

From: Anita Mills <anita1836@earthlink.net>
Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2009 7:48 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.

I am concerned that a few giant businesses like Monsanto have so much power over where your food comes from and how it's produced.

1. I heartily support stringent, accurate labeling - I read labels - so that I can choose in an educated manner the food I eat and serve to my family.
2. I strongly support sustainable agriculture and believe that the large agricultural businesses are driving out small/family farmers who are trying to provide fresh, unadulterated food directly to local consumers.
3. The large business-model agricultural concerns, like Monsanto, are only possible through the use of poisonous pesticides and herbicides - that find their way into the waterways of this country, the faucets of our homes and ultimately into our bodies.
4. Monopolies and businesses that control a majority of seed stock for farmers reduce our choices of foods that we eat. Not only are they patenting natural products, but they are causing the contamination of organically produced seed stock.

In short, I am extremely concerned about the foods available to me at the grocery store (and farmers markets) and I am extremely concerned about the impact on the environment of large, unsustainably maintained farms.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Anita Mills

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