Stuffed

The Use of Antibiotics and Other Drugs in the U.S. Turkey Industry

A report by the Food Animal Concerns Trust
Stuffed: The Use of Antibiotics and Other Drugs in the U.S. Turkey Industry

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About the Authors

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This report is a project of FACT, Richard Wood, Executive Director.

FACT’s Vision
All food-producing animals will be raised in a healthy and humane manner so that everyone will have access to safe and humanely produced food.

FACT’s Mission
Food Animal Concerns Trust (FACT) promotes the safe and humane production of meat, milk, and eggs. FACT envisions that all food-producing animals will be raised in a healthy and humane manner so that everyone will have access to safe and humanely-produced food.

More information about FACT is available at http://www.foodanimalconcerns.org
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Introduction

Food Animal Concerns Trust (FACT) is a nonprofit organization that promotes humane farming and advocates for the safe production of meat, milk, and eggs. We identify and advocate for steps that farmers should take to keep their cattle, pigs, turkeys and chickens from being the cause of human disease. We also enable consumers to become informed shoppers & eaters by helping them make humane food choices and reduce their consumption of products from factory farms.

For many families, a whole turkey is an important part of holiday meals. Many people also enjoy turkey as an everyday staple. U.S. farms will likely produce almost 6 billion pounds of turkey meat in 2018. While many people consider turkey to be a healthier option to other meats, the use of antibiotics and other veterinary drugs in its production raise concerns about how healthy it truly is. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) sales data and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) production data from 2016 show that the turkey industry when compared to the other food animal sectors is the most intense user of medically important antibiotics measured in amount of drug sold per weight of animals produced. The use of antibiotics can lead to the spread of antibiotic resistant superbugs and FDA data from 2015 show that bacteria from turkeys are more likely to be multi-drug resistant superbugs compared to other food animals. Other drugs can harm animal health. Because of these concerns, Food Animal Concerns Trust (FACT) contacted the 20 largest US turkey producers and asked them about their use of antibiotics and the artificial growth promoter ractopamine. We chose antibiotics because of concerns about superbugs and ractopamine because its use can harm animal health. This report updates our 2015 Stuffed Report.

Photo courtesy of Heather Ridge Farm
What Did We Find?

Company Prohibits:

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Did not respond and do not have publically available policies prohibiting routine antibiotic use or ractopamine: Butterball, Farbest Foods, Inc., VPCC, Tyson, WHITENWATER PROCESSING, Cooper Turkey, Foster Farms, Pinnacle Foods, Northern Pride, Inc., and West Liberty Foods.
Antibiotics

FACT supports treating animals with antibiotics when they are sick with bacterial infections. In this report, we are concerned about medically important antibiotics administered to animals that aren’t sick.

Before 2017, many farms fed medically important antibiotics to food animals just to make them grow faster with less feed. Changes in FDA rules in 2017 prohibited this practice but FDA still allows farms to give antibiotics to healthy animals to prevent disease. Farms use antibiotics for disease prevention to provide some insurance against diseases that might happen but for which there are not currently any signs of illness. These farms often give the drugs in low doses to all the animals for long amounts of time. In 2017, an expert group convened by the World Health Organization recommended the elimination of administering medically important antibiotics to animals in the absence of signs of disease for either growth or disease prevention. Using antibiotics in this way is a recipe for creating and spreading antibiotic resistant superbugs.

Some farms also routinely administer antibiotics in hatcheries to prevent disease by injecting eggs before hatch or injecting pouls (baby turkeys) once they are hatched.

Hatchery use of antibiotics has been linked to the spread of resistant bacteria.

- Only three of the top twenty turkey producers (Plainville Farms, Zacky Farms, and Dakota Provisions) report that they do not allow the use of routine preventive antibiotics either on the farm or in the hatchery. The first two market all of their turkeys as raised without antibiotics and Dakota Provisions is transitioning all of its flocks to raised without antibiotics production.

- Two additional companies restrict some preventive use of antibiotics but do not have comprehensive policies. Cargill, which markets turkeys under the Honey Suckle White and Shady Brook Farms labels, does not allow antibiotic use in its hatcheries. Norbest Foods reports that it does not allow routine antibiotic use for disease prevention but did not respond to questions about hatchery use.

