

# freeranger eggs

## Carbon Footprint

At Freeranger Eggs we limit the farm's carbon footprint by imposing a food miles policy for deliveries, using recycled materials and equipment whenever we can, using solar power and mechanical processes - such as egg collection by hand and hand cultivation of the farm vegetable garden – as well as an effective waste reduction programme.

As a result, the farm generates approx 60 tonnes of CO<sup>2</sup> annually

But we are better than carbon neutral, we are carbon positive. Our average organic matter in soil tests was 4.1 per cent in 2004, in 2006 it was 6.0 per cent, and in 2009 it was 7.9 per cent. Calculations based on 2-inch deep samples, show that over five years we have sequestered 14 tons of CO<sup>2</sup> per acre or four tons of carbon per acre on the grasslands on our property.

We apply no chemical fertilisers, herbicides, or pesticides on our land and we believe this policy increases the biological life in the soil and increases the rate of carbon sequestration. All manure is spread on the pastures and in our vegetable garden, minimising methane emissions. We practice rotational grazing on our pastures which has a variable effect with each rotation – taking advantage of photosynthesis to pull CO<sup>2</sup> into the plants and then into the roots from where it transfers to the soil.

In addition over that five year period at least another 5 tonnes of CO<sup>2</sup> per acre has been sequestered by the regular growth and replacement of Kangaroo Apples in our five main paddocks.

As we have protected native vegetation on approximately 100 acres of the property, regeneration over the five year period has sequestered a further 5 tonnes of CO<sup>2</sup> per acre.

This brings a total of 1500 tonnes of CO<sup>2</sup> sequestered on our property over the five years from 2004 to 2009 – an average rate of 300 tonnes per year compared with the farm's carbon output of around 60 tonnes.

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