

From: Lauren McDonald <menzallol@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 31, 2009 9:52 AM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Comments

Corporate control of agriculture is most likely the single most prominent issue that I worry about in our country. There is no accountability in our current system, as the government agencies concerned with agriculture are staffed by former employees or lobbyists from agribusiness giants like Monsanto. More importantly, the diverse range of products owned by these companies essentially negates any impact the choices consumers make may have. They may think they are buying an environmentally sustainable product, when in fact they are supporting a much larger enterprise that employs uncounted numbers of environmentally damaging practices a year. This is an unfair attempt to eliminate the power of the consumer through inadequate labeling and deception. I would like to see stricter regulation of these companies, as well as the elimination of some of their more insidious practices.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Lauren McDonald

Lauren McDonald

, 14586