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**Sent:** Saturday, December 26, 2009 3:21 PM  
**To:** ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Comments

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To Whom It May Concern

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

I am concerned that there are only a handful of companies owning the whole market, with Monsanto being the largest and most powerful one.

It is a scary thing that a handful of companies hold the power on what to grow, how to grow, what seeds to use (genetically modified) etc. This is the power over life and death, for our food supply determines just that. This may be a slow death, but since old fashioned, unadulterated foods have in them all that is needed to live a healthy and wonderful life, but when something is tampered with, the balance is gone or some (or a lot of) nutrients are gone. These companies have the power to make these changes and force us to eat and drink these products if there is nothing else anymore, products that the body does not recognize and make us slowly sick.

These powers are too big for a few companies and they should be share with all of us, not just a few. All people should have the choice of what they are eating through the choice in whom we buy from; a larger company or a small farmer, who has been allowed to grow his own seed, in his own way, in his own time, without pressure from a large company.

The power that a large company has, who has the sole right on a specific seed and can sue other, smaller companies/farmers when some of its seed pollinates the non-genetically modified seeds and gets away with that, is scary and wrong. It is also not in the best interest of all people, of good farming techniques, of business, of the environment, of wildlife, of our water supply and of many other facets of life.

We do not know how the way we grow our foods impacts our environment, our water supply, our wildlife, our soil and other parts of our life and waiting to find out, by allowing these big companies to take over and in the end not being able to go back to how things were, because we blew it, is not acceptable and will be a consequence that I am not willing to allow to happen

I hope you are willing to look at what is happening with an open mind and really rethink these policies. Our future and our life and our survival as a species is at stake.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Kitty Clemens, RHN NNCP

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