

Based what I have read in the "options paper", I think that the most important thing that needs to happen is to provide the ability for Australians to be able to continue farming on their own land, providing Australian owned transport and processing infrastructure; and marketing from the farm gate all the way through to the marketing and selling of the products, be it wholesale to supermarkets or direct selling to consumers.

The second thing, probably the most important is the need to protect Australia's agricultural land from foreign investment so that there will be an ability for future generations to enter the agricultural/primary production industry. This is an industry that is already hard enough to enter as it is and the average age of farmers is continuing to increase. Future farmers will have trouble competing with overseas companies looking to purchase agricultural land, due to having a smaller capital base to borrow off/purchase with. By reducing the \$15 million cumulative threshold down to say \$1 million, would provide a more level playing field for farmers to be able to continue to expand or enter the industry.