

From: Georgia Allen <hallen3466@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, December 28, 2009 1:35 PM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Comments

I am writing because I am concerned about the lack of competition in agricultural markets. I see one huge company, Monsanto, controlling the seeds,(limiting biodiversity), controlling the way farmers grow the seeds, (requiring them to sign contracts to buy RoundUp),adding to the degradation of the environment , harming wildlife and introducing potentially dangerous and irreversible genetic traits into the entire web of life from smallest to largest. I see no government oversight of this company. On the other hand, I see my elected representatives spouting the company myth that they are going to "feed the world". I see a revolving door between government oversight agencies and the industry they oversee. This is discouraging. I need to pay a huge premium to buy all my food organic to avoid the genetically adulterated items, the corn, soy, canola etc. that appear in most processed foods and supplements. So, Monsanto and big ag rake in huge profits while small farmers struggle. Its the food produced by these small organic farms that I want it buy and it is very hard to find it. And isn't it rather telling that the Monsanto cafeteria does not offer any GMO foods?

Then there are the CAFOs polluting, abusing animals and overusing antibiotics and growth hormones. To avoid all of this I need to pay a huge premium for organic meat, and run all over town to find it.

Bottom line:, monopolies, as we are seeing them in food production threaten our lives and our long term food security

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Georgia Allen

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