

**From:** desertdovedesigns@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Friday, December 18, 2009 10:43 PM  
**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, I am particularly concerned about Monsanto's control over the seed supply. I work in a Health Food Store and have educated myself over the past 13 years as to the advantages of clean, unadulterated food supply. I am a consumer consultant teaching my customers about the biohazards of pesticides, growth hormones, anti-biotics and GMO seed-stock foods. I am an advocate against the Codex Alimentarius which mandates that all nations who are members of the World Trade Organization come into global compliance with the regulations imposed upon internationally traded foods and supplements and whose Committee membership boards consist of Big Pharm, and Big Chemical Agra concerns like Monsanto. Monsanto insinuates their control into Trade Regulatory Boards like Codex Alimentarius which is supposed to be overseen by the likes of the World Health Organization. Mandating practices for the growth and trade of genetically modified contaminated food (even in food labelled ORGANIC!) is the very antithesis of good health! Monsanto must be stopped!

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 the strong-armed tactics of this 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 keeping seeds, the foundation of human life, at least in the marketplace, if not in the public domain where they truly belong. And please protect our National Standards of uncontaminated foods by stopping the United Nations from accepting Codex Alimentarius' mandates for global compliance.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Joy Fanning