- The other fifteen companies (Butterball, Jennie O’Turkey Store, Farbest Foods, Kraft Heinz Co., Tyson Foods, Perdue Farms, Virginia Poultry Growers Association, Cooper Farms, West Liberty Foods, Foster Farms, Michigan Turkey Producers, Turkey Valley, Prestage Farm, Northern Pride, and Whitewater Processing) did not report to us or include on their websites any indication that they have policies limiting the use of antibiotics for disease prevention in the conventional turkeys they raise. Many of these companies (e.g. Tyson Foods and Perdue Farms) do have policies restricting routine antibiotic use in the chicken they raise, but have not applied these policies to their turkey production. Two of these companies (Butterball and Farbest Foods) have policies prohibiting antibiotic use for growth promotion, but FDA now prohibits most growth-promotion use so we do not consider this a significant change.

When turkeys are raised in healthy environments, like at Five Sprouts Family Farm where these turkeys are raised, routine antibiotics are not needed.
While most companies do not have comprehensive policies restricting routine antibiotic use in all of their flocks, ten companies including the top three do raise some turkeys under a “raised without antibiotics” claim. Four of these (Butterball, Jennie O’Turkey Store, Perdue Farms, and Virginia Poultry Growers Cooperative) participate in a USDA program that verifies that they follow the label claims. The other six (Cargill, Kraft Heinz, West Liberty, Foster Farms, Michigan Turkey Producers, and Northern Pride) either do their own verification or work with another third party certifier.

**Ractopamine**

Farms use the artificial growth-promoter ractopamine in the last two weeks before slaughter to allow turkeys to add more muscle without getting fat. When it was approved, FDA recognized that its use could lead to increased mortality in turkeys under heat stress and its use in cattle and pigs has also been associated with health problems. Several countries have banned its use because of concerns that its residues can cause heart problems in humans consuming meat from animals that received it.

Four of the top twenty turkey producers (Cargill, Perdue Farms, Norbest, and Zacky Farms) report that they do not use ractopamine in their turkeys. The other fifteen companies did not respond to questions about ractopamine use and we were unable to find any information about the drug on their websites.

**Transparency**

FACT did its best to contact all of the top twenty turkey companies but received responses from just four companies (Butterball, Cargill, Kraft Heinz, and Perdue Farms). We used information from company websites for the other sixteen companies.

**How Did We Collect This Information?**

FACT sent certified mail letters to all of the top 20 turkey companies and asked them to fill out a survey (see Appendix A) on their use of antibiotics and ractopamine. We followed up with emails to nineteen of the companies. We did not have an email contact for White Water Processing. If we received an answer, we directed any follow-up questions to the person responding. We also reviewed the information available on the company websites. In some cases, we directed questions to company consumer affairs representatives using the contact information listed on the company webpages. We report above what the companies told us but are unable to verify it directly. Most of the information on organic or raised without antibiotics claims came from company websites. FACT contacted, or attempted to contact, these companies during the summer of 2018. We received a letter the National Turkey Federation in response to our inquiry on behalf of unspecified companies. The National Turkey Federation letter did not include information on any specific company policies.
U.S. Turkey Production and Antibiotics

The spread of antibiotic resistance superbugs is an urgent public health crisis that the CDC estimates already leads to over 2 million resistant illnesses and 23,000 deaths in the U.S. each year. Among those 2 million illnesses, about 20 percent, or 400,000 illnesses, are directly linked to food and farms. The major driver of resistance is the overuse of antibiotics in both human medicine and animal agriculture. Farm use of antibiotics can lead to the spread of superbugs through food, farm workers, and contaminated air and water. These resistant superbugs can lead to more sick people, more people going to the hospital, and more people dying. Superbugs also makes treatment difficult for the animals as well.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), which has authority over the safety of animal drugs, acknowledges that the use of antibiotics in food animals can lead to the spread of superbugs affecting animal and human health. Since 2003, FDA has required new drugs coming on to the market to be shown to be safe with respect to resistance before they can legally be sold. That is great but FDA approved most antibiotics used in food animals well before 2003 and these older drugs were not required to meet the new requirements. In 2017, FDA implemented new rules that prohibit the use of medically important antibiotics for growth promotion, but the agency does not prohibit the routine use of antibiotics for disease prevention and did not set any targets for reductions in antibiotic use expected from the 2017 action.

