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Sent: Tuesday, December 22, 2009 3:23 PM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: My comments about how corporate control of the food system affects me.

Corporate control of our means of producing and distributing our nation's food is in drastic and immediate need of change. We cannot continue to produce our food the way we have for the last 40 years. Industrialization of the farm has been the number one source of pollution that is creating global warming on our continent. It is highly destructive to soils, watersheds, farm families and their health. We need to return to small local family farms for garden vegetables and fruits using organic methods. For large crop monoculture we need to change to rotated crops whether for growing or foraging and companion planting and other methods of protecting the soils. Also, the market place and our heavy-handed chemical industry has pushed genetic seeds on our farmers at the detriment of their economic model and the health of the people who eat these foods. For example, ven if one buys only organic corn, at this stage, there is no way ANY farmer can guarantee that a crop of corn does NOT contain genetically manipulated stock. This is very disturbing, particularly because genetically grown corn has been proven to be indigestable by humans!

I call on you and everyone agency you work with to make these changes using well documented and shown new organic methods that are actually producing bigger crop yields, and, more importantly, foods with higher nutrient content than conventionally grown foods.