

**From:** kaisertraining@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 26, 2009 12:43 AM  
**To:** ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Concerns About Monsanto

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December 26, 2009

US Department of Justice

Dear US Department of Justice:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments in advance of the Department of Justice's workshops on "Agriculture and Antitrust Enforcement Issues in Our 21st Century Economy."

As an organic consumer, I am particularly concerned about Monsanto's control over the seed supply.

By buying seed companies and aggressively patenting life, Monsanto has gained control over as much as 90 percent of seed genetics. This is anti-competitive behavior that skews markets and subjects farmers and consumers to the unchecked power of a company that undermines the values of the American political, justice and social order.

But, my main concern is that, while Monsanto has acquired a diverse store of seed genetics, they are only making available a few seeds that are genetically modified to be dependent on their chemicals, as well as threatening the traditional farming structure upon which America has so deeply depended since the unification of this country.

The vast bounty of food crops that farmers have cultivated and improved upon over the last 10,000 or so years should not be allowed to be bought up and put out of commission by a company. Food is NOT a business. It is the most essential aspect to sustaining human life; we are quickly seeing the catastrophic effects of chemical tampering of our food supply and we must legally protect from the entire absolution of this elemental necessity.

I urge you to please include in your investigation a consideration of the importance keeping seeds, the foundation of human life, at least in the marketplace, if not in the public domain where they truly belong. Furthermore, since Monsanto IS a corporation, we need to employ the monopoly-regulation measures that protect free-market and ensure justice. Let us maintain the values that America was founded on- life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness- our food is where we start.

Sincerely,

Julie Baumgardner