Recently, for the first time in 2017, FDA reported estimates of antibiotics sales in the U.S. broken out by major food animal species. Turkey ranked third, behind cattle and swine in terms of total amount of medically important antibiotics sold. This does not tell the whole story though since the volume of turkey produced in the U.S. is much lower than the volume of cattle, pigs, or chickens. When the antibiotics sales are corrected to take into account the number and size of the animals produced, turkey

![Antibiotic Use Intensity and Multidrug Resistance](image)
producers are the most intense users of medically important antibiotics. Figure 1 compares the intensity of antibiotic use for the major food animal species. Given this it is perhaps unsurprising that data from FDA and USDA show that bacteria from turkey are more likely to be resistant to three or more antibiotics (i.e. superbugs) when compared to other food animals species.

The resistant bacteria can make people sick when they eat undercooked turkey or when they cross contaminate other food when handling raw turkey in the kitchen. Because they are multidrug resistant, they will be harder to treat. At the time of this report in November 2018, an active outbreak of multidrug resistant Salmonella caused by turkey has sickened at least 164 people leading to 64 hospitalizations and 1 death.

Given the high levels of multidrug resistance in bacteria from turkeys, FACT recommends that consumers avoid companies that do not have policies that prohibit the routine use of antibiotics for disease prevention. We recommend that turkey producers make changes to their production systems so that the use of medically important can be limited to disease treatment. Many of the companies are raising and marketing some of their turkeys under “No Antibiotics Ever” labels. We also ask these companies to take the lessons learned in these systems and apply them to all their turkey lines to reduce their antibiotic use. Instead of preventing disease with antibiotics, we call on all turkey producers to prevent disease by providing healthy conditions for their turkeys and use antibiotics only for disease treatment.

**U.S. Turkey Production and Ractopamine**

While turkey companies are quick to say they do not use hormones or steroids, they rarely mention the beta-agonist drug ractopamine. Unlike steroids or hormones, which cannot legally be used in turkeys, ractopamine is marketed under the trade name Topmax™ for use in turkeys as an artificial growth promoter. Beta-agonists are used in human medicine to control asthma but are fed to animals to add more muscle with less feed. Many countries do not allow the use of ractopamine and have banned the import of meat produced with it. The main human health concern associated with ractopamine residues are effects on the heart.

The threat that beta-agonists pose to animal health is clearer than the potential effects on human health from its residues. At the time of its approval for use in turkeys, FDA knew that ractopamine caused an elevated rate of mortality in turkeys during periods of heat stress. The use of beta-agonists in swine and cattle has also been associated with negative animal health effects including increased mortality in cattle.

Given the potential human health impacts from residues combined with the negative animal health impacts, FACT recommends that consumers avoid products from companies that do not prohibit the use of this type of drugs. We also recommend that food animal producers not use this product.
What should consumers do?

Value transparency

The food choices you make have a significant impact on the welfare of farm animals across the country. Your purchases let retailers and producers know that consumers are interested in humanely raised food products. FACT recommends that you avoid food from companies that refuse to answer questions about how the food is produced. “Just trust us” is not something that you should accept when it comes to the food you eat. We advocate for transparency in food production and recommend that you stay away from the turkey companies that that did not respond to the questions in our survey.

FACT also believes that it is important to avoid meats from companies that do not prohibit the feeding of ractopamine or the routine use of medically important antibiotics for growth promotion and/or disease prevention. Our report will make it easier to do so.

Antibiotics and ractopamine are not the only concerns FACT holds about how turkeys are raised. Most turkeys in the U.S. are raised in large enclosed sheds housing around 15,000 birds per flock. We do not recommend purchasing from farms raising turkeys in this manner as they do not have access to the outdoors and do not experience a high level of animal welfare.

Buy humanely raised turkey

For those interested in purchasing turkey, we recommend you purchase turkeys that carry a 3rd party verified humane certification, such as Animal Welfare Approved. FACT’s Guide to Common Food Labels (http://foodanimalconcernstrust.org/food-labels) can help you to understand which labels are meaningful and backed up by independent verification, and which labels are misleading and promote unverified welfare claims. If you plan on purchasing a turkey from a local farm or farmers market, look at FACT’s Guide for shopping at a farmer’s market and CSAs. (http://foodanimalconcernstrust.org/markets)

Advocate for an end to drug abuse on farms

Whether you eat turkey or not you can contact companies that sell turkey in your area and ask them to stop using routine antibiotics or ractopamine. We have provided the contact information from all of the major turkey companies in Appendix B Below. Sign up for FACT’s action alerts (https://foodanimalconcernstrust.org/action-center) where you can join others to put pressure on both FDA and companies to reduce antibiotic use.
Endnotes


4. Medically important antibiotics are antibiotics that are the same as or closely related to drugs used in human medicine.


