



*The Peak Body for the Australian Organic Sector*

*www.ofa.org.au*

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*From the desk of:*

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **ORGANIC FARMING - THE WIN-WIN FOR CLIMATE CHANGE**

“Scientific studies are proving that best practice Organic Agriculture is the classic win-win situation – lower greenhouse gas emissions, carbon sequestration, lower fuel use, lower input costs and better water use efficiency while maintaining high yields” Organic Federation of Australia, Chairman, Andre Leu stated.

“Researchers have found that best practice organic systems produce the high yields with lower fossil fuel use and reduced farming input costs. This is very significant with the rising price of oil and the huge cost increases in synthetic fertilisers and pesticides”

“A growing body of scientific research is showing that organic systems are more resilient in adverse weather conditions such as the increased droughts and storms that are predicted with climate change”

“The ability of organic farming practices, to remove carbon dioxide from the air and sequester it in farmland is the key to the increase in productivity” stated Andre. “Soil carbon ensures better water capture and retention, increased nutrient efficiency, especially nitrogen and phosphorous and also reduces soil loss and nutrient run off into our rivers and the Great Barrier Reef.”

Dr Paul Hepperly, Ph.D., research director at The Rodale Institute and Fulbright Scholar stated, "We've shown that organic practices can do better than anyone thought at sequestering carbon, and could counteract up to 40 percent of global greenhouse gas output."

“The important point about this ground breaking research is that the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> sequestered is based on what has been achieved through current organic farming practices. This is being achieved now by organic farmers in Australia and around the world. Adopting organic practices on our farmland in Australia is a proven way to remove huge quantities of greenhouse gases, help in the fight against climate change and ensure the productive viability of our farms” Andre Leu stated.

**-ENDS-**

The Organic Federation of Australia is the peak body and the largest representative organic organisation in Australia. For further information please visit [www.ofa.org.au](http://www.ofa.org.au)

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