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Keep Antibiotics Working Coalition Applauds Tyson Plan to Phase out Medically-Important Antibiotics from its Broiler Chickens

Calls on turkey, pork and beef industries to take similar steps

(Washington, DC) -- Today, Tyson Foods, the U.S.’ largest poultry producer, announced that it is phasing out medically important antibiotics from its broiler flocks by 2017. Steven Roach, senior analyst for Keep Antibiotics Working (KAW), a coalition of health, consumer, agricultural, environmental, animal welfare, and other advocacy groups, issued the following statement in response:

“Keep Antibiotics Working congratulates Tyson Foods for taking steps to reduce the routine use of medically important antibiotics in its chicken and increase transparency in the process. We hope that more restaurants and retailers will take advantage of the increased supply and make reduced antibiotic options available to their customers.

While the chicken industry as a whole is making great strides in reducing antibiotic overuse, it begs the question: why are the turkey, pork and beef industries lagging so far behind?”

If you’d like to connect with members of the Keep Antibiotics Working coalition for further comment, please contact Katie Andriulli at kandriulli@mrss.com or (917) 438-4605.

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Keep Antibiotics Working (KAW) is a coalition of health, consumer, agricultural, environmental, humane, and other advocacy groups with more than 11 million supporters. Learn more at www.keepantibioticsworking.com.