

**From:** Mira van Zwaaij <mvanzwaaij@yahoo.ca>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 25, 2009 1:26 PM  
**To:** ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Comments

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I am writing because I am concerned about the lack of competition in agricultural markets. It is so frustrating that Monsanto, controls the majority of seeds in the US & is regularly threatening farmers who don't buy its seeds. This seems so unfair. What happened to "freedom"? Everyone should be able to make their own decisions as to where they want to do business.

The labelling on our foods are very misleading. We should know where it was grown, what chemicals (if any) are on it, & if it is genetically modified. Why do we not have that choice? I choose to eat organic as often as possible & usually from a source that I have researched & is reputable.

It doesn't seem fair to the farmers that they are struggling to make money when the prices of food have gone up over the years. It seems that the little guy always gets the short end of the stick. Why does the bigger corporation get to make so much profit. I think that farmers should be treated more fairly with regards to money as well as not being harassed for making what they feel is the right choice. It is not right that they are being "bullied" by Monsanto.

The ways that Monsanto is controlling how food is grown & raised is right. Many of the practices that farmers are made to employ by Monsanto are not safe, sanitary, or good for our health. They threaten our long-term food security. There is no thought given to the long-term effects on food security.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Mira van Zwaaij

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