

From: jordanmaclay@quantumfields.com
Sent: Friday, December 18, 2009 2:28 PM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Comment

Jordan Maclay
20876 Wildflower Lane
Richland Center, WI 53581-8554

December 18, 2009

US Department of Justice

Dear US Department of Justice:

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

I eat lots of organic food and live in an area in which much organic produce is grown so I am particularly concerned about Monsanto's extensive control over the seed supply.

By acquiring seed companies, aggressively going after independent seed cleaners with their legal powerhouse, and patenting genes, 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 shut down any opposition with its legal division and nuisance suits.

I am concerned that Monsanto has acquired a diverse store of seed genetics but they are only making available a few seeds that are genetically modified to be dependent on their 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.

The most devious part of Monsanto's business model is that their GMO seeds 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 GMO seeds contaminate nearby organic crops, and, to add insult to injury, Monsanto even prosecutes the nearby farmers for stealing their seeds!!

The same way we protect animal species from extinction, we should protect plant species, especially the tens of thousands of food varieties, from companies like Monsanto that are consciously eliminating them. You never know what seeds may be critical as environmental conditions change.

Monsanto's mission is to gain even greater control of the food supply and make more money, not to be of real service to farmers and consumers.

Monsanto may cause irreparable damage to the food chain with its GMO seeds, stresses on fertilizer and herbicides. No long term studies have been conducted on the effects of these products, and in two generations we may have dire problems.

Monsanto caused the death of tens of thousands of Indians and just walked away paying a pittance for a fine.

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,

Jordan Maclay
6086476769