

To: Eileen Stommes, Deputy Administrator, USDA-AMS-TM-NOP
Room 4007 So. Ag Stop 0275, PO Box 96456, Washington DC 20090-6456

Re: Proposed Organic Rule, **Docket Number TMD-94-00-2**

Dear Ms. Stommes,

As a consumer of organic products, I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the USDA's proposed organic regulations. I am concerned that the proposed rule lowers the standard for organic food in the U.S and that recommendations of the NOSB have not been incorporated. Specifically I refer to the following sections:

1. *Section 205.200-205.28* **ADHERE TO NOSB NATIONAL LIST RECOMMENDATIONS.** It is my opinion that the NOSB recommendations most accurately reflect the values and beliefs of the organic community. To deviate from these poses a serious threat to the organic industry and would jeopardize the integrity of the "organic" label.
2. *Sections 205.2, 205.8, 205.9, 205.22, 205.26, 205.17* **ELIMINATE UNWANTED AND DANGEROUS MATERIALS FROM ORGANIC FOOD PRODUCTION!** It is because mass food production currently incorporates such practices as irradiation and genetically engineered materials that I choose to purchase organic products.
3. *Sections 205.13-205.15* **REQUIRE HIGHER STANDARDS FOR LIVESTOCK.** It is for both health and ethical reasons that I strongly believe that animals should be raised in humane and natural conditions. In my opinion the sections cited **DO NOT** insure such treatment.
4. *Section 205.421-205.425* **DON'T PRICE SMALL FARMS AND SMALL SCALE CERTIFIERS OUT OF BUSINESS!** Small-scale sustainable agriculture is the foundation of the organic movement . I feel this section of the proposed rule poses a threat to the economic well being of many communities.
5. *Section 205.103* **STAY OUT OF THE ECO-LABEL BUSINESS!** It is important to me as a consumer of organic products that I be able to make informed decisions about the food I eat. Prohibition of green labels such as "pesticide free" or "humanely raised" will only limit consumers ability to make such informed decisions.

It is for these reasons that I ask you to please act now and restore the recommendations made by the NOSB.

Sincerely,