From: Donna Bonetti <donnambirdlady@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2009 7:41 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. This means there are fewer varieties of crops and livestock to choose from in the stores. Many traditional varieties of fruits, grains, vegetables, poultry and livestock are nearing extinction. Just one company, Monsanto, controls the majority of seeds in the US, and regularly threatens farmers who don't buy its seeds.

Even more troubling is that Monsanto sells chemicals and GMO seeds. Some of these are banned in other countries but are sold in US stores without warning labels in spite of international studies which show the health hazards of pesticides and GMO foods.

There is a "revolving door" of personnel between corporate lobbyists and government regulators. No wonder corporations like Monsanto aren't held to strict standards

Our 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. This must change for the health of American people and to protect our land, air and water.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Donna Bonetti

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