Rockaway, New Jersey.

CALIFORNIA - (3) INTERNATIONAL NUTRONICS INC., 1962 Barranca Rd., Irvine, CA 92714 and INTERNATIONAL NUTRONICS INC., 1237 North San Antonio Rd., Palo Alto, CA 94303. They irradiate: Spices, Medical devices, medical products, electronic components, parts for nuclear reactors, gem stones, and cosmetics. Cobalt 60 is used.  
RADIATION STERILIZERS, 1401 Morgan Circle, Tustin, CA, 92680. They irradiate: Spices, medical devices, and "Bag in a Box" - a plastic bag that slips into a cardboard box that wine comes in. Cobalt 60 is used.

COLORADO - (2) COBE LABORATORIES, 1185 Oak Street, Lakewood, Colorado, 80215-4407 They irradiate: Medical devices and Gem stones. Cobalt 60  
IOTECH INC., 11080 Irma Drive, Northglenn, CO, 80233. They irradiate: Medical products. Cesium 137 is used.

CONNECTICUT - (1) BECTON DICKENSON, North Canaan, CT. Cobalt 60

DELAWARE - None

FLORIDA - (1) SHERWOOD MEDICAL, 2010 New Daytona Rd., Deland, Florida, 32720. They irradiate: Medical products. The Florida licensing office said they are aware of two other irradiation facilities both tentative as of Jan. 1987. One to be operated by a commercial firm out of Tampa and the other to be a joint facility by the D.O.E. and the Dept of Agriculture out of Gainesville. Construction by CH2M Hill. The commercial firm will irradiate strawberries and D.O.E. food.

GEORGIA - (1) RADIATION STERILIZERS INC., 2300 Mellon Court, Decatur, Georgia, 30035. They irradiate primarily medical supplies but also irradiate spices and "Bag in a Box." They use Cesium 137.

HAWAII - None

IDAHO - None

ILLINOIS - (3) ISOMEDIX INC., 7828 Nagle Ave., Morton Grove, ILL. 60053. They irradiate: Spices, disposable medical supplies, medical devices, nuclear device testing, cosmetic research and food research.

- ILLINOIS - (cont.) ISOMEDIX INC., 1880 Industrial Dr., Liberty, Ill., 60048  
They irradiate: Some spices, disposable medical supplies,  
medical devices, some nuclear device testing, cosmetic research  
and food research.  
RADIATION STERILIZERS INC., 711 East Cooper Court, Schamberg, Ill.  
60195. They irradiate: Spices, medical products, cosmetics, gem  
stones, and nuclear testing equipment.
- INDIANA - (1) ELI LILLY AND COMPANY, Lilly Corporation Center, Indianapolis,  
Indiana, 46285. They irradiate: pharmaceutical products.  
(address: 307 East McCarty Street)
- IOWA - None
- KANSAS - None
- KENTUCKY - None
- LOUISIANA - None
- MAINE - None
- MARYLAND - (2) Both irradiators are NEUTRON PRODUCTS, 22301 Mount Ephraim Rd.,  
Maryland, 20842. They irradiate: food stuffs (non-commercial),  
cosmetics, baby powder, hand lotion, cosmetics packing, gem stones,  
personal care products, nuclear reactors parts, polymers, and  
medical devices. One irradiator has one and a half million curies  
and the other 400 curies of Cobalt 60. Neutron Products is  
primarily involved in construction of Cobalt 60 rads.
- MASSACHUSETTS - (1) ISOMEDIX, 435 Whitney Street, Northborough, MA., They irradiate:  
some spices, disposable medical supplies, medical devices,  
some nuclear device testing, cosmetic research and food research.
- MICHIGAN - None
- MINNESOTA - (1) 3M (Minnesota mining and Manufacturing Company), 220 -2E-02,  
3M Center, St. Paul, MN, 55144-1000
- MISSISSIPPI - (1) ISOMEDIX INC., Industrial Park South, Box 2044, Columbus, MS,  
39704. They irradiate: Some spices, disposable medical supplies,  
medical devices, some nuclear device testing, cosmetic research,  
and food research.
- MISSOURI - None
- MONTANA - None
- NEBRASKA - (2) BECTON DICKINSON AND COMPANY, 150 South 1st, P.O. Box 686, Broken  
Bow, NE, 68822. They irradiate: Medical supplies only.  
SHERWOOD MEDICAL, P.O. BOX 1169, Norfolk, NE 68701. They irradiate:  
medical supplies.
- NEVADA - None
- NEW HAMPSHIRE - None
- NEW JERSEY - (6) ISOMEDIX, 9 Apollo Drive, Whippany, NJ, 07981. They irradiate:

