

# Oregon State Board of Agriculture: Resolution detail

## Title

Siting of agri-tourism, entertainment and associated activities on agricultural lands

## Background

Whereas there is increasing interest in the development of rural tourism and entertainment activities, many times in relation to agriculture;

Whereas increasingly there are many cases of such activities presenting compatibility issues with farming practices and presenting implications to rural infrastructure and services;

Whereas issues have been raised relating to the uneven application of the laws dealing with the siting of agri-tourism, rural entertainment and commercial facilities related to farm use which may provide unfair competitive advantages to like operations;

Whereas the appropriate siting of commercial activities associated with farm use can be beneficial to operators and help to educate the public about Oregon agriculture;

Whereas there are legislative efforts beginning to address issues related to the siting of agri-tourism, entertainment and other commercial activities on agricultural land:

## Resolution

Be it resolved that the Oregon State Board of Agriculture:

1. Does not support the use of agricultural lands for activities related to entertainment and tourism and other events except under strictly defined circumstances.
2. When defining circumstances the board supports the following considerations:
  - a. Directly related to commercial farm use or processing activities occurring on a farm or ranch operation;
  - b. subordinate to the farm use of the subject operation; and
  - c. compatible or can be made compatible with other area farming and ranch operations. Compatibility evaluation should include all activities and events, including those that are not considered a "land use" under Oregon law.
3. Urges the department to work with stakeholder groups to better define the circumstances when commercial activities are appropriate on agricultural lands. The board recognizes that the development of criteria that best protects agriculture and the general public involves many complicated issues. The board advises a comprehensive evaluation and analysis before any proposed actions are taken and suggests that a target for any agreed upon actions related to legislative action be targeted for the 2011 session.

## Summary

Does not support the use of ag lands for entertainment, tourism, or other events except under strictly defined circumstances.

## Notes

## Resolution #

299

## Resolution date

12/16/2009

## Subject

Land use

## Committee

Land use

## Moved by

Ken Bailey

## Seconded by

Pat Dudley

## Action taken

Motion carried

## Review date

12/16/2011

## Absent

Jan Kerns