

**From:** William Reid <reid-w@sbcglobal.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 18, 2009 7:14 PM  
**To:** ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Comments

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I am writing because I am very concerned about how food is grown in the U.S.

I eat only organic food and only grass fed meat. The reason for this is that I believe traditional methods of agriculture are both unsafe and unsustainable. The introduction of highly toxic pesticides into the air and earth is indefensible and only necessary because of modern industrial agriculture that favors huge monocultural farms. If you have diversity you have more resistance to pests. If you have monoculture and the pesticides that go with it you end up with super pests.

Companies like Monsanto owning seeds to me is just totally outrageous and dangerous. Farmers throughout time have taken seeds from the previous year to sow in the following year. If Monsanto has its way, they will outlaw this practice and will be the owners of everybody's food source.

Don't farmers have the right to grow food in a manner that is safe for them and their workers?

Don't the public have the right to know what they are eating?

Do we really want to eat food grown in chemical fertilizers and sprayed with highly toxic substances.

Please do something to support sustainable organic farming methods and curb the monopolistic practices of Monsanto and other big agricultural chemical companies.

Yours sincerely,

William Reid

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