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From: Diane Whyte EHF3A  
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## USE OF BOVINE MATERIAL IN COSMETICS

1. Mr Murray asked me to copy to you our papers on the use of bovine material in cosmetics in connection with the attached article sent to us by John Maslin, MAFF. The article appeared in a recent Mail on Sunday supplement and states that "sheep's placenta and cow's brain tissue are included in (cosmetic) treatment products as "fresh cells" and "biological extracts".
2. We have been looking at the use of bovine material in cosmetics and other non-food products, and the subject has also been discussed by the Tyrrell Committee. The Department issued advice to the cosmetics industry, via DTI, on the use of bovine material in cosmetics in February 1990. This advice suggested that the use of extracts of bovine offal should be discontinued. Alternatively material should be imported from cattle reared outside the UK, Eire and the Channel Islands.
3. Follow up enquiries of the Industry's Trade Association indicate that manufacturers were asked to check with their suppliers the origin of any bovine material used. However, there is no detailed information on the present use of bovine material and we cannot be sure that the DH advice has been widely received or adhered to. Also we do not know about small scale operators who are not members of the Trade Association.
4. When this was discussed by the Tyrrell Committee in June, it was agreed that the DH should consider its earlier advice to DTI with a view to re-issuing it.
5. When you have had a chance to look at the background papers Mr Murray would like us to get together urgently to consider this further. Perhaps you can let me know if it is possible for us to meet sometime this week? I look forward to hearing from you.

D.W.

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