13. Animal Drugs @ FDA. Application Details for Elanco Topmax™ 9. Available at: https://animaldrugsatfda.fda.gov/adafda/views/#/home/previewsearch/141-290


Appendix A. Survey

Turkey Producer Survey on Veterinary Drug Use

Company Name:

1. Do you have a policy requiring veterinary orders before veterinary drugs are used on farms producing turkeys for you?
   Yes____ No _____

   If yes, does the policy cover all producers or just a subset (e.g. company owned farms)?

   All____; Company owned ___; Contract growers _____; Other_____

2. Do you have a published policy regarding the use of antibiotics in turkeys raised or sold by your company?
   Yes___ No____

3. If the answer to #3 is yes, then:
   a. Does the policy (mark all that apply):
      1. Prohibit the use of all antibiotics or all medically important antibiotics for any purpose and divert treated flocks to other marketing channels?
         All antibiotics ______
         Medically important antibiotics only ______
      2. Prohibit the use of antibiotics for production purposes such as growth promotion, improved feed efficiency, or maintenance of growth?
         All antibiotics ______
         Medically important antibiotics only ______
      3. Prohibit the use of antibiotics for disease prevention (i.e. use in flocks that do not have clinical signs of disease for animal health purposes)?
         Yes____ No____
      4. Does the policy prohibit the use of medically important antibiotics in hatcheries supplying poultis to your company?
         Yes____ No____

   b. Please email the policy or provide a link to where it is available online.

4. Do you have a policy prohibiting the use of the beta-agonist ractopamine in turkeys raised or sold by your company?
   Yes____ No ____

5. Do you have product lines that have different standards than those described above?
   Yes____ No ____
6. If the answer to #5 is yes, then please list the lines along with information about what standards they must meet (e.g. organic, raised without antibiotics, certified responsible antibiotic use).

7. Do you require producers to track veterinary drug use in turkeys raised or sold by your company?
   Yes____ No ____

   If yes, does the policy cover all producers or just a subset (e.g. company owned farms)?

   All____; Company owned ____; Contract growers ____; Other____

8. If the answer to #7 is yes, do you make information on the frequency of antibiotic and veterinary drug use in the production of your turkeys publically available?
   Yes____ No ____

   If yes, please indicate where the information can be found:

Thank you very much! If you have questions regarding this survey, please contact Steve Roach of Food Animal Concerns Trust at sroach@foodanimalconcerns.org or (618) 203-2233.
Appendix B. Company Responses

(Listed in order of number of turkeys produced)

1. Butter Ball LLC.

http://www.butterball.com/

Butterball Consumer Affairs, PO Box 1547, Kings Mountain, NC 28086. Contact: https://www.butterball.com/contact-us

Response: Butterball did not respond to our survey so the information reported is based on what is available on their website. The Butterball website includes a “Position on Antibiotics” page that states: To maintain the health of our turkeys, we will administer antibiotics only as needed, under licensed veterinarian’s guidance, to ensure they live healthy lives, free of illness. We are committed to the responsible use of antibiotics. In 2015, we refined our policy on antibiotic use, and eliminated use of any labeled as growth promotants. We intend to further reduce the use of antibiotics in the coming year.

The “Position on Antibiotics” page mentions a raised without antibiotics line that is marketed under the “Farm to Family by Butterball” label. FACT confirmed that this label was included in the official list of USDA certified programs. A search of the Butterball website did not find any reference to ractopamine.

2. Jennie-O Turkey Store (Hormel Foods)

http://www.jennieo.com/

Hormel Foods Corporation, Consumer Response, 1 Hormel Place, Austin, MN 55912. Contact: http://www.jennieo.com/contactus.

Response: Jennie-O responded to FACT about their antibiotic use in a letter dated August 3, 2018. They stated that company producers use antibiotics as allowed by the FDA. The Jennie-O website includes an “Antibiotics” page that states: At Jennie-O Turkey Store, FDA approved antibiotics are used at times to properly treat, control and prevent illness in our turkeys. A search of the website found several products labeled as raised without antibiotics. FACT confirmed that this label was included in the official list of USDA certified programs. A search of the Jennie-O website did not find any reference to ractopamine.