NEW JERSEY -(cont.) Isomedix- Some spices, disposable medical supplies, medical supplies, medical devices, some nuclear device testing, cosmetic research and food research.  
ISOMEDIX, 25 Eastmans Rd., Parsippany, NJ 07054. They irradiate: see above, Isomedix.  
ETHICON, (Johnson and Johnson), Route 22, Sommerville, NJ, 08876  
They irradiate: Medical Products  
RADIATION TECHNOLOGY, 108 Lake Denmark Rd., Rockaway, NJ 07866  
They irradiate: Food (research and development), medical devices, cosmetics, Spices, electronic components, testing of nuclear devices, Gem stones, personal care products, and food packaging. They use Cobalt 60.  
PRECISION MATERIALS CORPORATION, Replogle Ave., Mine Hill, NJ 07801.  
PROCESSED TECHNOLOGY, Salem, NJ. (Subsidiary of Radiation Technology. They irradiate: Food on a research basis, medical products, cosmetics, and pharmaceutical products. Cobalt 60 is used.

NEW MEXICO - None

NEW YORK - None

NORTH CAROLINA - (1) PROCESSED TECHNOLOGY INC., P.O. BOX 757, Haw river, NC, 27258.  
They irradiate: Food on a research basis, medical devices, cosmetics, and pharmaceutical products. (Subsidiary of Radiation Technology) Cobalt 60 is used with a 1.3 million curie source.

NORTH DAKOTA - None

OHIO - (2) ISOMEDIX, 4405 Marketing Place, Groveport, Ohio, 43125, They irradiate: see Isomedix New Jersey.  
RADIATION STERILIZERS, 305 Enterprise Drive, Westerville, Ohio, 43081.  
They irradiate: see Radiation Sterilizers, California. They use Cesium 137 for irradiation.

OKLAHOMA - None

OREGON - None

PENNSYLVANIA - (1) PERMAGRAN PRODUCTS INC., 115 Reactor Road, Karthaus, PA. 16845.  
They irradiate: Manufactured floor products.

RHODE ISLAND- None

SOUTH CAROLINA - (2) BECTON-DICKENSON AND COMPANY, Airport Rd., Sumter S.C., 29150.  
They irradiate: Medical Supplies.  
ISOMEDIX, Highway 295, P.O. Box 3408, Spartanburg, SC, 29304  
They irradiate: Some spices, disposable medical supplies, medical devices, some nuclear device testing, and food research.

SOUTH DAKOTA - (1) 3M, 601 22nd Ave., South, Brookings, SD 57006. They irradiate: Medical Products.

TENNESSEE -None

TEXAS - (6) RADIATION STERILIZERS INC., 3001 Wichita Ct., Ft Worth , TX, 76140.  
They irradiate : Spices, Food on a research basis, medical products, cosmetics, gem stones, and nuclear device testing.  
SHERWOOD MEDICAL, 400 Maple Street. Commerce, TX. They irradiate:

TEXAS -(Cont.) Sherwood Medical: Medical Products.  
AMERICAN PHARMASEAL COMPANY: one Butterfield Trail, El Paso, TX  
79906. They irradiate: Medical Products. (Two unit facility.)  
ETHICON INC., P.O. Box 511, San Angelo, TX 76902. They irradiate:  
Medical Products. (A Johnson and Johnson Company.)  
SURGIKOS INC., P.O. Box 130, Arlington, TX 76010. They irradiate:  
Medical devices. (A Johnson and Johnson Company)  
JOHNSON AND JOHNSON, U.S. Highway 75 South, Sherman TX 75090  
They irradiate: Medical Products.

