

From: Joy Hearten-Johnson <namastebella@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, December 18, 2009 4:42 PM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Comments

I am writing because I am concerned about the lack of competition in agricultural markets.

I first learned about Monsanto while taking an Indigenous Politics college class at the University of Hawaii. Once I learned about how this company is smothering out small business farmers, taking them to court with lawsuits claiming that they are illegally using Monsanto's GMO seeds, I was enraged. This kind of treatment for farmers is morally wrong, I believe Monsanto has terrible business practices because they do not take care of the earth, or other human beings with their actions. GMO's are unhealthy for people and livestock they are fed to. Monsanto needs to be stopped from doing more damage to local farm economies, plant and animal health and the health of the earth, rivers and water tables. People make the claim that since GMO crops can be produced in such high quantities, that it is a great thing to help stop world hunger, but what is not taken into account is the fact that the nutritional value of GMO crops is completely inferior to the nutrition of organic and naturally grown foods. Feeding people empty calories is not giving them what they need.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Joy Hearten-Johnson

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