

From: jlm108@embarqmail.com
Sent: Monday, December 21, 2009 9:58 AM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Comment

J. L. MacIsaac
156 Mill Creek Drive
Charlottesville, VA 22902-8713

December 21, 2009

US Department of Justice

Dear US Department of Justice:

Please read my advance comments below for the Dept of Justice's workshops on "Agriculture and Antitrust Enforcement Issues in Our 21st Century Economy."

As an organic consumer, I am extremely concerned about Monsanto's domination over the seed supply and its effects on my personal freedom and that of every American. Monsanto is only making available a few seeds that are genetically modified to be dependent on their chemicals.

By buying seed companies and aggressively patenting life, Monsanto has gained control over as much as 90 percent of seed genetics, with the ability to impose its will on farmers and consumers. 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.

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 must protect plant species, especially the tens of thousands of food varieties, from companies like Monsanto that are consciously eliminating them.

I strongly urge you to include in your investigation a consideration of the importance of keeping seeds, the foundation of human life in the public domain where they belong.

Sincerely,

