

From: Andy Ferguson <andy.ferguson@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2009 7:21 PM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Comments

I am writing because I am concerned about the lack of competition in agricultural markets.

? Just one company, Monsanto, controls the majority of seeds in the US, and regularly threatens farmers who don't buy its seeds. This is appalling and no one entity should be permitted to have such control over our food supply.

? What's in our food, anyway? And why aren't there decent labels telling you where it grew, what chemicals are on it, and if it's genetically modified? I have watched cancer, ADHD and Autism, and other health issues rise through the years right along with changes in food production and chemical usage. It doesn't take rocket science to see there's a relation. When will our govt actually do something about it?

? There is a "revolving door" of personnel between corporate lobbyists and government regulators. No wonder corporations aren't held to strict standards. It is time for 'lobbies' to come to an end! We will NEVER have a govt by the people or for the people until this aspect of politics comes to an end!

? Prices are rising at the supermarket, but you've heard that farmers are struggling -- and big food companies have made record profits this year. This is capitalism at its WORST and is contrary to the principles this nation was founded on!

? Food is grown and raised in ways that are terrible for the environment, with methods that pollute the water, poison the soil, and threaten our long-term food security. It is time to end production farming as it currently stands. We need to bring back the small local farms and organic approaches to food production in this country.

Please take a stand for the people and the environment on these issues.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Andy Ferguson

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