Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates 26 February 2014

Question: AET 2996

Topic: Free-range egg claims (ACCC)

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Senator RHIANNON asked:

2996. There is growing interest in news that some food producers have been investigated and prosecuted for claims their products come from free-range animals. How many complaints, using free-range claims, have been lodged with the ACCC?

Mr Sims: A lot. Mr Gregson is looking up the answer. If we do not have it immediately we will get back to you on it.

Answer:

2996. For the period 1 July 2013 to 31 December 2013 (inclusive) the ACCC received 42 contacts that raised 'free-range' concerns. Of these contacts, 22 related to eggs, while 22 contacts concerned issues relating to pork and chicken meat production.

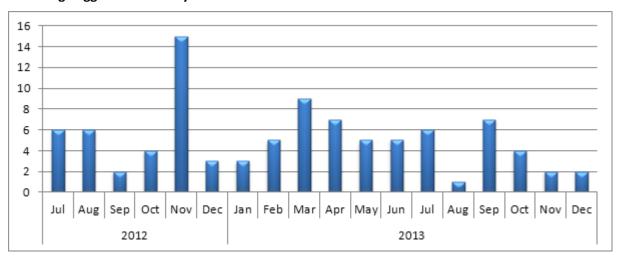
Free range contacts

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2013	Jul	8
	Aug	1
	Sep	15
	Oct	4
	Nov	9
	Dec	5
Total		42

Free range egg contacts

Total		22
	Dec	2
	Nov	2
	Oct	4
	Sep	7
	Aug	1
2013	Jul	6

Free range egg contacts 1 July 2012 to 31 December 2013



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Note: The large spike observed in November 2012 is related to the ACCC's assessment of an application for a free range Certification Trade Mark (CTM).

Further details about the assessment of Australian Egg Corporation CTM 2012 are available on the <u>ACCC website</u> at http://www.accc.gov.au/about-us/public-consultations/australian-egg-corporation-ctm-2012.