

Dear Sir/Madam.

I would like to make a submission as to the damage to and lack of recognition of the farming sector in Australia that is being shown by the legislation that is and has been introduced.

I have been a farmer for over 30 years and am shocked by the rapid deterioration of our counties ability to produce food now.

I have handed the daily farming operations over to my 2 sons and have been doing consultantsy work in Pakistan and now the Sudan and feel that I am in a position to comment. The problems that these places have are rapidly developing in this country for example loss of control of land and skill base to produce good quality fresh food.

In the past we lost the use of EDB a soil fumigant and green house gas and were told to find an alternative the only substitute was 10 times more toxic 5 times more expensive and only half as effective. We had to purchase another farm which needed a different soil preparation but was not as good and further from markets to continue to produce our product. On the new farm we had to develop from scratch a new farm now we find that there is no way with the new legislation we can increase production and will actually have to shrink.

While I travel the middle east and now central Africa I see how foolish and behind the times our government has become and despair for the Australian population as they will have to adapt to very inferior food grown god knows where as we find out that there is no such thing as a supply of good cheap food in the world today.

I would hope that someone takes the effort to check the world situation and rectify the problems that are being put in place today.

I have been in Pakistan when the food riots were on and seen what happens when the rumour of shortages spread and if we continue on the present pathway they will happen very soon and it will be too late .

thank you and I hope that this message leads to a better understanding of the problems.

Barry Brooks
Brooks and Sons.