

**From:** Tara Lutz <sonoraward@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 18, 2009 1:25 AM  
**To:** ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Comments

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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. If a farmer's crops are contaminated with GMO's Monsanto sues the innocent farmer. GMO's have been connected to numerous health problems in humans and death in animals. The chemical Round-up owned by Monsanto and used on GMO corn and soy is damaging the environment, harming aquatic life, and the inactive ingredients are known to be harmful to people. There is a "revolving door" of personnel between corporate lobbyists and government regulators. No wonder corporations aren't held to strict standards. Prices are rising at the supermarket, but you've heard that farmers are struggling while big food companies have made record profits this year. 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.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment.

Tara Lutz

Sincerely,

Tara Lutz

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