

**From:** Cathy Gaccione <fritzie@fritziemusic.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 28, 2009 10:27 AM  
**To:** ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** corporate control of agriculture

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Hello - I am a recently retired woman. I grew up in Illinois, corn country and have observed many changes which have occurred with food production. When I was growing up there was more diversity in crops grown, more small family farms which were sustainable. Now the diversity is diminishing, control of crops and seeds is done without concern for local markets and needs and conditions. It is controlled perhaps by farm subsidies, I don't know. I do know that the availability of local fresh produce is much less than I would like and that I recall from earlier in my life. I know that the health of our nation is diminishing and obesity is a huge problem and I think the way we grow, harvest, sell and advertise food is all part of the problem.

Please don't allow corporations to control any more of the farming situation than they do. I trust my neighbors but not coporations governed by motives other than health and wellness and diversity of crops and nourishment of the soil as well as our bodies.

Thank you  
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