

From: Jennifer Vaughan <jencocoa@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, December 18, 2009 7:40 AM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Comments

I am writing because I am concerned about the lack of competition in agricultural markets. With only 5 companies controlling 80% of the global food supply, I worry that we are only one bad season from catastrophic food insecurity. And with fewer and fewer companies producing fewer and fewer types of food, we are running into startling pandemic nutritional concerns and sadly, we are losing genetic diversity in our food supply. Food is becoming more expensive and healthy food is almost unaffordable for even the average American. Worse, our precious farmers are disappearing as they cave to insurmountable pressure applied by big agriculture.

Also troubling is the inability to make informed decisions as a consumer. I know companies like Monsanto don't want to have to label their genetically modified foods, but consumers certainly deserve a transparent market from which they can decide with their dollars how their food is produced. Give this power back to the people! How can the markets be free if such basic information is held hostage by only a few companies.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Vaughan

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