



MEDIA RELEASE

Issued: 15 June 2009

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE ON PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND RESOURCES

Inquiry into Australian farmers and climate change

*Chair: The Hon Dick Adams MP
Deputy Chair: Mr Alby Schultz MP*

Beating climate change

Australian graziers have accepted the challenge of climate variability and climate change by experimenting with new grazing techniques. One of those techniques is holistic management grazing.

In its submission to the inquiry on farmers and climate change the **Fenner School of Environment and Society** at the Australian National University notes that “HM grazing is rapidly gaining popularity on farm enterprises in Australia’s temperate grazing zone. It provides flexible management options in the face of climatic uncertainty, and enhances the resilience of the natural environment, thus leaving it better prepared for climate variability”.

The House of Representatives Primary Industries and Resources Committee is currently conducting an inquiry into the role of government in assisting Australian farmers to adapt to the impacts of climate change. The Committee is investigating how farmers can better adapt to the challenges of changing climate, focussing on innovation and adaptation at the enterprise level, on the ground, and the role of government and research organisations in supporting this.

As part of its program of hearings, the Committee will hear from representatives of the Fenner School on current research into Holistic Management grazing techniques. The public hearing will be held on **17 June 2009**, in Committee Room **1R3**, Parliament House, Canberra, at **5pm**.

The Chair of the Committee, Dick Adams, said: “On-ground innovation, supported by thorough research, is the key to adaptation by the rural sector to climate change. Governments and industries must be looking for, and giving support to, innovations which make our industries more resilient in the face of climate variability and climate change.”

PUBLIC HEARING—Canberra, Wednesday 17 June 2009

WHERE: Committee Room 1R3, Parliament House, Canberra
WHEN: Wednesday 17 June 2009, 5pm
WEBCAST: <http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting/>

For media comment: please contact the Committee Chair, the Hon Dick Adams MP, on (02) 6277 4293 or email D.Adams.MP@aph.gov.au

Further information: contact the Inquiry Secretary (02) 6277 4500, email pir.reps@aph.gov.au or visit the Committee’s webpage at <http://www.aph.gov.au/pir>