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Sent: Monday, December 28, 2009 11:01 PM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: comments on competition in agriculture

1. farmers can't be held liable for environmental contamination of their crops by modified genetic material. since it's been shown that genes are promiscuous, it's the responsibility of the owner of the modified genetic material to keep it sequestered. farmers must have the right to save any seeds they wish, for use on their own farms.
2. small business exemptions should be available to small-scale slaughterhouses and butchering operations. consumers must have the right to invest in these for their own collective use if they wish.
3. small business exemptions should be available to processors using traditional value-added processes such as raw-milk cheese, as well as traditional fermentation and curing methods. again, consumers must have the right to invest in such efforts if they wish.
4. non-management staff at large CAFOs and slaughterhouses should be unionized.
5. antibiotics for livestock weight gain must be banned. antibiotics therapies must be limited to animals which are NOT living in crowded or stressful conditions.
6. corn should not be used to make ethanol for fuel.
7. it should be legal for individuals to butcher dogs and other pets for personal consumption.
8. nitrogen pollution from over-fertilization must stop.
9. agricultural areas must include wild areas for ecological resilience and diversity.

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