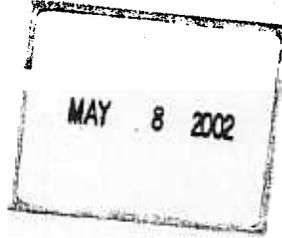


April 15 2002

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



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, Aaron L Hoover

We have been farming organic since 1994 and raising our replacements on all organic we milk about 25 cows.

I think it is very important that all our replacement animals are raised organic from the last third of gestation

April 5 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 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

April 15 2002

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

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,

Do not allow Agribusiness to quit 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

April 15 2002

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

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,

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 large factory farms want to take chemical short cuts & 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

April 15 2002

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

W4) 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,

Dear Katherine -

4-23-02

Please keep the SMALL ORGANIC FAMILY DAIRY FARM'S in BUSINESS. CORPORATE DAIRIES can continue their chemical way without receiving our Organic premiums. It takes time & management on our small farms - something they can't 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

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,

Stephen M Berg
113018 688th St
Ridgeland WI 54763

April 15 2002

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

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,

Theodore Yandow

P.S.

If the standards are lay, or can be looked in more than one way then 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

April 15 2002

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



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.

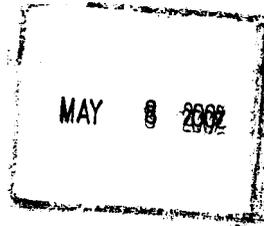
Respectfully,

Ken Blatz

*Organic Dairy producer of eight years.
I have raised all my own replacements on
an organic program without any problems*

April 15 2002

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



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, *Andy Schrieters* *Andy Schrieters*
25037 Lake Rd Garrettsville Iowa 52049 - 563-964-2758

I am milking - 65 cows I raise all my own replacement cattle. My calves don't receive any medications I have maintained my herd size and still get a few heifers. to me this is sustainable! to allow animals to be grown conventionally the 1st 12 months of life is unacceptable

Andy Schrieters
P.S. I believe animals ~~and~~ should have access to pasture during the growing season and that it should provide sufficient forage.

April 15 2002

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

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, *Roger & Brian Drew*

*Cattle live longer, are healthier produce a
healthier product, which is all about what they
have access to pasture.*

April 15 2002

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



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,

Samuel M. Peachey

PS We have been into organics for five years, milked cows all my life, now milking around 30 with over 20 head young stock. Young stock is managed organically from the start. I cannot remember when we last lost a heifer calf. When we farmed conventionally we lost heifer calves occasionally.

Organic management is THE way for calves. It must be the law, for the calves AND the farmer's own benefit.

April 15 2002

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

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,

Eileen Sedlak

7258 Union Valley

Black Earth WI 53513