UTAH - (1) ISOMEDIX, 9120 South 150 East, Sandy ,Utah, 84070. They irradiate:  
disposable medical supplies, some spices, some nuclear devices,  
cosmetics research and food research.

VERMONT - None

VIRGINIA - (1) APPLIED RADIANT ENERGY CORPORATION, 2432 Lakeside Dr., Lynchburg,  
Virginia, 24501. They irradiate: Spices, Flour, Wheat, Medical  
devices, Pharmaceutical products, Electronic components, personal  
care products, douches (expermental to date) and marine samplers.

WASHINGTON- None, But two are in the conceptual phase. One will be a fixed location  
irradiator and the other a transportable unit for agricultural products.

WEST VIRGINIA -None

WISCONSIN - None

WYOMING - None

Representative Randy Phillips  
File on Food Irradiation  
January 18, 1988

NOTE: \*indicates a report attached to Karla Hart's 11/19/87 research  
\*\*indicates a report attached to Hart's 11/30/87 supplemental  
research

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\*\*U. S. Department of Energy, Fact Sheet, U.S. Department of Energy Food Irradiation Program.

## -The Proposal for Creating a Nuclear Food Industry-

### What is food irradiation?

Food is irradiated by exposure to gamma rays or x-rays after harvest (or slaughter). This is done to kill insects and bacteria, to prevent sprouting, and to slow ripening by altering the chemical structure of these organisms. Irradiation changes the food itself.

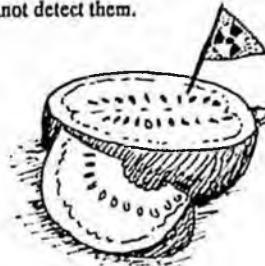
Food irradiation facilities use radioactive isotopes (*Cobalt 60 and Cesium 137*) or x-ray generators. This creates health and safety hazards and raises large ecological issues, discussed in this brochure.

### How does it work?

Generally, food is irradiated in a specially constructed chamber that has concrete walls 6-8 feet thick. The radioactive material is in the center of the chamber. Food is carried to the radioactive source on a conveyor belt.

Irradiation levels range from 15,000 rads (to kill sprouting enzymes in potatoes) to 3 million rads (to kill bacteria in spices). By comparison, a chest x-ray gives off about 0.05 rads. The dosage of irradiation given to spices equals 60 million chest x-rays.

When radiation strikes food, it alters and damages cells by rearranging their molecular structure. This kills organisms and delays ripening. Radiation changes the food as much as it does insects or bacteria. Vitamins and enzymes are destroyed. New and altered compounds are produced. These changes do not affect the appearance of the food, so the consumer cannot detect them.



Industry representatives say that irradiation is permitted in 28 countries. Only limited amounts of a few food items are irradiated commercially in very few countries. Most countries allow irradiation only for experiments and don't irradiate food for public consumption. It is illegal to irradiate food in Great Britain. It is illegal to irradiate food for domestic consumption in West Germany. Consumers in Japan and the Netherlands protested food irradiation, and the Netherlands stopped irradiating food for domestic use; the Japanese government halted its exploration of food irradiation. To avoid further protest, distributors of irradiated potatoes in Japan stopped labeling them as such.

