2-14-05
TO: NOSB Livestock Committee
From: Helen Kees, Wheatfield Hill Organics
Re: Pasture Requirements for Ruminants

I would like to endorse your recommendation as of 2-1-05 regarding pasture requirements for ruminants to the NOP.

I would also like to see the first sentence under Organic System Plan clarified.

It seems to be a large legal loophole to me, allowing noncomplice @ the rest of the requirements due to the inability of "pasture not being able to provide edible forage"

In other words, I would like to see the 1st sentence read "..... months of the year when temperatures allow pasture to provide edible forage," this period being lengthy enough to allow grazed feed to provide ..... total feed req.

If you want to build igloos in Dallas, Texas Yosine either get to make snow. or call them something else. If you want to produce organic meat, milk, etc you either have to pasture or call it something besides organic.

The fact that there chronically is not significant

The fact that there chronically is not significant pasture available shall not exempt any producer from pasturing if he or she wishes to produce organic milk, meat, etc.. To do any less would surely make a mockery of the NOP standards. Sooner our consumers mistreat our livestock and water down the nutritional validity of our products.

Sincerely,

Helen Kees
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Durand, Wi 54736

Please call 715-672-4197 and verify receipt of this letter. Thank you.