

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Puppy Farming](#)
Subject: Rural dog farms by stealth_If it walks,talks and looks like a duck....
Date: Tuesday, 24 July 2018 7:01:38 AM

This story highlights the fact there are already too many dogs being bred by farmers ,in excess of their needs.Many of those dogs will end with poor or terrible outcomes.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/rural/2018-07-24/farmers-want-working-dogs-exempt-from-puppy-farming-laws/10023110>

To claim that a farmer 'needs' to pump out a litter every year to 'top up' his dog supply is outrageous.If a thousand farmers did this and each dog had seven pups there would be 7000 dogs per annum looking for rural farm homes.That flies in the face of reality.

Secondly the farm community is always claiming a dog is valuable,priceless,worth ten men,four m/cycles etc.If that is truly the case (and looking at the top price at Castlemaine each year,it is)

then they should be prepared to invest in appropriately bred working dogs.I know anecdotally there 'is' a market for farm sourced dogs on and off farms and it is a good little earner.This is exactly the system which needs to be shut down.Creating animals for the wrong reason.The working dog associations should be the first and possibly only sector to gain exemptions to keep the breeds skill set DNA fluid and improving.Then there would be the existing group of working dog breeders who are registered.Other wannabes would need to license up.That is the only way to control the excess flow of dogs properly.

The govt should also be actively pursuing and prosecuting all dogs sold beyond the date of the new laws to stop dogs ending lives in misery,dog fighting,starvation,being shot,euthanised early etc.The Gumtree etc market must be policed regularly and the book thrown at ALL illegal operations, whether they are farmers or not.If the govt creates exemptions for landholders people will move to rural properties and become puppy farmers of working dogs, because exemptions will create loopholes,whereby people will be able in law to claim to be a 'working farm'.

Please do not buckle to the politics arm of the farm lobby, who are only represent a minority of farmers.Their membership numbers do not give them the status they claim in this and many other debates and are selective in their viewpoints.

If the govt feels the need to cave in,the minimum requirement should be that any farmer wishing to breed dogs must be made to register their intention , well before the intention, so an inspection can be made by authorities, at any time, and the outcome of all pups produced can be verified properly.No dog should be allowed to have more than one litter in a lifetime, so they should be made to be sterilised after that litter.If a farmer insists on more than one litter per bitch,[per lifetime, they should be treated as a breeder.If they need to 'breed a litter per year' they are a breeder.And will require a license.

As an aside when is the local govt minister going to do something meaningful about reducing the number of domestic cats in WA, and empowering landholders to protect wildlife.

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