### Is It Safe to Eat?

*We believe irradiated food is unhealthy unsafe to consume.*

- Animals fed irradiated foods have developed testicular tumors, kidney disease, shortened lifespans, loss of weight, increased rate of infertility and death in offspring.
- In the only study done on humans, malnourished children were fed irradiated wheat. The children developed abnormal blood cells called polypoids, which contain more than the normal set of chromosomes. The study was repeated on rats and monkeys, with similar results.
- At currently authorized dosages (100,000 rads) there is great danger of increased production of carcinogenic aflatoxins in food.
- There is significant nutrient injury at 100,000 rads, and even greater nutrient destruction at higher dosages. Vitamins C, B<sub>1</sub>, B<sub>2</sub>, and B<sub>6</sub>, A, E, and K, amino and nucleic acids are damaged. If food irradiation is used to kill microorganisms that are currently destroyed by freezing and heating procedures, very high dosages of radiation will be required (1 million rads). This will dramatically damage food, depleting it of nutrients like thiamine (B<sub>1</sub>), and creating toxic radiolytic products.

- When food is irradiated, radiolytic products are formed. George Tritsch, Ph.D., cancer research scientist says, "Until one knows what compounds are produced, one cannot be assured that no carcinogens are being formed. The amounts are irrelevant, since food is consumed during the entire lifetime, and only a single carcinogenic insult is needed to produce a malignant tumor."
- The most extensive survey ever undertaken on irradiated food research was conducted by Dr. Joseph Barna for the Hungarian government in 1979. Dr. Barna reviewed 1,223 studies on the wholesomeness of irradiated foods and tallied the reported effects. Dr. Barna's findings reveal 1,414 adverse effects on food and animals. Only 185 beneficial effects were found.

### How was it approved?

In 1980, the Food and Drug Administration, using "theoretical calculations in radiation chemistry," determined that irradiated food was safe and wholesome. By 1982, the FDA had found 5 out of 413 studies it reviewed which "could be said to support safety." On April 18, 1986, the FDA approved its own theoretical hypothesis, rejecting all contrary evidence, and authorized the irradiation of fruits, vegetables, pork, spices, herbs, teas, and seeds.

### Where does the radiation come from?

The major sources of gamma radiation for food irradiation are *Cesium 137* and *Cobalt-60*. *Cesium 137* is a by-product of Department of Energy nuclear weapons production and nuclear power generation. Water soluble, it is the most abundant isotope in the nation's nuclear waste and will be the most important source of gamma radiation. Radioactive *Cobalt-60* is made from non-radioactive *Cobalt-59*, and its production generates new nuclear waste.

### Is it environmentally safe?

The leading government food irradiation proponent envisions a thousand irradiation facilities operating in the U.S. near agricultural areas, airports, seaports, and large cities. Since the irradiation service industry (which now deals mostly with medical supplies) began in the mid 1970's, there have been three *Cobalt-60* leaks, several contaminations and worker exposures, as well as numerous safety violations. With a thousand irradiation facilities operating in the U.S., shipments of large quantities of radioactive materials on the nation's highways will increase dramatically. The probability of more safety violations and radiation accidents will rise frighteningly. Such consequences are usually irreversible.

### What foods are irradiated?

The FDA has approved the radiation of wheat, wheat flour, fresh fruits and vegetables, pork, and 60 herbs and spices. So far, only herbs and spices are being irradiated. About 1% to 2% of our nation's spices and herbs are currently irradiated.

### Will irradiated foods be labeled?

The FDA does not require labeling of irradiated ingredients. For example, potato soup made of irradiated potatoes need not be labeled. In fact, millions of pounds of spices were irradiated in 1986 (*Food Processing Magazine, June, 1985, p. 89*), with no indication to consumers. These spices were all used as ingredients in processed foods.

DO YOU KNOW THIS  
SYMBOL MEANS  
TREATED WITH  
GAMMA RADIATION?



The FDA does require that irradiated whole foods carry a written label, but this requirement expires on April 18, 1988. The only indication of irradiation then will be a flower symbol called the "radura." Most irradiated foods will be *unlabeled* ingredients. Consumers will not be informed or protected.

