

Michor Gentemann

I OPPOSE THE RULES OF CAFO AS DRAFTED AND I CONCUR WITH THE COMMENTS FROM Thurston, Yakima, AND Okanogan County Farm Bureau.

Applying CAFO standards to small operations (if even considered seriously) needs, at the very least, to change the number of animals involved. To consider that homeowners or farm managers with only two cows or 10 chickens or three pigs or five horses, or a dozen sheep fall into a "need to be regulated as a CONCENTRATED animal feed operation is ridiculous. This proposal makes you all seem unable to distinguish between what is good for our districts and what is not, as well as the differences between the huge, numbered animals in confined feed lots... What were you thinking?? You look a little like city folk who have never seen a small farm!!

Locally produced and sold foods sustain our communities, especially in a time like this when prices have risen so much many people can no longer even afford the groceries to care for and feed their families. Local produce right now is truly a Godsend and lifesaver for many families.

Additionally, in the long run, ecologists' PURPOSE is to look forward to the future and maintain the programs that DO support the ecological goals we have set in each State or district to be good stewards.

Local grassroots experiences TEACH each economical and ecological stewardship management of our lands, streams, animal, and vegetable local food sources to ALL ages! Much is hands-on, experience-based; AND much is volunteer because we so believe in doing this right!

Our local conservation districts and our voluntary programs need support from you NOT MORE REGULATIONS.