

From: Mary Douglas <Marydouglas@optonline.net>
Sent: Monday, December 21, 2009 11:16 PM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Comments

I am writing because I am concerned about the lack of competition in agricultural markets. America has a HUGE Food problem- the average American does not know where their food comes from or how it was produced and does not get the right to know that it is genetically modified and it is unhealthy for them. Quite a few Americans do not have access to healthy NonGM unprocessed food, or simple healthy whole foods because of the fact that there is such a monopoly of GM seed companies & processors.

? Prices are rising at the supermarket, but you've heard that farmers are struggling -- and big food companies have made record profits this year.

? Food is grown and raised in ways that are terrible for the environment, with methods that pollute the water, poison the soil, and threaten our long-term food security.

? What's in our food, anyway? More and more science based studies that are not industry funded are coming out saying that these foods are not safe for human or animal consumption- so why are only industry funded studies which are not based in sound science needed to put these Transgenic products on the market for human and animal consumption.. And why aren't there decent labels telling you where it grew, what chemicals are on it, and if it's genetically modified?

? Just one company, Monsanto, controls the majority of seeds in the US, and regularly threatens farmers who don't buy its seeds.

? There is a "revolving door" of personnel between corporate lobbyists and government regulators. No wonder corporations aren't held to strict standards.

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Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Mary Douglas

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