

**National Farmers Union
2007 Special Order of Business**

Monsanto – Delta Pine and Land Merger

WHEREAS, it is the stated mission of National Farmers Union (NFU) to foster cooperative efforts through which farmers and ranchers might gain bargaining power, market and distribute their products more effectively and purchase supplies more efficiently; within this mission, NFU supports programs of every nature that improve the economic status and enhance the public image of family farmers and ranchers across the country; and

WHEREAS, NFU recognizes that the proposed merger between Monsanto and Delta and Pine Land will have a detrimental impact on cotton farmers and the agricultural businesses in our communities; and

WHEREAS, NFU recognizes this merger will create a monopoly and stifle innovation by allowing Monsanto to foreclose on any of the traits in the research and development pipeline at Delta and Pine Land, leading to reduced research and development, less innovation and fewer choices for producers and allow Monsanto the discretion limit or reduce any traits they acquire, to producers; and

WHEREAS, NFU recognizes the approval of this merger will limit cotton seed choice, because all of the developing Delta and Pine Land seed traits that potentially compete with Monsanto's seeds; and therefore a merger will create one company. Monsanto, as the gatekeeper for existing and new bioengineering technology – guaranteeing that local farmers will be left with no choice.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, National Farmers Union recognizes that additional competing traits pending in the near term can expand farmer's choice, but only if they are not foreclosed from the market by Monsanto.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, NFU encourages Congress and the Department of Justice to investigate this merger and conduct a full and thorough investigation, which will serve to educate congressional members and the general public about the impact this merger would have on farmers and consumers throughout the U.S. We respectfully ask the Senate or House Judiciary committee initiate an investigation which will highlight the detrimental impact this merger, if allowed, will have on family farmers throughout the country. NFU urges Congress and state legislatures to exercise their authority to investigate this transaction and prevent a monopoly from occurring that will have an extremely detrimental impact on family farmers throughout the country.