## Will food irradiation replace pesticides?

Irradiation proponents say food irradiation will reduce dependency on pesticides. Actually, food irradiation is a post-harvest treatment. It will not replace one ounce of chemical soil treatment or pesticide used during growth. In all cases, irradiation will be used *in addition* to chemicals applied in the fields. In some cases, chemicals will be *added*, to facilitate irradiation.

Food irradiation has been touted as a replacement for the post-harvest fumigant, EDB. EDB was banned in 1983 when it was found to be carcinogenic. On detailed examination, very little EDB was ever actually used as a fruit and vegetable fumigant. Non-toxic alternatives to EDB, such as CO<sub>2</sub> and "double-dipping" water baths are cheap, proven, and available.

## Who promotes food irradiation?

Private contractors and the federal government are its chief promoters. Food irradiation research is now being funded by the U.S. Department of Energy (D.O.E.), with taxpayers' dollars. For each of fiscal years 1986 and 1987, \$5,000,000 was appropriated for this purpose by Congress. The D.O.E. would like to find some use for their troublesome nuclear waste. The D.O.E. is trying to build six demonstration irradiation facilities in the U.S. to promote industry use of Cesium-137.

## Who's working for consumers?

The National Coalition to Stop Food Irradiation—over 70 chapters, affiliated groups, and supporting organizations—is working to protect consumer interests across the U.S. To find the affiliate nearest you, write N.C.S.F.I.

## What you can do

- **Educate yourself** on food irradiation and share your concern. Reproduce and distribute this brochure as often as you like.
- **Avoid irradiated foods.** Consumer power speaks loudly through our choices. Inform your grocers of your concern. Tell them you do not want irradiated foods, and that you want them to identify foods with irradiated ingredients. *You have the right to know.*
- **Contact your elected officials.** Ask your Congressman to co-sponsor and support the Food Irradiation Safety and Labeling Requirement Acts of 1987 (HR 956 & S461) introduced on February 4, 1987 in the House of Representatives and in the U.S. Senate.

These bills, if passed, will halt the irradiation of fresh fruits, vegetables, and pork, and mandate detailed disclosure of irradiation's impact on our food environment. HR 956/S461 require clear and honest labeling of irradiated foods—whole foods *and* ingredients—and prohibit the export and import of illegally irradiated foods.

As of November, 1987, 83 members of the House have co-sponsored HR 956, and 10 Senators have co-sponsored S461. Write your Representative/Senator and urge their co-sponsorship of HR 956/S461.

Write to:  
Your U.S. Representative  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

and

Your U.S. Senator  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

## What is N.C.S.F.I.?

The National Coalition to Stop Food Irradiation is a non-profit organization that began in 1984. N.C.S.F.I. was organized to educate the public, and provide assistance to groups and individuals who are concerned about food irradiation.

## SIGN ME UP!

\_\_\_\_\_ INDIVIDUAL membership in N.C.S.F.I. or local chapter. Includes a year's subscription to *Food Irradiation Alert* and a complimentary bumper sticker. (\$15.00)

\_\_\_\_\_ INDIVIDUAL RETAIL OUTLET/NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION membership, including Information MANUAL, subscription, and bumper sticker selection. (\$75.00)

\_\_\_\_\_ FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATION membership, includes same material as for non-profit organizations, above. (\$125.00)

\_\_\_\_\_ Send me information on STARTING A LOCAL CHAPTER.

\_\_\_\_\_ I ENCLOSE A SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION FOR YOUR WORK.

\_\_\_\_\_ Information MANUAL, 238 pages of scientific studies, articles, fact sheets, media clips in a 3-ring binder. (\$20.00)

\_\_\_\_\_ Buttons and bumper stickers (\$1.00 each + one 22-cent stamp for each two items. Bulk prices on request.)

