

April 15 2002

National Organic Standards Board
c/o Katherine Benham
Room 4008-South Building
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Washington DC 20250-0001

MAY 6

To the National Organic Standards Board and members of the National Organic Program,

As a member/producer for Organic Valley CROPP Coop thank you for the opportunity to comment on the interpretation of the Dairy Animal Replacement Clause.

We believe that once an entire herd is transitioned that **all replacement animals must be managed organic from the last third of gestation**. This is undeniably the standard for Organic Meat Animals, to implement a different standard for Dairy animals is unnecessary and would damage the integrity of the program.

With proper care dairy calves can be raised quite effectively using organic practices. Setting strict standards would promote further development of infrastructure in the organic dairy industry and satisfy consumer expectations.

Respectfully,

(Ph) 608-744-8811

Joseph J. Klein

2323 Clay Hollow Rd. Cuba City, WI 53807

We are a certified organic Dairy family farm. We've been certified since 1995, with 45 Holstein cows along with our young replacement heifers. We farm 240 Acres here.

We do believe that young stock can be raised organically, because we've been at it for 7 years with success.

However, if at any time a young heifer does need some medical attention (Pneumonia, etc) we must be humane and get it the medicine it may need. Then that critter is segregated & later removed from the organic herd.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me @ 608-744-8811

Joe

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Respectfully,

Do not allow Agri-Business to gut organic standards, we've worked too long and too hard to have the organic industry emasculated.

Respectfully;

Robert R. Kees

Durand, WI

Tel# 715-672-4197

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Respectfully,

Dear Katherine,

4-22-02

We run a 50 Cow-calf beef herd. All our slaughter animals for organic sale must be managed organically from the last 1/3 (third) of gestation. Rightfully so. Organic cows mean organic meat. Likewise with dairy animals. Organic cows mean organic milk. Something fed toxins for 2 years & then treated organically for 90 days will give tainted milk because toxins are stored in the animals fat. There is nothing restrictive about raising calves organically except time & management of the larger factory farms want to take chemical short cuts it qualifies them for conventional milk not an organic premium.

Hard copy to follow by U.S. Postal service.

Happy Earth Week
Helen Lee
W6754 Simpson Lane
Durand, WI 54736

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Respectfully,

Dear Katherine -

4-23-02

Please keep the SMALL ORGANIC FAMILY
DAIRY FARM'S in Business. CORPORATE
DAIRIES can continue their chemical ways without
receiving our Organic premiums. It takes time
& management on our small farms - something
they cant do
Allowing corporate farms to purchase any old cow
& feed organic for only 90 days leads to chemical
milk - Don't water down ORGANIC MILK.

Please consider my thoughts

Christine Kees Winkler
W6754 Simpson LN
Durand, WI 54734

715-672-8555

e-mail: winkler@nelson-tel.net

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Respectfully,

Stephen M Berg
113018 688th St
Ridgeland WI 54763

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Respectfully, Theodore Yandow

P.S.

If the standards are lax or can be
loosened in more than one way they become
a gray area and give people the opportunity
to interpret it the wrong way. Standards
need to be simple and concise and enforced
so that we do not have a bunch of
"maybe rules,"

Thanks again

Zeddy Yandow

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Respectfully,

In addition, if we are to keep the confidence of the consumer, we must keep the standards set high so that there is a definite difference between the food produced organically and that which is produced conventionally.

Dennis L. Chice

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Harvey E. Miller

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Respectfully,

*David S. Dunsmuir - organic milk
and hay producer*

*2764 Kellogg Rd
SWANTON, VT. 05488*