

ELECTION PRIORITIES & RESPONSES FACT SHEET

In February 2025, the Organic Development Group (ODG) sent each major party, Labor, Liberal, National and the Greens a list of key priorities for the organic industry in with a request for a commitment from each party to support them.

The four priorities identified by the ODG and agreed to by organic operators included:

- Pass domestic regulation of the Australian organic industry within 12 months of election.
- Accelerate market access for organic exports.
- Invest in data collection to measure the organic industry's positive environmental and health impacts and its potential to accelerate Australia's progress towards its \$100bn agriculture industry goal by 2030.
- Maintaining traceability and establishing appropriate biosecurity measures to safeguard organic integrity.

Priorities/Parties Response		ALP	Greens	Coalition
1.	Pass domestic regulation of the Australian organic industry within 12 months of election	X No firm commitment to introduce domestic regulation.	✓ Commitment to introduce domestic regulation*	TBC Introduced Bill into the Senate for domestic regulation.
2.	Accelerate market access for organic exports	X Have committed to maintaining ongoing work with India, China and the EU.	✓ \$20million commitment that will include market access exploration.	TBC No official position yet.
3.	Invest in data collection to measure the organic industry's positive environmental and health impacts and its potential to accelerate Australia's progress towards its \$100bn agriculture by 2030	X No commitment to enhance data collection.	✓ \$20million commitment that will include research for organics, plus \$1million over five years to collect revenue data.	TBC No official position yet.
4.	Maintaining traceability and establishing appropriate biosecurity measures to safeguard organic integrity	TBC No commitment to enhance organic biosecurity or traceability.	TBC No commitment to enhance organic biosecurity or traceability.	TBC No official position yet.

ORGANIC DEVELOPMENT GROUP AUSTRALIAN GREENS SURVEY RESPONSE - DUE 28 MARCH 2025

The Australian Greens thank the Organic Development Group (ODG) for their constructive engagement over the 47th Parliament. The Office of Senator Peter Whish-Wilson and the Australian Greens look forward to continuing this important work, and progressing the below shared priorities, in the 48th Parliament.

The Australian Greens note the close working relationship with Australian Organic Ltd and other members of the ODG in the development of many of the below policies and hope this serves as a strong indication of our ongoing commitment to seeing the Australian organic sector grow.

The Greens' organic plan:

The Australian Greens have a long history of supporting the growth and development of the Australian organics industry.

Countries like the United States and the European Union support their organic industries with funding and strong organic credentials, while Australia risks falling behind by still debating the definition of "organic."

The Greens are working to protect certified organic producers from greenwashing and help open new domestic and international markets. The Greens will also empower the organic industry better to measure its contribution to Australia's agricultural revenue.

The Greens will:

- Protect the organic industry from greenwashing by legislating a domestic standard that enshrines a legal definition of "organic" in Australia. This includes a commitment to implement domestic regulations of the Australian organic industry.
- Support market access, industry growth, and research for organics with a sustained funding model backed by a \$20 million commitment.
- Provide clarity on the organic sector's economic contribution with \$1 million over five years to collect revenue data as part of the broader agriculture industry.

The Greens' environmental biosecurity plan:

Invasive species threaten Australia's environment and agriculture, yet environmental biosecurity remains underfunded and de-prioritised. Long-term sustainable funding for Australia's biosecurity system is critical to manage the growing biosecurity risks posed by increasing tourism and trade.

The Greens are committed to addressing these challenges by supporting affected industries financially, boosting biosecurity capacity, and strengthening surveillance and research efforts.

The Greens will:

- Provide \$75 million in federal compensation funding to support beekeepers impacted by the spread of Varroa Mite.
- Establish Environment Health Australia as an independent body to coordinate biosecurity response, preparedness, and engagement.
- Increase investment in environmental biosecurity surveillance with \$8 million over four years to detect and prevent invasive species.
- Strengthen the Environmental Biosecurity Office with \$28 million over four years to boost its capacity and capability.
- Invest \$80 million in research, development, and extension to protect Australia from invasive species and pests.

The Greens sustainable and regenerative agriculture plan:

Australia's agriculture sector faces challenges in transitioning to sustainable practices, with farmers needing support to adopt innovative solutions for productivity and environmental resilience.

The Greens will establish Green Agriculture Australia, a \$250 million R&D centre to drive sustainable farming.

It will fund research, develop new technologies, and support farmers with training and solutions like regenerative agriculture, methane-reducing livestock feed, and precision farming.

The Greens' will:

• Support Australian farmers in transitioning to regenerative and sustainable practices by establishing Green Agriculture Australia with \$250 million in funding.

All Australian Greens election commitments and policies can be found accessible on the <u>Australian Greens</u> <u>website</u>.

From:	ALP Correspondence
To:	
Subject:	Follow Up: Organic Development Group Election 2025 Priorities
Date:	Wednesday, 2 April 2025 3:00:16 PM

Dear [name redacted]

Thank you for sending through priorities for the Organic Development Group (ODG) and advocating on behalf of your members. We note that Minister Collins has recently met with the ODG to discuss the best path forward for the organics industry.

A re-elected Albanese Labor Government is open to working with industry on a domestic regulation, and we will take into consideration the recommendations of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee's recent inquiry into the *National Organic Standards Bill 2024*. We are committed to working with industry and stakeholders to achieve appropriate regulations that do not unfairly burden small farmers, pass excessive costs onto consumers or fall foul of our international obligations.

An Albanese Labor Government is also committed to expanding Australia's trade in organic products. The Government recently signed a Statement of Intent on Organics with China and is negotiating an upgraded Organics Equivalency arrangement with the EU, as well as a Mutual Recognition Agreement with India. A future Albanese Labor Government would examine opportunities to expand market access where appropriate and look to build on our previous success.

I trust this information is of assistance to you and will help your members in their considerations.

Kind regards

ALP Campaign 2025