

**From:** bob.moseley@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Friday, December 18, 2009 5:28 PM  
**To:** ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Comment

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Bob Moseley  
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December 18, 2009

US Department of Justice

Dear US Department of Justice:

Thanks for the opportunity to submit a comment prior to your workshops on "Agriculture and Antitrust Enforcement Issues in Our 21st Century Economy."

As a health and environmentally conscious consumer, I am very concerned about Monsanto's control over the seed supply, as well as the control of other huge agri-businesses over our food supply.

Considering Monsanto's actions in buying up seed genetics and patenting life (which I disagree with and believe should never have been allowed), they have shown the world that they are aggressively anti-competitive. Small local farms are on the verge of extinction in this nation due to the monopoly Monsanto is creating with their genetically modified seeds, and they even go so far as to sue and drive out of business farmers who did nothing more wrong than have their traditional crops cross-pollinated with Monsanto's seeds.

These, and other actions by Monsanto, make it very clear that their goal is to control the food supply from the very beginning, and that is a dangerous thing indeed. The whole idea of a free, competitive economy is based on having lots of options, and having information about those options freely available to consumers. When huge businesses like Monsanto begin to be the rule instead of the exception, we have neither choice nor information as consumers. Information and concern for the consumer disappears completely behind the faceless corporate logo.

Consider the efforts Monsanto has put forth to disallow labeling of their GMO products. If they truly had nothing to hide and had the consumers' best interests at heart, they would have no problem letting the consumer make a fully informed decision.

In addition, these mega corporations can also wield a dangerous level of political influence due to their sheer size and level of resources. When our national policies are being shaped (and indeed written) by the very corporations that stand to benefit from them, the playing field is no longer level. It becomes decidedly tilted toward the company's favor, and away from the good of the consumer.

As part of your investigation I would at a minimum ask you to consider the importance of keeping traditional seeds in the marketplace and limiting the control companies have over this form of life. In fact, they have forever been part of the public domain and should remain so. No company, country, or person should be allowed to own and control something that is essentially un-ownable. It's like patenting air or water.

Sincerely,

Bob Moseley  
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