

Dear Panel,

Successive Governments over the past twenty or so years have all thought they could do a better job managing our farms for us than we ourselves could. Unfortunately it has been evident that they would not be able to manage a vegetable garden in my back yard. Government can not manage the National Parks they own, how in hell do they think they can have any helpful input into running a fully operational diverse farming operation. If I farmed a leasehold farm I would be bound to operate within the bounds of that agreement, I do not, as a freehold landowner I should be allowed to operate as I see fit to manage my asset. History has shown the what can happen when Governments steals assets from people, unfortunately we have seen not so long ago a tragic result from Government laws which drive good people to do bad things. My suggestion is if the Government wants to control my farm because it is so valuable to "the community" then come and buy it and then do whatever they would like, otherwise get out of my life and get out of my way and let my family farm as we have done here for one hundred and fifty years.

Regards John Oates