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**To:** ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Comment

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US Department of Justice

Dear US Department of Justice:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments in advance of the Department of Justice's workshops on "Agriculture and Antitrust Enforcement Issues in Our 21st Century Economy."

As an organic consumer, I am particularly concerned about Monsanto's control over the seed supply-- not only of the United States but of the world. I make a conscious effort to avoid all GMO products after doing extensive personal research on the massive negative impact those products have on our health. It is no coincidence that the worsening epidemics of cancer, diabetes, degenerative diseases, et.al. can be directly correlated to the increasing amounts of crop manipulation and chemicals we're subjected to, to satisfy Monsanto and other chemical companies' insatiable appetites for profit and power, not only over markets but over governments.

By buying seed companies and aggressively patenting life, Monsanto has gained control over as much as 90 percent of seed genetics. This is anti-competitive behavior that skews markets and subjects farmers and consumers to the unchecked power of a company that can raise prices at will and forcefully inflict the hazards of their profit driven poisons on all of us.

Monsanto has acquired a diverse store of seed genetics, yet they are only making available a few seeds that are genetically modified to be dependent on their own toxic chemicals.

The vast bounty of food crops that farmers have cultivated and improved upon over the last 10,000 or so years should not be allowed to be bought up and put out of commission by a company bent on whittling down food varieties to a few pesticide-dependent genetically modified crops. Human agriculture should not be pirated by one corporation whose sole concern is profit...at the cost of the health of the people of the world.

The most devious part of Monsanto's business model is that their Frankenseeds can cross-pollinate with organic and traditional varieties, destroying their unique characteristics and infecting them with genetically engineered chemical dependence or even "Terminator" or "Traitor" technology that renders seeds sterile, a literal death sentence for seeds maintained through conventional breeding.

The same way we protect animal species from extinction, we must protect plant species, especially the tens of thousands of food varieties, from companies like Monsanto that are consciously eliminating them.

I urge you to please include in your investigation a consideration of the importance keeping seeds, the foundation of human life, at least in the marketplace, if not in the public domain where they truly belong.

Sincerely,

Nancy Champion