3. Cargill Turkey (Honeysuckle White®, Shady Brook Farms®)

https://www.cargill.com/meat-poultry/turkey-na

Cargill, Incorporated, PO Box 9300, Minneapolis, MN, 55440-9300. Contact: https://www.cargill.com/page/cargill-contact-us
Response: Cargill responded to FACT about their antibiotic use in a letter dated August 3, 2018. They stated that company producers do not use antibiotics in their hatcheries and that they do not use ractopamine. The Cargill website includes an “Antibiotics” webpage that describes their overall antibiotics policy and refers to turkeys raised without antibiotics under the Honest Turkey label. Cargill announced in August 2016 that it has eliminated antibiotics from its turkey hatcheries.

4. Farbest Foods

https://farbestfoods.com/

Farbest Foods Corporate Office, P.O. Box 480, Huntingburg, IN 47542-0480
Contact: https://farbestfoods.com/contact-us/

Response: Farbest Foods did not respond to our inquiry and we were unable to identify any information on their website about policies related to antibiotics or ractopamine.

5. Kraft Foods (Oscar Mayer)

http://www.kraftheinzcompany.com

The Kraft Heinz Company, Consumer Relations, 801 Waukegan Road, Glenview, IL 60025
Contact: http://kraftfoods.custhelp.com/app/contact_us

Response: Kraft Heinz submitted a survey to FACT that indicated that they allow their producers to use antibiotics for disease prevention and in hatcheries. Kraft Heinz includes information on its antibiotic policies on their “Animal Welfare Policy” page. They indicated in the survey that they market some products as raised without antibiotics under their Oscar Mayer Natural line. They also stated that they purchase only from suppliers that do not use ractopamine.

6. Tyson Foods (Hillshire Farm)

http://www.tysonfoods.com/

Hillshire Farm® Consumer Affairs, P.O. Box 3901, Peoria, IL 61612
Contact: https://www.hillshirefarm.com/contact-us

Response: Tyson Foods markets turkey under the Hillshire Farm label. They did not respond to our survey, so the information reported is based on what is available on their website. Tyson Foods describes its policies related to antibiotics and ractopamine on their “Antibiotics, Hormones & Steroids” webpage. The page describes restrictions on antibiotic use in chickens but not turkeys. It states Tyson Foods’ policy allows ractopamine use and describes pork and beef marketed under raised without antibiotics labels but not turkey.
7. Perdue Farms

http://www.perdue.com/

Perdue Consumer Relations, P.O. Box 788, Kings Mountain, NC 28086
Contact: https://www.perduefarms.com/contact-us/

Response: Perdue Farms submitted a survey to FACT that indicated that they allow their producers to use antibiotics for disease prevention and in hatcheries but prohibit producers from using ractopamine. Perdue Farms also indicated that they market some turkeys under a raised without antibiotics label. FACT confirmed that this label was included in the official list of USDA certified programs. Perdue Farms antibiotics policies are described on their “Antibiotic Position Statement” webpage.

8. Virginia Poultry Growers Cooperative

http://www.vapoultrygrowers.com/

Virginia Poultry Growers Cooperative, P.O. Box 228, Hinton, VA 22831
Contact: http://www.vapoultrygrowers.com/contact_us.html

Response: FACT did not receive a reply from the Virginia Poultry Growers Cooperative. The company website indicates that Virginia Poultry Growers Cooperative produce turkeys labeled as organic and raised without antibiotics as well as conventional turkeys. FACT confirmed that the raised without antibiotics turkeys were included in the official list of USDA certified programs. We were unable to find any information on antibiotic use in their conventional program or on ractopamine use on the company website.

9. Cooper Farms

http://www.cooperfarms.com/

Cooper Farms, P.O. Box 339, North Fort Recovery, OH 45846
Contact: http://www.cooperfarms.com/contactus.aspx

Response: FACT did not receive a reply from Cooper Farms. The websites includes a statement on antibiotic use on an "Animal Care" webpage but it does not indicate that routine antibiotic use on the farm or in the hatcheries is prohibited. We were unable to find any information on ractopamine on the company website.

10. Plainville Farms

http://plainvillefarms.com/

Plainville Farms – a division of Hain Pure Protein Corp, PO Box 38, New Oxford, PA 17350
Contact: http://plainvillefarms.com/en/contact-us/
Response: FACT did not receive a reply from Plainville Farms but the company website emphasizes that they do not use antibiotics in the turkeys marketed under their label. We were unable to find any information on ractopamine on the company website.

