

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE – QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2003-2004 SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: CSIRO
Output Group: - CSIRO

DEST Question No. E555_04

Senator Carr asked on 5 November 2003.

Question:

- a) How often are these collections audited?
- b) What audit method is used?
- c) Who conducts these audits?

Answer:

CSIRO has provided the following response.

Collections

- a) Audits or collection reviews are conducted as required for each collection. Collections are managed within divisions and are subject to CSIRO policies.
- b) Collection review methods include:
 - Cross-checking of specimens from catalogues to physical sighting of items.
 - Data capture as part of collection management.
 - Monitoring through regular management/maintenance programs.

The most recent full audit of the Australian National Insect Collection (ANIC) was completed in 1999-2000 by the ANIC Manager, using methodologies and benchmarks developed by the Smithsonian Institution (Washington, USA) and Natural History Museum (London, England).

- c) Generally reviews are conducted by those staff managing the collections.