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Sent: Thursday, December 24, 2009 7:23 AM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: corporate control of agriculture

I am a farmer in Indiana and I grow corn, wheat, and soybeans. I have changed seed companies several times over the last 12 years because of lack of choice in the seed varieties. There are three varieties of soybeans that I can plant of which are public varieties and I can save seed to replant the next year. Of these varieties one came from the Illinois foundation seeds four years ago, and now they are not in production so I am limited as to which variety I can plant. I do not plant gmo, or herbicide tolerant soybeans because in the early years these gmo soybeans would not yield as well as conventional or non gmos. In 2004 Monsanto's investigators arrived on my farm to question me! Why me? I do not plant their products, and I have not signed one of their seed agreements. Monsanto's attorney went as far as to say that they have an agreement with the Indiana Department of Agriculture. There was only one problem Indiana did not have a department of agriculture yet! I answered all of Monsanto's questions yet they would not answer any of my questions! Some of the new seed contracts, Dow, Syngenta, Bayer, and Monsanto can not be terminated and it is so stated in the contract, and farmers sign these without having an attorney look these over. When these companies attack the farmers we do not have enough money to fight so most farmers pay their demands with cash. Please have these companies produce the paper work of how much money they have collected from the farmers at their kitchen tables!

These seed/chemical companies have a strong hold on the farmers here and around the world. Yes this is a world problem and I believe the world will be watching us on this issue. Thank you for your time and I hope to be in Iowa.

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