ORIGINAL

FILED

MAR 1 3 2000

NANCY MAYER-WHITTINGTON, CLERK
U.S. DISTRICT COURT

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

In Re: Vitamins Antitrust Litigation	Misc. No. 99-0197 (TFH)
This Document Relates To:	MDL No. 1285
NBTY, Inc., Rexall Sundown, Inc., Twin Laboratories, Inc., and Cambr Company, Inc., f/k/a Solgar Vitamin & Herb Company v. F. Hoffman-LaRoche Ltd., et al.,	Case No. 99-CV-2372
Perrigo Company, et al v. F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd., et al.,	Case No. 99-CV-2411
Natural Alternatives International, Inc., Nutraceutical Corporation, Makers of Kal, Inc., and Weider Nutrition Group, Inc v. F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd., et al.,	Case No. 99-CV-2682
Leiner Health Products Inc. v. F. Hoffman-La Roche, et al.	Case No. 99-CV-3047

STIPULATION AND ORDER REGARDING DEGUSSA-HULS AG'S, E.MERCK'S AND MERCK KGaA's RESPONSE TO THE CONSOLIDATED AMENDED COMPLAINT

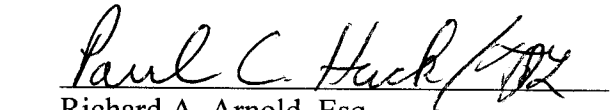
Plaintiffs in the above-captioned case and Defendants Degussa-Huls AG, E. Merck and Merck KGaA stipulate and agree as follows:

1. The time for Degussa-Huls AG, E. Merck and Merck KGaA to answer or otherwise respond to the consolidated amended complaint in the above captioned matter shall be extended to and including March 24, 2000. This extension is without any prejudice to these defendants seeking an additional extension of time to answer or otherwise respond.

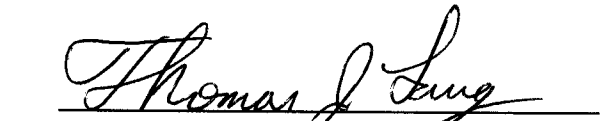
2. If Degussa-Huls AG, E. Merck or Merck KGaA files a motion in response to the consolidated amended complaint, any opposition shall be due within 21 days of receipt of such motion, and any reply shall be due within 14 days of receipt of such opposition.

3. Degussa-Huls AG, E. Merck and Merck KGaA do not waive, and expressly preserve, any and all defenses including, but not limited to, the defenses of insufficiency of service of process and lack of personal jurisdiction.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard A. Arnold, Esq.
William J. Blechman, Esq.
Paul C. Huck, Jr. Esq.
Kenny Nachwalter Seymour Arnold
Critchlow & Spector
201 South Biscayne Blvd., Suite 1100
Miami, FL 33131
Tel. (305) 373-1000
Attorneys for Plaintiffs in NBTY et al v. F. Hoffman LaRoche Ltd., et al. 99CV2372 (E.D.N.Y.), 99CV2411 (W.D. Mich.), 99CV2682 (S.D. Cal.), 99-09832 (C.D. Cal.)



Peter E. Halle, Esq. (D.C. Bar No. 408262)
Thomas J. Lang, Esq. (D.C. Bar No. 452398)
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP
1800 M Street, N.W.
Suite 600 North
Washington, D.C. 20036
Tel: (202) 467-7000
Attorneys for Defendant Degussa-Hüls AG

Robert Freeman /CMW

Craig M. Walker, Esq.
Robert Freeman, Esq.
Clifford Chance Rogers & Wells LLP
200 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10166-0153
Tel: 212 878-8000
Attorneys for Defendants E.Merck and Merck KGaA

SO ORDERED:

Thomas F. Hogan

Thomas F. Hogan
United States District Judge

March 10, 2000