

From: Laura Frame <frame1c@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2009 10:26 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.

Monsanto controls the majority of seeds in in the U.S., threatening farmers who do not buy their seeds. The company has too much control over farmers, the way Wal Mart does over manufacturers and singlehandedly put Rubbermaid out of business because Rubbermaid would not give in to Wal Mart's demands for unreasonably low pricing. That hurts the farmers, the consumers, our national economy and ultimately has an effect of global proportions.

Corporations and their lobbyists are tanking our economy and that is good only for huge companies like Monsanto. They are the ones who are profiting this year, as farmers struggle despite food prices rising at the retail level and Main Street getting stuck with higher grocery bills. It is out of control. These companies must be held to higher standards.

As a consumer and a citizen, I want this for Christmas:

- 1) To know where my food came from, what chemicals (if any) were used on it and if it's GMO.
- 2) Lower prices on food so we don't have middle and lower class citizens worrying about putting food on the table, which leads to undue stress, which leads to illness, which leads to strain in the health insurance system and that debacle...you know the rest of that.
- 3) Lower salaries for the CEOs who get rewarded for doing a terrible job while I can be fired for doing a terrible job.
- 4) Better, more sustainable farming methods that only smaller farmers and companies will employ.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Laura Frame

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