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Sent: Tuesday, December 29, 2009 8:07 PM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Break up monopoly in the food industry

The various near-monopolies in the food and seed industry need to be broken up. Monopolistic practices need to be outlawed, and the enforcement funded.

Our food supply is endangered by genetic mutations that have not been tested for safety of consumers nor safety of the ecosystem. Suicide genes escaping into related species is potentially earth threatening. Massive prophylactic use of antibiotics in food animals and fish puts the evolution of antibiotic resistant bacteria on steroids.

Local and small farmers need an opportunity to survive without being strangled by big food agribusiness. Local food is grown greener with less fertilizer and chemicals, and less carbon burned to package, store, and bring food to market.

Food feeds all life. Protect safety in the food business. Break up the monopolies.

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Reference: <http://www.commondreams.org/view/2009/12/28-2>