From: Margaret Sowerwine <lalamusic130@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, December 21, 2009 7:21 PM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Farmers deserve fair markets

Thank you for planning hearings to address concentration of ownership in American agriculture. As a physician specializing in Public Health, I am particularly concerned about some aspects of industrial farming which may affect Americans without their realizing.

From the farmers I talk to at our local Farmers'Market, it sounds as if small farmers have a hard time competing. Just as an example, by law a USDA inspector must have a separate bathroom facility, which many small farms would not ordinarily have.

Thank you again for planning these hearings. They can be an important step as the Justice Department and the USDA work to restore fairness and competition.

Sincerely,