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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:

Thanks for allowing me to submit comments in advance of DOJ workshops on "Agriculture and Antitrust Enforcement Issues in Our 21st Century Economy."

I am very concerned about Monsanto controlling seed supply. As an avid gardener, I also favor organic produce grown without pesticides.

In their outrageous corporate endeavor to patent life itself, Monsanto has now gained control over 90 percent of seed genetics. This anti-competitive behavior skews world markets, subjecting farmers and consumers to their unchecked power that also raises food costs at will.

Though Monsanto has accessed a wide variety of seed genetics, they make available a few genetically modified dependent on their chemicals.

The vast bounty of food crops farmers have cultivated and improved over the last 10,000 years should not be permitted to be snared, bought up and put out of commission by this corporation bent on whittling down food varieties to a few pesticide-dependent genetically modified crops.

The most devious part of Monsanto's strategy is, their Frankenseeds too often cross-pollinate with organic and traditional varieties. This effectively ruins their unique traits and infects them with genetically engineered chemical dependence or even "Terminator" or "Traitor" tech, rendering seeds sterile. This is a literal death sentence for seeds maintained by conventional breeding.

Just as we protect animal species from extinction, we ought to protect plant species, especially the tens of thousands of food varieties, from rapacious and unethical companies like Monsanto which are actively eliminating them.

Please include in your investigation a clear look at the clear relevance keeping seeds, the foundation of human life, at least in the marketplace, if not in the public domain where they truly belong.

Sincerely,

Gail Camhi
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