

From: Chris Baird <cbaird2@uoregon.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, December 23, 2009 11:49 AM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Comments

I am writing because I am concerned about the lack of competition in agricultural markets.

Small local farms produce more food per acre than industrial farms and use land, water, and fossil fuels more efficiently. Industrial agricultural farming in the US is the leading source of water pollution, the biggest water consumer and the main cause of soil erosion.

Centralization of agriculture on factory farms exposes us to tremendous food security risks. Breaking the stranglehold of corporations such as Monsanto and diversification of food production would provide a measure of protection from disasters.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Chris Baird

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