

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates 2012

15 – 17 February 2012

Question: AET 53 - 54

Topic: Foreign Ownership of Agricultural Land

Hansard Page: Written

Senator XENOPHON asked:

53. The report into the foreign ownership of agricultural land, released in September last year, revealed that approximately 11 per cent of agricultural land in Australia is foreign-owned.
- a. Will ABS be carrying out further surveys in the future?
 - b. Will they be more detailed?
54. Is any information available on whether the foreign-owned land is owned by private enterprise, big business, state-owned corporations etc?
- a. Will this information be collected in the future?
 - b. If not, why not?

Answer:

53

- a. The ABS has been funded to carry out further Agricultural Land and Water Ownership surveys in 2013 and 2018. In addition, the ABS has been funded to undertake supplementary collections from the Agricultural Census in 2016 and 2021.
 - b. Details surrounding the specific information that is to be included in the upcoming surveys are yet to be finalised. The ABS has commenced processes to engage key stakeholders on this issue.
54. Information is not currently available on the type of business (eg private enterprise, public enterprise, government entity) which owns agricultural land.
- a. Details surrounding the specific information that is to be included in the upcoming surveys are yet to be finalised. The ABS has commenced processes to engage key stakeholders on this issue.