

**From:** Stephen Snyder <asterix40@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 24, 2009 8:15 PM  
**To:** ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Feedback on Corporate Agriculture

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Dear USDA:

My family eats organic food that we grow and buy through a CSA where ever possible. This takes a great deal of extra effort, but we feel it is necessary to avoid pesticides residues and food raised with little concern for the family farmer or the environment. Horrified by factory farming, we have become vegetarian.

The USDA's attempt to eliminate "organic" and "fair trade" certification was most unwelcome. Genetically modified foods should be banned or severely regulated and fined for corrupting the seed stock of traditional farmers.

Regulations supporting food cooperatives (both consumer and producer) need to be in place to help them face lower taxes and qualify for small business loans.

You could do a better job of regulating factory farms and their effluent runoffs which poison lands and waterways. But most of all, please support organic family farms as their scale is more beneficial for our environment. Thank you.

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