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To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Comment

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December 18, 2009

US Department of Justice

Dear US Department of Justice:

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, and gardener 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 anticompetitive behavior that skews markets and subjects farmers and consumers to the unchecked power of a company that can raise prices at will. We do not need big corporations dictating to the organic gardeners and farmers what seeds that they can purchase, or how to work their gardens. Monsanto has too much garbage, and poisons for public use. As that company grows the health of America deteriorates.

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 health of America depends upon Organic gardeners and farmers having proper access to non-chemical dependent seed varieties.

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 just because they can make more money that way.

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 keeping seeds, the foundation of human life, and good health, at least in the marketplace, if not in the public domain where they truly belong. Seeds should never have to be the sole property of ANY connivingly monstrous company like Monsanto. These natural seeds need to be made available to all organic gardeners and farmers so that they can have the healthiest plants available.

Monsanto seems to want to be one of those companies that are too big to fail, such as AIG, but this is one time that a corrupt corporation needs to FAIL. as their policies are poisoning the people of this nation and creating foodless plants that the human body cannot assimilate properly. With the conflict of interest that Monsanto engages in, their poisons kill the human anatomy, and the company produces more chemical "cures" that poison the body even more. The company needs to be STOPPED before the nation's health deteriorates even further. Money is not the answer here.

Sincerely,

Gerald B. Gulliver