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**From:** Carol Curran [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 26 July 2019 9:36 AM  
**To:** aglawsinquiry

As an older farmer who has continued farming well past retirement age, I welcome the government taking the matter of farm invasion activists seriously!

As a farmer I have implemented all the new biosecurity regulations on my property. Together with leased land I manage almost 300 acres and turn of 40-50 prime young cattle annually in local markets. Already a responsible farmer with high standards in animal welfare the practical physical changes to the business were minimal, but the additional "paperwork" does create for me many additional hours of work!! These regulations were introduced to protect stock and keep our produce as safe and healthy as possible.

The entry of unauthorised persons creates a huge biosecurity risk in some agricultural businesses as it creates the risk of spreading infections and diseases!!!!

In some instances stock have been STOLEN and this is clearly THEFT! Some intruders have proven to be threatening as well as nuisances. This has resulted in some farmers having to stop work and even leave the business. This type of intrusion and interference would not be tolerated in a government office, a workshop or store.... it's no acceptable in agriculture either! Then magistrates give the perpetrators a warning and a \$1 fine... how RIDICULOUS!!!! That magistrate should have been sacked!!!!

Farming is very hard work, we put in long hours and do not really make much money for our huge financial investment. Most of us are in it for the love of it and the knowledge that we are putting good food on Australian dinner plates!!!!

I call upon the governments of Victoria and Australia to uphold the new legislations to stop farm invasions by activists occurring, to make these acts a criminal activity which requires sentencing and mandatory fines of a substantial amount as a deterrent to these behaviours. It NEEDS to be taken SERIOUSLY!!!!

Thank you for reading my submission!!! I have not experienced an activist invasion personally, but I am sure it would be an extremely frightening experience. Not something ANY person should be subjected to!!!!

You're Sincerely  
Carol Curran