



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Standing Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry  
Inquiry into rural skills training and research

**MEDIA RELEASE**

Issued: 18 October 2005

Chair: Alby Schultz MP

# Committee investigates rural skilling issues in NSW

**Committee Public Hearings in Sydney - 20 October and  
Newcastle - 21 October 2005**

The House Standing Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry will be holding public hearings in Sydney (20 October) and Newcastle (21 October) in relation to its inquiry into rural skills training and research.

The Sydney hearings will take place **from 10.00 am** in the **Commonwealth Offices Conference Room Level 8, Charterbridge House, 70 Phillip Street Sydney.**

The committee will hear from witnesses such as Meat and Livestock Australia, NSW Farmers' Association and Cotton Australia. Further details can be found on the web at:

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/primind/ruralskills/hearings/rsprog05.pdf>

The Newcastle hearings will take place **from 11.00 am** in the **Pacific Room Noah's on the Beach Hotel, Zaara Street Newcastle.**

The committee will hear from witnesses including Rural Training Council Australia (NSW), and the Australian Mushroom Growers Association. Further details can be found on the web at:

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/primind/ruralskills/hearings/rsprog06.pdf>

Witnesses will brief the committee on a diverse range of topics and issues from Cotton Australia's innovative training package "Cotton Basics" to the importance of migrant workers to the honey bee industry in Australia as presented by Australian Queen Bee Exporters Pty Ltd.

The committee chair, Alby Schultz (Member for Hume, NSW), said "the committee has received numerous submissions from NSW and we see this as an opportunity to hear about some of the positive developments in NSW regarding rural training, skills and research".

Further details about the inquiry, including terms of reference and submissions, can be obtained from the committee's website at:

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/primind/reports.htm> or by contacting the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4500 or emailing [Aff.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:Aff.reps@aph.gov.au).

**For media comment:** please contact the committee chair, Alby Schultz MP, on 0428 693 553 or email [Alby.Schultz.MP@aph.gov.au](mailto:Alby.Schultz.MP@aph.gov.au).

**For more information:** please contact the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4500.