

Agricultural Competitiveness Green Paper Submission

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Name of Organisation/Individual

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What are the top policies from the Green Paper that the Government should focus on in the White Paper and why?

It looks like everything is covered. Australian Farmers are finding very hard to be any more productive. Many Farmers personal wages are very low. The time spent doing their work is very high.

What policies from the Green Paper don't you support and why?

Sorry I do not have the time to read it all at the moment.

General Comment

Australian Farm inputs are getting higher every year. Electricity, Gas, Chemicals, State Government charges like levies to use your own water from your own Dam that you built 30 years ago with not Government help! These charges are here weather you use the water or not.

The average age of a Farmer is hitting 60. I am 40 and do not see a future for my son in our Apple Orchard business.

The prices we are getting are about the same as my Grandfather was getting 25 years ago. We are subsidising our farming business with off farm income to see if the cycle turns in our favour. I am the 5th generation on this farm. No drought, relatively good growing seasons. We are not a marginal area for growing Agriculture products. The time is running out to have a profitable farm. Cutting our losses could be the end game.