



## It Ain't Right

The nutrition “experts” tell you to eat chicken. It’s better for you than a steak. Besides it’s cheaper, right? That advice helps chicken companies sell nearly 60 million tons (\$90 billion dollars’ worth) of chicken to U.S. consumers every year, of which less than \$1 billion dollars worth is organic.

To drive home the “chicken is healthy” message, one of those chicken companies—Sanderson Farms—plays fast and loose with the facts advertising its chicken products as “100% Natural.” In fact, Sanderson’s website devotes an entire section to its “100% Natural” claims.

It’s a nice story. But it leaves out this important fact: Sanderson chicken products have tested positive for multiple antibiotics, prescription drugs or pesticides.

The \$600-billion global advertising industry was built on hype. We get that. But Sanderson takes hype to a whole new level. And we’re on a mission to make the company clean up its chicken—or clean up its act. OCA, along with Friends of the Earth and Center for Food Safety, filed suit today against Sanderson for false advertising. We think you’ll find the complaint as shocking as we found the test results.

Sanderson sells its chicken to grocery stores who market it under their own private labels. The company also sells chicken to restaurant chains and institutions, which could include schools, hospitals and nursing homes. So you could be eating Sanderson’s drugged chicken without even knowing it. Even if you never take a bite of Sanderson chicken, Sanderson’s blatantly false advertising hurts everyone. Nearly 23,000 people die every year from preventable infections, because the over-use of human antibiotics on factory farms has made many of those antibiotics ineffective for people when they need them most. When consumers are duped into paying low prices for a product masquerading as something it’s not, it’s all that more difficult for farmers and producers who do the right thing—and tell the truth—to compete. That means fewer choices for consumers.

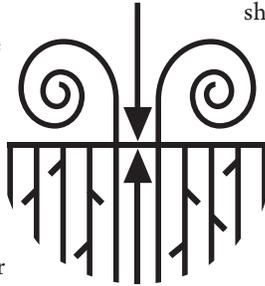
[orgcns.org/2rGQbK7](http://orgcns.org/2rGQbK7)

## Words Matter

“By federal law, all chickens have to be cleared of antibiotics before they leave the farm,” says the folksy, flannel-wearing actor in a Sanderson Farms “Truth about Chicken—Supermarket” video. Imagine our surprise when we learned that government testing of Sanderson chicken products uncovered 11 instances of antibiotics for human use in Sanderson chicken products—after they had left the farm.

One of those antibiotics, chloramphenicol, is not only prohibited in food-producing animals, but according to the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services National Toxicology Program report (2016), is “reasonably anticipated to be a human carcinogen.”

Antibiotics aren’t the only “unnatural” substances in Sanderson chicken. Tests revealed growth hormones prohibited in poultry production, pesticides and prescription drugs—including one with hallucinogenic effects! Take Action: [orgcns.org/2srMD19](http://orgcns.org/2srMD19)



## Meet Your Neighbor!

Our plan to organize OCA members into local Resist & Regenerate chapters through Meetup is gaining traction. We’re already up to 4,441 members across 264 Meetups nationwide.

To get started, you can host a potluck, play-date, book discussion, film showing, garden club, health or nutrition education group, or a political organizing event with other OCA members in your neighborhood. You can find fellow members by signing up to join your local volunteer team.

Not ready to host? Ease into it! By joining an existing Meetup or signing up to get a chapter started in your community.

It’s nearly impossible to fight Monsanto and Dow Chemical at the federal level where they can buy off Congresspersons and even the President. But at the local level, communities fighting for their rights have chalked up some impressive successes. Some have focused on protecting pollinators. Others have banned Monsanto’s Roundup and other pesticides from their local parks and playgrounds. Others have even banned GMO crops in their local regions.

We need you to make this happen! Please join (or sign-up to start) your local Resist & Regenerate chapter today. You won’t want to miss out as we roll out exciting and important new campaigns and action opportunities through Meetup! [orgcns.org/2qWTiwB](http://orgcns.org/2qWTiwB)

## Lunacy

Almost 70 years after the first cities started fluoridating their water supplies, more than 90% of Americans still get cavities. If that weren’t enough to ban fluoride, there’s this: The EPA recently added fluoride to its list of developmental neurotoxins—chemicals that interfere with normal brain development in utero and in children (though the agency claims the levels found in drinking water are “safe”).

In 2006, the National Research Council of the National Academies determined that fluoride is an endocrine disruptor that damages the thyroid. And still... cities are fluoridating water. Like the video’s narrator says: [orgcns.org/2rX2AxE](http://orgcns.org/2rX2AxE)

## Backwards Thinking?

A recent article in *Civil Eats* highlights what should, but sadly isn’t, obvious: If we tied crop insurance to improved soil health, farmers might be less vulnerable to what it is that makes them need crop insurance in the first place—“severe weather and bad years of production.”

As it stands now, farmers who employ healthy soil-building practices like cover cropping, actually lose out under the U.S. Federal Crop Insurance Program. Crop insurance is one of those wonky policy issues most of us don’t think much about. But we should, says a new study from Cornell University. As the *Civil Eats* article reports: “In a new paper, Cornell University assistant professor of agricultural business and finance Joshua Woodard and post-doctoral research assistant Leslie Verteramo Chiu argue that tying the Crop Insurance Program to the health of a farm’s soil could make it a powerful tool for promoting more sustainable and resilient farming.”

As unprecedented heatwaves ground U.S. flights in Phoenix, Ariz., and create unbearable conditions in other parts of the world, it’s way past time to rethink the \$8 billion in annual, taxpayer-funded crop insurance payouts to farmers growing crops like GMO corn, cotton and soy. [orgcns.org/2rWfuad](http://orgcns.org/2rWfuad)