

From: Eve Brawner <eve@harlequinsgardens.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 22, 2009 12:05 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.

As home gardener, I experience Monsanto/Syngenta's control of the seed market for food crops when successful varieties I had depended on for years are taken off the market by Monsanto, and no other growers are permitted to grow and market that variety.

As the owner of a plant nursery, I experience great frustration that Monsanto's secrecy prevents me from finding out which seed varieties are Syngenta's exclusively, and which are not. Our nursery has always been dedicated to organic practices, and we have no interest in supporting Monsanto in any way, as they have been such a destructive force in the world. Monsanto is constantly working to weaken or eliminate organic standards. They threaten farmers around the world who don't want to buy seed from them. They write agricultural policy to insure their own advantage to the detriment and endangerment of farmers, consumers, health, and land and ecosystems world-wide.

Monsanto, Cargill, ADM and the like are responsible for the long-term ruination and mortification of the soil, the degradation of the environment, promoting and requiring farming practices that pollute the water, poison the soil, kill beneficial organisms, and threaten our long-term food security.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Eve Brawner

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