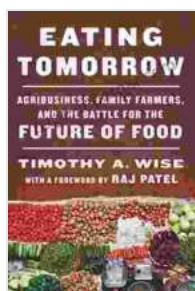


# Agribusiness, Family Farmers, and the Battle for the Future of Food

**Authors Philip H. Howard and Avery Cohn sound the alarm in their new book**

The food and agriculture system is in crisis. A handful of giant agribusiness corporations control a majority of the food we eat, and they are using their power to drive down prices for farmers, exploit workers, and damage the environment. Meanwhile, family farmers are struggling to survive, and consumers are increasingly concerned about the quality and safety of the food they are eating.

In their new book, *Agribusiness, Family Farmers, and the Battle for the Future of Food*, authors Philip H. Howard and Avery Cohn examine the growing concentration of power in the food and agriculture system and its impact on family farmers and consumers. They argue that the current system is unsustainable and that we need to transition to a more just and equitable food system that supports family farmers and local communities.



## **Eating Tomorrow: Agribusiness, Family Farmers, and the Battle for the Future of Food** by Timothy A. Wise

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 6175 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 332 pages



## **The Rise of Agribusiness**

The rise of agribusiness has been driven by a number of factors, including the consolidation of farmland, the development of new technologies, and the globalization of the food trade. As a result of these changes, a handful of giant corporations now control a majority of the food we eat. These corporations include Monsanto, Cargill, Archer Daniels Midland, and Tyson Foods.

Agribusiness corporations use their power to drive down prices for farmers, exploit workers, and damage the environment. They are also lobbying against government regulations that would protect farmers and consumers. As a result, family farmers are struggling to survive, and consumers are increasingly concerned about the quality and safety of the food they are eating.

## **The Impact on Family Farmers**

The rise of agribusiness has had a devastating impact on family farmers. In the past few decades, the number of family farms has declined by more than half. Many family farmers have been forced to sell their land to agribusiness corporations, while others have simply given up farming altogether.

The decline of family farms has had a number of negative consequences. It has led to a loss of rural jobs, a decline in rural communities, and an increase in food insecurity. It has also contributed to the environmental problems associated with industrial agriculture.

## **The Impact on Consumers**

The rise of agribusiness has also had a negative impact on consumers. Agribusiness corporations are using their power to drive down prices for food, but they are not passing those savings on to consumers. In fact, food prices have been rising faster than inflation for the past several years.

In addition, agribusiness corporations are increasingly using genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and other harmful chemicals in their food products. These chemicals have been linked to a number of health problems, including cancer, birth defects, and reproductive problems.

## **The Need for a New Food System**

The current food and agriculture system is unsustainable. It is driving family farmers out of business, harming the environment, and making consumers sick. We need to transition to a new food system that supports family farmers and local communities, and that provides consumers with healthy, affordable food.

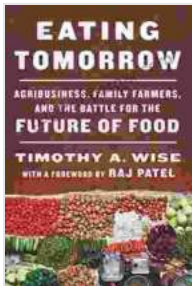
There are a number of ways to transition to a more just and equitable food system. We can support family farmers by buying their products, joining CSAs, and donating to organizations that support sustainable agriculture. We can also advocate for government policies that support family farmers and protect the environment.

By working together, we can create a food system that is good for family farmers, consumers, and the planet.

## **About the Authors**

Philip H. Howard is a professor of law at Michigan State University. He is the author of several books on food and agriculture, including *The Lost Art of Defending Food: Raising Voices for Good Food and the Common Good*.

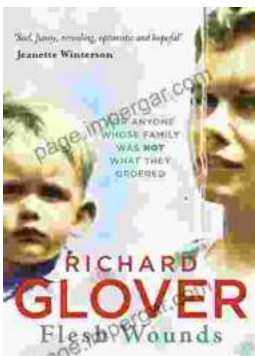
Avery Cohn is a journalist and the author of several books on food and agriculture, including



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