11. West Liberty Foods

http://www.wlfoods.com/

West Liberty Foods, L.L.C., P.O. Box 318, West Liberty, Iowa 52776
Contact: https://www.wlfoods.com/contact/

Response: FACT did not receive a reply from West Liberty Foods. We were unable to find any information on antibiotic use in their conventional turkey or on ractopamine use on the company website. The website indicates that they raise a portion of their turkeys under a raised without antibiotics label.

12. Foster Farms

https://www.fosterfarms.com/

Foster Farms Consumer Affairs, P.O. Box 306, Livingston, CA 95334
Contact: https://www.fosterfarms.com/all-about-us/get-in-touch/

Response: FACT did not receive a reply from Foster Farms. Foster Farms “Antibiotics Stewardship” webpage does not mention policies related to antibiotic use in turkeys. The website indicates that the company does market a “raised without antibiotics” turkey under the Nature’s Ridge label. We were unable to find any information on ractopamine on the company website.

13. Michigan Turkey Producers

http://www.miturkey.com/

Michigan Turkey Producers, 1100 Hall Street SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503
Contact: http://www.miturkey.com/contact

Response: FACT did not receive a reply from Michigan Turkey Producers. We were unable to find any information on antibiotic use in their conventional turkey or ractopamine use on the company website. The website indicates that they raise a portion of their turkeys under a raised without antibiotics label.


http://www.dakotaprovisions.com/

Dakota Provisions, 40253 US-14, Huron, SD 57350
Contact: contact@dakotaprovisions.com

Response: FACT did not receive a reply from Dakota Provisions.
Response: FACT did not receive a reply from Dakota Provisions. The company’s 2017 Corporate Responsibility Report states: In 2016 we started moving more of our flocks to “NAE flocks” or “No Antibiotics Ever”. These birds will not be fed antibiotics at any time during the life of the bird. If any flocks during their lifespan need antibiotics we will distribute antibiotics to them as we do not want any birds to suffer. However, these birds will not be labeled as “NAE” flocks. Our goal was to have all flocks as “NAE flocks” in 2017. At the end of 2017, 63% of all flocks were NAE approved.

This indicates that they company’s policy is to not use antibiotic routinely in either hatcheries or on the farm. We were unable to find any information on ractopamine on the company website

15. Turkey Valley Farms

http://www.turkeyvalleyfarms.com/

Turkey Valley Farms, 112 S 6th Street, Marshall, MN 56258
Contact: Brian.Lien@turkeyvalleyfarms.com

Response: FACT did not receive a reply from Turkey Valley Farms. We were unable to find any information on antibiotic use or ractopamine on the company website.


http://www.norbest.com/

Norbest, LLC, P.O. Box 890, Moroni, UT 84646
Contact: http://www.norbest.com/contact-us

Response: FACT did not receive a reply from Norbest. The Norbest “Raising Turkeys” page states: Norbest does not use, nor does our drug policy permit, the use of ractopamine, nitarsone, or the routine use of medically important antibiotics.

We were unable to find information on antibiotic use in hatcheries on the company website.

17. Prestage Farms

http://www.prestagefarms.com/

Prestage Farms P. O. Box 438 Clinton, NC 28329
Contact: http://www.prestagefarms.com/contact/

Response: FACT did not receive a reply from Prestage Farms. We were unable to find information on antibiotic use or ractopamine on the Prestage Farms website. The company “Animal Welfare Statement” webpage mentions following FDA rules for veterinary medicines but no specific policies related to antibiotics.
18. Zacky Farms

http://zackyfarms.com/

Zacky Farms P.O. Box 12556, Fresno, CA 93778
Contact: http://zackyfarms.com/contact/

Response: FACT did not receive a reply from Zacky Farms but the company website emphasizes that they do not use antibiotics in the turkeys marketed under their label and states the turkey are “subjected to no additives.” Since ractopamine is a feed additive, we consider this a no ractopamine claim.

19. Northern Pride

http://www.northernprideinc.com/

Northern Pride, Inc., 401 South Conley Ave., Thief River Falls, MN 56701
Contact: troy@northernprideinc.com

Response: FACT did not receive a reply from Northern Pride. We were unable to find any information on antibiotic use or ractopamine on the company website. The company website does indicate that the Northern Pride produces some turkeys under a raised without antibiotics label.

20. Whitewater Processing Co.

No website

Whitewater Processing Co. 10964 Campbell Road Harrison, OH 45030
Contact: (513) 367-4133

Response: FACT did not receive a reply from White Water Processing and the company does not have a website.