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**Sent:** Tuesday, December 29, 2009 10:02 PM  
**To:** ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** I Want Fresh Local Food - not Agri-Business Plastic Food!

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Gentlemen:

I want to be able to buy fresh local food. I'm tired of looking at the same three kinds of apples at the supermarket: Delicious, Granny Smith and Fuji. There were 72 different kinds of apples at our local county fair. I want them, or at least some of them!

There are people raising local beef, lamb and chicken within 20 miles of me. The only place I can buy it is on Saturday at the Farmers Market. My local independent grocery store cannot buy from them because their animals aren't slaughtered at a USDA facility. There isn't a USDA facility anywhere near us.

We raise egg-layer chickens and sell our eggs at the local farmers market. Our chickens free range on pasture all day. They have never been in a cage. Their eggs bear no resemblance whatsoever to pseudo-eggs that are sold in supermarkets. Millions of children in the country are growing up not even knowing what a real egg tastes like. On price we can't compete with factories raising chickens in an 8.5in x 11in cage. Our chicken poop goes on the compost heap to fertilize our vegetable garden. Our chicken litter is not being fed to cows as part of their feed! Any farmer in his right mind will tell you YOU DON'T FEED POOP to your animals!

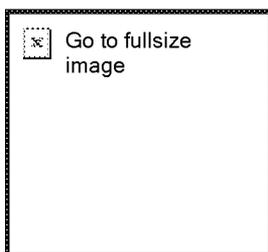
Agri-business and super-processors like Cargill are preventing Americans from accessing real food and the U.S. government is helping them with subsidies.

Start subsidizing small farmers who raise and grow real food. Make it easier for small farmers to sell direct to customers instead of making them jump through hoops made to regulate giant factory farms.

Americans are tired of eating plastic factory food - we want the real thing.

Janet Texas

**Farm Fresh Eggs From  
Pastured Hens  
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**I support local farmers.**