

National Organic Standard Bill 2024

We own and operate “Greenhill Farm”, a family cattle and vegetable growing business near Bungendore NSW. Greenhill Farm been certified Biodynamic by BDRI since 2005. We sell most of our wide range of vegetables and beef direct to the public via farmers’ markets and through our website.

We strongly support the National Organic Standard Bill 2024 for the following reasons:

- . it protects consumers from being misled by false organic and biodynamic claims. In our experience at markets, these bogus claims are very common. Some consumers have sufficient knowledge to properly assess these claims but many do not - they simply assume they are being protected by our laws and regulations.
- . it supports producers (like us) and others who are certified.
- . it helps protect the organic and biodynamic brand - regulation brings integrity to the system.
- . it will help DAFF in equivalence negotiations with trading partners, which will ultimately help organic operators export their product, with benefits to the wider community.
- . it will help protect Australia’s reputation as a country that respects honesty and integrity.

I therefore believe that this Bill is in the interests of organic/biodynamic operators, consumers, and Australia in general. Also, I think the regulation of the terms “organic” and “biodynamic” should apply regardless of the size of the operator. Small operators should not be able to represent themselves as organic or biodynamic unless they follow, and are audited to, a standard ie are certified by a certifying body approved by DAFF.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

Greg Ooiver
Greenhill Farm
Bunaendore NSW

18 Dec 2024