\_\_\_\_\_ This brochure (10 for \$10.00; 100 for \$10.00)

\_\_\_\_\_ 2" diameter "Say No to Food Irradiation" stickers (10 for \$1.00)

\_\_\_\_\_ T-shirts (\$10.00 each) (11/87)

Shirts are 100% cotton and will shrink!

RED  Small  Med  Large  X-Lrg  
BLUE  Small  Med  Large  X-Lrg

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

We pay postage on all orders. Proceeds from the sale of these items go to the work that we do.  
Please make your check or money order payable to:

The National Coalition to Stop Food Irradiation

# FOOD IRRADIATION



## A Health Hazard

## National Coalition to Stop Food Irradiation

P. O. Box 590-488  
San Francisco, CA 94159  
(415) 566-2734



# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House HESS  
committee name  
 committee on HB 388, dated 1/15/88  
bill/subject

I am opposed to food irradiation because the process uses waste products from the nuclear power and nuclear weapons industry. This industry should be dismantled in its entirety, because it is a threat to all life on Earth. The industry is eager to legitimize itself by finding a so-called non-polluting use for its waste products. In truth however the development of such a market for nuclear waste will only encourage the industry to expand and generate more waste. Even though the radiation from the waste is utilized for a brief period of time, the waste still remains radioactive and still has to be disposed of ultimately.

Regardless of the health effects with irradiated food, this technology should be stopped in its tracks because of its unavoidably long-term effects.

Signed: Ed Berg  
Testifier

Representing (Optional)  
2682 Goldhill Road, Fairbanks AK 99709  
Address  
479-3796  
Phone No.

## Irradiated food

Jan. 11, 1992  
Cordova, AK 99574  
Box 82  
99569

To the editor:  
Great Britain, New Zealand and West Germany have all banned the sale of irradiated food. Japanese parliament has withdrawn all support for food irradiation. Japan prohibits it. New Jersey and Oregon are in the process. Maine ka F airbanks plans to build a irradiator using atomic waste to zap Alaska food. Japanese chamber and exposed to Cesium-137. Changes the molecular structure of food and involves the transport of food and storage of atomic waste. Each plant would house roughly the same amount of Chernobyl accident.

The university claims that irradiation will increase shelf life and destroy pathogens. However, the botulism organism is "perversely resistant." A dose sufficient to kill other bacteria would leave botulism with no competition to impede its growth. In addition, lab tests show that salmonella develops resistance to irradiation. Irradiated products are more susceptible to infection by molds and

Malnourished children in India fed irradiated wheat, developed multiple chromosomal anomalies, including cancers and a leukemic rate. Irradiated foods are depleted of key vitamins and amino acids. The process will add up to 70 cents per pound to the price of food.

Unless we speak out now, food handlers will be here. If you are opposed, here is what can be done:

- 1) Tell any food suppliers or Bill 33 requiring foods whose components have been irradiated be stated.
- 2) Support Sen. Kerttula's Senate Bill 33 requiring foods whose components have been irradiated be stated.
- 3) Write legislators requesting a ban on irradiated foods in the state and a halt to building of a food irradiator.

4) Express opposition to John P. Zarlioz—Director, Institute of Northern Engineering, U.A.F., 325 Duckering Bldg., Fairbanks 99775.

5) Ask Sens. Stevens and Murkowski and Congressman Young to co-sponsor and to support the Bill. The National Academy of Sciences, before further irradiation takes place.

6) Join the Alaska Chapter National Coalition to Fight Food Irradiation, 1650 Thruway, Anchorage 99507.

Keep in mind that a handful of concerned citizens can change the course of events.

