

TO THE COMMITTEE,

I have only had short notice about making this submission so I have enclosed a copy of the submission that I sent to Tom Grosskopf, which outlines some of the problems, inequalities and stupidity of the Native Vegetation Rules as they have affected us.

Several other key points I would also like to add,

We wrote to the NSW minister Carmel Tebbutt and her response was that CMA advised her that we should just give the paddock a rest. By resting this paddock as you can see by the pictures won't break the hard pan or allow any rainfall to penetrate the surface. it will just continue to erode and just blow away in dust creating an even bigger problem for the future. People within Government departments are making decisions, but they coming with little local knowledge or common sense and would achieve far more if they worked with the landholders.

To talk about greenhouse gas abatement measures, the picture of the paddock of lucerne would help CO<sub>2</sub> far more than a dry dusty paddock. All crops are direct drilled with full stubble retention allowing for an increase in our soil organic matter with 12-inch spacings, narrow tynes and points, these days burning stubbles are not even considered by us any more.

To talk about compensation, how do you compensate us, do you buy the 500 acres in question, all that does is make the other 3000 acres of the farm smaller and unviable we are having enough trouble now making a profit. How much of the state do you buy? We produce 1000+ prime lambs, 300+ ton of grain, 50 bales of wool per year. In the years to come where is the food going to come from as the population is still growing.

Bare ground should also be counted in the assessment as it is part of the environment, but it not counted as part of the vegetation presently.

The problem with Native Vegetation is not only with us, but would be very common within Murray Shire affecting many landholders.



14/04/2009

This is some of our country through the fence, note all the dust, lack of vegetation, erosion and all the soil trapped by the fence line yet we are frustrated because we are not allowed to do anything to improve the environment by Native Vegetation guidelines as they presently stand. We know by past experiences that by cropping and introducing ridges, organic matter and lucerne back into the soil is the quickest to improve this situation.