

**From:** joan estes <joanestes@tx.rr.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 18, 2009 8:34 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.

We are promised we have the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. So how can a farmer be happy when he is bullied into a relationship with a company that is controlling everything he/she does? It's like Monsanto is the mafia of agriculture and in turn controls what kind of food we eat. I would like to know about the food I eat since I'm paying for it. I don't like it that the government is in bed with lobbyists... good ol' boy relationships are not good. There sure isn't a level playing field for the farmers in all this. There needs to be some serious changes taking place in agriculture like making it safe for the consumer as well as safe for our planet. People will always need to eat but we should not just be fed like cattle!

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely, Joan Estes

joan estes

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