Sincerely,  
Ms. Rocky Stone



Greater Fairbanks

**Chamber**

of Commerce

First National Center

P.O. Box 74446

709 Second Avenue

(907) 452-1105

Fairbanks, Alaska 99707

RESOLUTION #10-0388

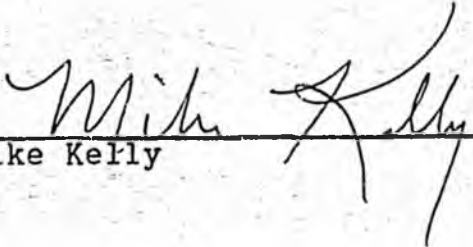
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RESOLUTION ON IRRADIATION

- WHEREAS, the State of Alaska has requested the Institute of Northern Engineering at the University of Alaska Fairbanks to conduct a study on the potential social and economic benefits and conduct a study on the potential social and economic benefits and risks that may be realized from food irradiation technology; and
- WHEREAS, the Institute of Northern Engineering will not complete the study until the fall of 1988; and
- WHEREAS, both the House and Senate have bills before them that would ban the sale of irradiated products in Alaska, thus foreclosing any future window of opportunity; and
- WHEREAS, the United States Congress through the Department of Energy has made available to Alaska a \$5 million grant over a period of time for the purpose of conducting a range of studies regarding the feasibility of the process in Alaska; and
- WHEREAS, the potential economic benefits to Alaska are in the areas of international trade and increased quality and selection of available food products, especially in rural Alaska; and
- WHEREAS, economic development is a priority of the Governor for the State of Alaska and of the Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce for the Interior and the state;
- NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce believes HB388 and SB355 should be postponed, or at least amended, pending the results from the study;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Greater Fairbanks Chamber of  
Commerce urges the Governor and the state  
legislators to defer a decision on the proposed  
legislation until those results are available.

Dated this 14<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1988.

By   
Mike Kelly

By \_\_\_\_\_  
W.R. Cox

*Jerry*

HCO2, Box 7630-A1  
Palmer, Alaska 99645-9709  
February 10, 1988

Honorable Ron Larson  
Alaska House of Representatives  
Pouch "Y"  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Representative Larson;

Recently I heard of HB-388 (Phillips & Goll) and a companion bill, SB-355 (Kerttula) which have been introduced and related to prohibiting the sale of irradiated food in Alaska.

I certainly am not an authority on irradiation, however, I know that this process is still undergoing testing by the U. S. Government. To my knowledge no hazard has been detected in, or through the ingestion of, irradiated food. Just as we do not radiate after receiving an X-ray, no radioactivity is retained by irradiated product. I have no direct economic interest in irradiation, but I am concerned that, at the least, HB-388 and SB-355 are premature.

As you may be aware irradiation offers the prospect of significant benefit. Irradiation can be used to sterilize meat, poultry, seafood and other food item and greatly extend their shelf life. It similarly extends shelf life of fruits and vegetables, not only by sterilization, but by delaying ripening and inhibiting sprouting. Lastly, the process is used to inactivate trichinae in pork, and insect pests in grain and other vegetable products without resorting to chemical treatment. The introduction of some of these pests, (weed seed, nematodes and insects) represent a threat to Alaskan agriculture.

Some opposition to Alaskan sale of radiated food is an effort to restrict the importation of materials which might compete with locally grown products. Such a tactic, which restricts trade, has potential to limit the future exportation of Alaskan products. Fine quality Alaskan vegetables, selected fish products and reindeer meat have potential for export and would benefit from shipment without the need for refrigeration. Bills, such HB-388, will inhibit the use of irradiation for this purpose in the state, and certainly would preclude sale of the products here.

Problems with agriculture in Alaska are not biological. The products can be produced here. Our problems are people problems,... financing, marketing, pricing, transporting, competing and attitudes. Such prohibitions as HB-388 represent an additional artificial detriment to development of Alaska's renewable resources.

If there is any assistance that I can be on this issue, please don't hesitate to call. I sincerely appreciate the honor of being recommended by you for the Board of Game.

Respectfully,

*Bob*

Robt. H. Parkerson, Ph.D.