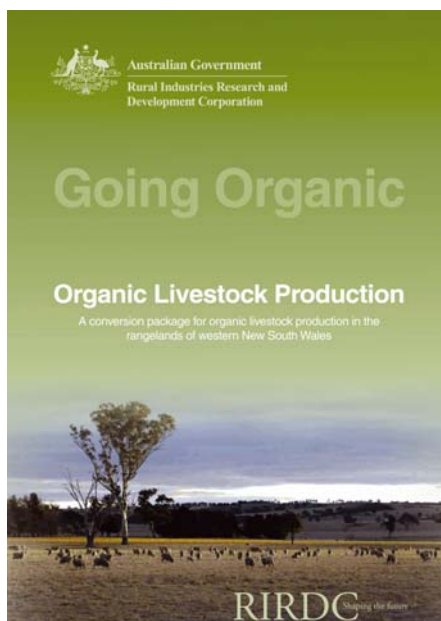


# Books of interest



## Going Organic – Organic Livestock Production

A conversion package for organic livestock production in the rangelands of western New South Wales

REVIEW BY MICHAEL BLAKENEY

As the first in an expected series of three manuals, this publication gets the series off to a good start, with plenty of practical information as well as a framework that helps the producer to determine what may be appropriate for their specific situation.

While specifically aimed at livestock producers, the manual provides a good overview of the starting point for organics – soil management. Subsequent chapters focus on general organic production principles, livestock and farm management and pest, weed and disease management. The process of certification is also addressed with a useful self-assessment test.

The second half of the manual concentrates on livestock production with a focus on particular requirements for rangeland producers. Topics covered include sheep breeds, grazing management and rotations. Processing and post-harvest issues are considered in a general overview.

The author understands the topic and the target audience well. This is evident in the realistic approach to the subject and reflects the process undertaken in developing the manual. An excerpt from chapter three illustrates this: 'How do I start? Start slowly,' – a good reference for potential entrants in the livestock sector.

The booklet was written by NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) organic farming liaison officer, Robyn Neeson, and was jointly funded by the NSW Government and Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation (RIRDC).

*Going Organic – Organic Livestock Production: A conversion package for organic livestock production in the rangelands of western New South Wales* can be ordered by contacting RIRDC enquiries, 02 6271 4100, or a free copy may be downloaded from the RIRDC website, [www.rirdc.gov.au](http://www.rirdc.gov.au)

## Green Pages Business 2007, Green Pages Lifestyle 2007

Green Pages Australia

Katie Patrick, environmental engineer turned publisher, has spent years scouring the country for clean green products, shops and services and has put it all into a one-stop-shop for green living – Green Pages Australia directory.

Launched late last year, Green Pages directory is the first national directory of environmentally sustainable products and services. The directory is produced in two editions, for business and lifestyle, with a combined listing of over 6000 products and services.

Green Pages directory features categories such as Environmental Design & Architecture, Finance, Travel, Health, Beauty and Lifestyle and many more, to help individuals or businesses quickly locate what they want.

The Australian environment industry is predicted to double in size, becoming a \$40 billion economic powerhouse by the end of the decade, reflecting a rapidly growing demand for environmentally sustainable products and services.

Katie Patrick says that major environmental challenges such as climate change have raised awareness about the need to act in the interests of the planet, which has increased opportunities and demand for energy efficient and water saving design and construction.

'Architecture is well placed to influence the built environment by adopting energy efficient and responsible design principles. By combining efforts with the construction industry and urban and landscape planners, opportunities exist to develop and harness processes and materials which will significantly reduce our impact on the environment.'

'Until now, green products have been hard to find and also perceived as being more expensive and of poor quality; that's not the case anymore. Green products such as fuel efficient transport, energy saving light globes, greywater systems and solar electricity actually help you save money,' said Patrick.

From bio-paints and enviro-friendly cleaning products to organic skincare products and compostable nappies, Green Pages Australia puts everything in one place, taking the hassle out of locating green products. The directory has garnered support from all quarters, with articles by high profile green supporters including popular chef Kylie Kwong and MP Peter Garrett.

The two printed editions *Green Pages Lifestyle 2007* (\$12.95rrp) and *Green Pages Business 2007* (\$35.95rrp) can be purchased in newsagents and shops nationwide or via the Green Pages Australia website. The full directory can also be viewed online. Visit [www.greenpagesaustralia.com.au](http://www.greenpagesaustralia.com.au)

