

Seamons, Colleen

From: Jo Treweek [jo@marketingfirst.com.au]
Sent: Wednesday, 24 September 2008 11:54 AM
To: submissions
Subject: Submission: for Proposal P1007 - Primary Production and Processing Requirements for Raw Milk
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Submitted by: Jo Treweek, Surfers Paradise, QLD.

My partner and I have been drinking raw milk for over 12mths now and have found it to be extremely good quality and very nourishing and have not once had any ill effects because of it. Since we have begun drinking the milk we have both been in excellent health, with strengthened immune systems, not once becoming sick even with a common cold.

I have become pregnant in this time also, and have had a very easy pregnancy without any complications and still drink raw milk daily.

I am having a natural birth at a local birth centre which only accepts low-risk mothers into their program which also shows just how healthy I am.

We are paying top dollar for this raw (real) milk, it is not sold for human consumption, however we believe it is more appropriate for human consumption than any other milk on the market.

I used to get reflux and be lactose intolerant however now that I'm drinking raw milk I find I have none of these problems.

My partner used to get asthma, however, since drinking raw milk, his asthma has completely disappeared.

In fact, the only time he needs his asthma pump now is if he has to resort to drinking pasteurised milk because it is sometimes difficult to get enough raw milk.

It is obviously in high demand as we have to preorder our milk supply every week...if we didn't pre-order we wouldn't be able to buy even 1 litre per week.

We drink 8 litres of raw milk between us per week which costs us roughly \$24 per week.

We are happy to sacrifice other luxuries to have the best quality milk on the market, knowing how it has improved our health so significantly.

We are very excited about the prospect of raw milk being legalised, and regulated.

Also about the prospect of being able to buy other unpasteurised cheese, butter, etc.

Also, we believe homogenisation is an unnecessary practice that simply masks the quality of the milk and also destroys the nutrition that you would otherwise get from milk and are strongly against this process in addition to pasteurisation.

As raw milk consumers we desire:

- Easy access to clean, unprocessed milk from local dairies with healthy cattle that are grass fed only
- FSANZ to reassess outdated science and non-science which condemns raw milk as a carrier of pathogens and consider science based recommendations for consumption of raw milk.
- Certification of raw milk which ensures its cleanliness and its healthful properties remain intact

- Regulations which require raw milk and raw cheeses to be traded ONLY via localised, cottage industry
- Proper education of the public to allow people to make an educated choice about what milk is right for them

We want to drink milk that is certified to be:

- From one inspected and certified source: never commingled with raw milk from other herds.
- From herds that consume grass and hay exclusively
- From herds tested to be free of TB. (Although we know we can't contract bovine TB, we wish to drink milk from healthy cows - nutritional support for cows have shown to reduce TB in herds..12)
- From local sources ONLY. Raw cheeses made from local milk within hours of milking.
- Tested to be less than 20,000 SPC on one time per month by certification agency AND independent testing on finished products: Zero pathogens including, Listeria M, E coli 0157H7, Salmonella, Campylobacter in finished products. Worst pathogens (e coli 0157H7) tested more frequently (at least once per week by farmer with results recorded and sent to certification agency).
- Farmed with an Active Farm Food Safety Plan based on HACCP principles to identify risks and manage them. This plan is tested for compliance.
- Labeled as Raw Milk. We see no need to label with warnings unless Pasteurised dairy will also be labeled so.

I do hope you listen to the many thousands of raw milk drinkers in this country and take proactive steps towards allowing us our freedom of choice when it comes to raw dairy products.

Thank you for your time.

Kind Regards,

Jo Treweek