

**From:** Marina Mautner <mmautner@ucsc.edu>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 29, 2009 9:10 PM  
**To:** ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Comment on corporate control of America's food

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I am a student in California and I am worried about the consolidation of corporate power in the food and agriculture sector. While I generally have access to local and organic produce in Santa Cruz, I see millions of people around me who do not have that opportunity.

I feel that my food is not secure in the hands of those who are driven by profit rather than concern for public and environmental health. I am afraid that cancer rates will continue to rise as our produce remains tainted by toxic chemicals. I am afraid that my children will not know that food comes from the ground and is reliant upon the ecological systems of the earth and not just a given at the grocery store. As corporations maintain control over our food system we are plagued by rapidly decreasing diversity in our food. Farmers are losing their choice to plant what they want or what is best for the nation and are moving toward what the corporation needs to stay in power.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit comments as this is a matter that causes me great concern. This is our food and sustenance and it needs to be ours not the corporations'.

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