

# ***The Organic Food and Farming Targets Bill Campaign***

c/o Sustain: the alliance for better food and farming  
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## **ADVANCE NOTICE**

### **ORGANIC TARGETS RALLY AND PARLIAMENTARY LOBBY**

**WHEN:** From 2pm, Wednesday **23rd January 2002**

**WHERE:** Westminster Central Hall and Houses of Parliament

Hundreds of people from across the country are coming to Westminster on Wednesday 23 January to attend a rally and lobby their MP's for more Government action to support organic farming.

The rally will be addressed by campaign supporters including:

- Louiza Patikas, who plays Helen Archer, Organic shop manager in the *Archers* on Radio 4
- Joan Ruddock MP;
- Charles Secrett of Friends of the Earth;
- Patrick Holden of the Soil Association;
- Wendy Wrigley of the Co-op.
- Simon Jones, organic farmer

Following the rally supporters will lobby MPs to put pressure on the government to support organic farming by:

- ensuring that 30% of land is organic by 201
- introducing an action plan for organic farming

Despite a boom in sales of organic food in the UK around 70 per cent is imported from abroad. Currently only about 3% per cent of UK agricultural land is under organic production.

The Organic Targets Campaign is supported by more than 100 organisations including retailers, trade unions, environmental and consumer groups, as well as many back-bench MPs.

More Information on the organic targets campaign can be found at [www.sustainweb.org/homefra.htm](http://www.sustainweb.org/homefra.htm)

An ISDN line is available for interviews

Contacts:

Catherine Fookes (Sustain) 020 7837 1228 / 07979 534050 (mob)

Neil Verlander (Friends of the Earth) 020 7566 1649/ 07654 663 754 (pgr)

**Steering group:** ● Elm Farm Research Centre ● Friends of the Earth ● Henry Doubleday Research Association ● Pesticides Action Network-UK ● Soil Association ● Transport & General Workers Union (RAAW) ● UNISON ● WWF-UK ● **Secretariat:** Sustain: The alliance for better food and farming