

From: Mona Exinger <monaexinger@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 20, 2009 4:53 PM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Agricultural Antitrust Enforcement Issues

I am a small business owner--producer of homemade ice cream--in Oregon, & am writing to urge the enforcement of antitrust action against monopolistic corporate agriculture (Monsanto is the best example of this).

Due to our personal & our customers' increased concern over what's in our food, we are committed to avoid harmful ingredients. Unfortunately, this is becoming ever more difficult. The shortcuts that monopolistic corporate agriculture takes in production, including genetically-modified ingredients, among others, results in a nightmarish pinball game of dodging away from questionable "food" products. First we avoided corn syrup, as it's normally made with GMO corn, & turned to sugar as a sweetener. However, the recent introduction of GMO sugar beets forced us again to redirect our purchases into items containing only cane sugar, which so far, is non-GMO...but for how long? Please understand this is only the tip of the iceberg of concerns, due to space limitations.

The current monopoly in corporate agriculture has gone on unchecked far too long. Its headlong rush to introduce new "patented" food ingredients & force them on an often inadequately-informed public (& often an unwilling public, as well!) must stop. Please take action on this important issue as soon as possible.

Thank you for your patience & attention. I appreciate the opportunity to submit my views.

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