



**CORNUCOPIA**  
INSTITUTE

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**YES**, I want to join with other organic farmers, and their consumer allies, in sending a strong message to USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack and NOSB board members calling for decisive action to crack down on factory farm abuses in organics—protecting ethical farmers and consumers.

\$30    \$50    \$100    \$250  
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*Please print carefully*

*A-10 Q3-W*

*Your financial contribution is voluntary, but we hope you will support the campaign to protect the livelihood of organic farmers. No donation is required to have your proxy letter hand-delivered by us to Madison.*

**Yes**, please hand deliver my proxy letter, below, to the National Organic Standards Board meeting, in Madison, Wis., Oct. 25-27, making my voice heard in supporting the integrity of the organic label (add additional personal comments on back).

**PLEASE DO NOT DETACH PROXY LETTER**

*We will mechanically cut letter off before submitting*

**Dear Secretary Vilsack and NOSB members,**

When it comes to milk, poultry, meat and eggs, consumers who pay premiums to purchase organic food fully expect that their dollars support **a more humane animal husbandry model.**

**Organics should offer a true alternative to “factory farming”** in the marketplace. And, for the most part, it does. But all too often industrial-scale livestock facilities have been allowed to *game the system* and obtain organic certification.

The USDA has accomplished a lot in finally enforcing provisions that require dairy cows to be on pasture. But we call upon the NOSB and the USDA to **immediately close loopholes currently being exploited by agribusinesses producing “organic” eggs:**

1. Federal organic regulations clearly state that organic egg producers must grant access for all animals to the “outdoors” and that “total continuous confinement of any animal indoors is prohibited.” These regulations are being abused and must be immediately enforced!
2. I urge the members of the National Organic Standards Board to revisit the NOSB recommendations from 2002 that strictly prohibit small porches as “outdoor access” for poultry and the more recent Livestock Committee proposal of 2009.
3. I encourage the NOSB to consider reincorporating some of the stricter animal welfare language.
4. I support the NOSB’s plan to clarify the organic standards by requiring a minimum square footage per bird in henhouses; outdoor runs should be at least as large as the henhouse itself (with larger space, as in Europe, even more desirable).

In addition, as promised, the USDA must immediately release rules clarifying the ban on bringing conventional dairy cows into existing certified organic farms. This scam allows factory dairy farms to save money by not rearing their young calves on more expensive organic feed and allows the use of drugs banned in organics.

As a \_\_\_\_\_ (farmer/consumer/retailer/other) I look forward to supporting regulations that will enforce the spirit and letter of the Organic Foods Production Act, effectively banning factory farming in organics.

Respectfully yours,

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_