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Sent: Monday, December 21, 2009 7:54 AM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Monsanto

Why does Monsanto charge such high tech fees? Their response is that they need to fund new traits that will help us. Also when they come out with new traits, they say that the fees are so much higher to offset what they have spent already-but we have been helping pay for a lot of it already with increased fees.

I don't think the high tech fees have any correlation to the cost. Monsanto pays for surveys (which I have been called on) that asks how much technology is increasing yields. It seems funny that the new tech fees almost always amount to the increased yield. Yes the yields are increasing, but the tech fees are eating up all the increased profit. Last year my plot showed a 10 bu/acre increase for a VT3 triple stack version of a hybrid over the same hybrid without the genes. When I figured up the cost/profit per acre, the conventional hybrid came out \$1/acre more profit. The 10 bushel increase was given back to the company in tech fees. Monsanto keeps running commercials telling farmers how much they are helping us, but they just keep adding to our cost by increasing cost of traited seed every year.

**Have a nice day 812-614-0389
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'In God We Trust'**