

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

**SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
2006-2007 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING**

Outcome: CSIRO
Output Group: CSIRO

DEST Question No. E918_07

Senator Carr provided in writing.

Question:

Growing of rice

Since that time, has CSIRO provided funds to the Rice Growers Association? If so, on how many occasions?

Answer:

CSIRO has provided the following response.

Co investment with rice industry

On one occasion CSIRO co-invested \$400,000 with the Ricegrowers Association to develop a collaborative research program on the sustainability of rice farming systems to address:

- Improved farming practice leading to enhanced economic performance of rice farming systems for the long term benefit of landholders and their communities;
- Landscape designs and management guidelines that enhance the natural resource base and protect native biodiversity in rice farming systems;
- Integration of economic and ecological imperatives in rice farming system management decisions; and
- Enhanced capability in research, industry, communities and government to address profitability and ecological performance in rice farming systems.

The CSIRO funds were matched dollar-for-dollar by the rice industry.