

## EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

### SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2006-2007 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

**Outcome:** CSIRO  
**Output Group:** CSIRO

#### DEST Question No. E734\_07

Senator Crossin asked on 1 November 2006, EWRE Hansard page 20.

#### Question:

**Senator CROSSIN—Given that the CSIRO undertakes research in Darwin into the nature of what happens with the burn-off, given that there is a tropical savannah CRC and given that the move seems to be anyone who is doing research in or in connection with the tropics is actually located in the tropics, what kind of analysis was made of the benefit to the industry before this decision was made?**

**Mr Whelan—We will have to take that particular question on notice,** but your observation on Northern Australia and tropical sciences is an important one and one the organisation has been seeking to respond to. I think we have got roughly 900 staff who work in Northern Australia, across Queensland and the Northern Territory, and we have certainly been increasing our focus on tropical sciences in collaboration with a number of university partners, including the university in Darwin. As you are aware, we do a lot of work with the Desert Knowledge Precinct in Alice Springs. I think we have got about 20 staff there.

#### Answer:

*CSIRO has provided the following response.*

*CSIRO Plant Industry- Darwin*

CSIRO's Divisions conduct annual reviews of all their research programs, to take into account input from industry and government, to ensure the science has maximum relevance and impact for Australian industries and the community.