

**From:** jessica\_bayer@msn.com  
**Sent:** Friday, December 18, 2009 9:38 PM  
**To:** ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Concerned over Monsanto control

---

Jessica Miles  
6304 Lucerne St.  
Jupiter, FL 33458-6406

December 18, 2009

US Department of Justice

Dear US Department of Justice:

I appreciate the opportunity to share our personal impact stories, and also thank you for the opportunity to submit comments in advance of the Department of Justice's workshops on "Agriculture and Antitrust Enforcement Issues in Our 21st Century Economy."

As an organic consumer, I am particularly concerned about Monsanto's control over the seed supply.

By buying seed companies and aggressively patenting life, 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.

But, my main concern is that, while Monsanto has acquired a diverse store of seed genetics, 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 Frankenseeds can 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 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.

I urge you to please include in your investigation a consideration of the importance of keeping seeds, the foundation of human life, at least in the marketplace, if not in the public domain where they truly belong. I do not

believe that a single company should have such control over the sustenance of life. The patenting of life should not be legal for one, but also, the uncontrolled spread of genetically modified seed should be outlawed. In the past, when say a new rancher moved into town, they would put up a fence to keep them out of the neighbors yards and that allowed the protection of the neighbors own property, but now with the genetically modified seeds they can litterally travel on the wind and infest neighboring properties. Then the ironic thing is, the large companies can sue and decimate the livelihoods of that neighbor stating that they are in a patent breech by hosting genetically modified seeds on their property. This is outrageous. It should be the genetically modified seed supplier that has to insure that their seeds are not spread to anothers property. So please take into consideration the flaws in the current system, the monopolizing of the food industry, and the inherent dangers of out-of-control spreading of genetically modified seed. If you don't act immediatly the consequences could spiral out of control.

Sincerely,

Jessica Miles