

Senate select cmte on economics

Being a consumer of dairy products and a beef farmer -- I question the rational of multi national price gouging to gain supermarket trading position -- free trade of course -- however Australia needs to have food security and sustainable delivery of food and fibre --and not become reliant on imports of produce.

Noted British "professor" from "Reading uni" some years ago spoke of Britain's reliance on imports from its British colonies prior to world war 2 and the loss of food security as result of war and the population near staving -- post war Britain made concerted effort to be self sufficient in food production -- whilst Australia hasn't come to that point yet -- the precautionary principle needs implementing to stay the demise of our primary production so we don't suffer the fate of dependence on imports nor do we want to see peasant farming develop -- we can remain net exporters provided trade policies are balanced and cost shifting does not drive production off shore.

regards Graham Brown