

**From:** Gregory Smith <gregory.d.smith@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 29, 2009 1:55 PM  
**To:** ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Corporate control of our food

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Hello, my name is Greg Smith and I am a gardener who is concerned about how our food is coming under control of corporations.

With the consolidation of corporate power over our food, I am becoming more concerned over what I am able to feed my family.

My first concern is that food borne illness like E. Coli seems to be on the rise. With more and more food being processed in the huge factories, it is much easier for contamination to spread.

Secondly, I'm worried about contaminating the environment with genetically modified organisms. It terrifies me to think about the potential health risks that could surface due to these GMO foods entering the food stream.

My largest concern is about the seeds that I am able to purchase for my own garden. I have a moral objection to tampering with genetics. Because of this objection, I will not purchase my seeds from anyone that also markets genetically modified seeds. Because of the buying spree that companies like Monsanto have gone on, my choices are limited even further. Last year, Monsanto purchased Seminis, this is one of the largest suppliers of organic seeds. This means that I can no longer purchase seeds from Johnny's, Territorial, Fedco, Nichol's, Rupp, Osborne, Snow, and Stokes.

It will just be a matter of time before people with moral or religious objections to tampering with Mother Nature's creations have no choice but to buy from these companies.

Thank you for giving the little guy a chance to speak out about this subject. This matter has been ignored for too long because of the money and lobbyists that these companies are able to throw at the issue.

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