

From: Larry & Mary Loomis <mlloomis@fidnet.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 30, 2009 11:38 AM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Comments Regarding Agriculture and Antitrust Enforcement Issues in Our 21st Century Economy

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a gardener and small farmer located in rural Missouri. I am expressing my concern regarding the consolidation of corporate power in the food and agriculture sector. The continued, and increased, "push" towards eliminating small food producers is taking its toll on average citizens and small businesses, whether it be through higher prices at the grocery store or small farms going out of business. The simplest example I can give is my trying to market an overabundance of my homegrown produce at my local grocer - it's nearly impossible due to rules, regulations and restraints, despite my price to the grocer being decidedly lower than something produced by a corporate grower.

Please consider how much the everyday life of everyday people changes based upon decisions made outside of our sphere of existence during your upcoming hearings. We do not have the lobbying abilities of larger groups, but I hope our combined words, e-mails and letters are considered.

Thank you for your time.

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