

Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee
Questions on Notice, including written questions
Budget Estimates 2011-2012, Monday 23 and Tuesday 24 May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Portfolio

QoN	Program/ Division or Agency	Senator	Broad topic	Question	Proof Hansard page & hearing date or Written Q	Date rec'd	Date tabled
1.	ABARES 01	Colbeck	Forest and Wood Products Australia	<p>Senator COLBECK: Yes. I understand that there is the opportunity to update that as more information comes to light over the four-year project period. I suppose I am trying to get a sense of the value of this whole process to industry planning for demand and that sort of stuff. Obviously, there are a number of processes going on at the moment that will have an impact on supply. That is one of the reasons I have been interested in the existence of the work in the first place.</p> <p>Dr Clancy: I do not have the specifics of how far into the future they will try to look at demand. The further you go forward, obviously, there more difficult it is to—</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: I understand that the variability has the capacity to range a bit more with how far you are looking into the future.</p> <p>Mr Glyde: We should be able to provide that on notice. As I understand it, we are still working on developing the new forecasting model. One of the key variables will be how far out we go and what can be reliable and what is not.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: Do you have a scoping document or something that is available to us to have a look at, perhaps on notice?</p> <p>Mr Glyde: We can take that on notice. We are still in the process of negotiating with, if I am correct, Forest and Wood Products Australia. Obviously there are two parties involved in that decision.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: Yes, I understand that.</p>	73 23/05/11		
2.	ABARES 02	Siewert	2007-08 department annual report –	<p>Senator SIEWERT: In your 2007-08 department annual report there was a project by Access Economics which was around developing—this is a BRS project, actually—an Excel model to estimate the potential environmental and economic impacts of various greenhouse gas</p>	78 23/05/11		

			project by Access Economics	<p>mitigation strategies for Australian farmers. Has that report ever been tabled or released?</p> <p>Dr Ritman: No.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: It has never been released? The report that was paid for was \$53,900 and it was about estimating the potential environmental and economic impacts of various greenhouse gas mitigation strategies for Australian farmers. Has that report ever been made publicly available?</p> <p>Dr O'Connell: Just to clarify, was that a report that Access Economics passed—</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: That Access Economics did for BRS.</p> <p>Dr Ritman: We might have to take that on notice. It has been a couple of years—</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Could you take that on notice? If it has been released, tell me where it is available and, if it has not been released, why not, and will it be released?</p> <p>Dr Ritman: Yes.</p>			
3.	ABARES 03	Colbeck	Close-kin genetics project	<p>Senator COLBECK: Can you confirm the number of DNA matches in the first half of the project?</p> <p>Dr Begg: I would have to get you the specific numbers on notice.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: Has any of this information been compiled to give an assessment of the stock at this stage? Or is it all too fresh to the system?</p> <p>Dr Begg: No, it has not been compiled.</p>	106 23/05/11		
4.	ABARES 04	Colbeck	Murray Darling Basin Plan	<p>Please provide and update on DAFF's involvement in the Murray-Darling Basin Plan since Additional Estimates in February?</p>	Written 1		
5.	ABARES 05	Macdonald	Impact of carbon price	<p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: Is your department involved in any way in the assessment of any carbon price on the industries for which your portfolio has responsibility—that is, agriculture, fisheries and forestry?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: We can only answer within the officer's ability. We will take that on notice because if the officer says from his perspective and his division, no, then that might not be reflective of the whole department because we do also have ABARES within the department as well. Rather than bring others to the table because it is a broad question, we will take that on notice and get back.</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: Clearly, the officers are here. They sat at the table until they got the nod from you that you did not want them.</p>	61-62 23/05/11		

				<p>There is no need to take it on notice, they are here. If this officer does not know in his area we have here the secretary and the minister, both of whom can answer my question.</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: I have said I will take it on notice to ensure that I get you a comprehensive answer to your question.(cont.)</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: Regarding the budget, which we are inquiring into today and which pays the salaries of departmental people, obviously, has the department been doing work on the impact on those three industries of a possible carbon tax?</p> <p>Dr O'Connell: That is the question you asked before.</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: Can someone tell me yes or no whether there has been any work done. You do not need to take it on notice, surely. You have this whole room of public servants and not one of them can tell me whether work is being done or not.</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: If you had been following the conversation we had earlier, I indicated that I would take it on notice to make sure I gave you a fulsome answer across the department, because not all of the portfolio is here.</p>			
6.	ABARES 06	Heffernan	Productivity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Your answer to your QON 99 from the February Additional Estimates productivity growth in the Dairy sector at 0.8 percent. Do you have a breakdown by states to look at the productivity growth in the fresh milk dependent states of NSW, WA and Qld? 2. In Answer to QON 102 from the February Additional Estimates you listed a cost benefit analysis of the 2010 locust outbreak. What were the parameters of that study and what were the findings (you listed a completion date of 31 March.)? 3. In Answer to QON 102 from the February Additional Estimates you listed a cost benefit analysis of pest a disease incursions. What are the parameters of the study and how is the study progressing? (you listed a completion date of 30 June.)? 4. Have you been asked to do a study of the impacts of the Asian bee or Myrtle Rust incursions? If not why not? 5. In Answer to QON 102 from the February Additional Estimates you listed a study on the Foreign Investment in Australian Agriculture. What are the terms of reference of this study (due for completion in October) and does it allow you to consider the 	Written 2		

				10 fold increase in foreign ownership in agriculture in the last 3 years and the change from foreign investment to foreign ownership and the impact of that?			
7.	ABARES 07	Coonan	Live Cattle Exports	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many live cattle were exported to Indonesia in 2009/2010? 2. How many were exported in 2008/09? 	Written 2		
8.	ABARES 08	Coonan	Live Cattle Exports	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What was the dollar figure for live cattle exports to Indonesia in 2009/2010? 2. What was value of live cattle exports in 2008/09? 3. What is the explanation for any difference/discrepancy between the figures for 2008/09 and 2009/2010? 	Written 2		
9.	ABARES 09	Coonan	Live Cattle Exports	What statistics do the Department have in relation to the value of the chilled meat export market to the Australian economy, and in particular in regard to the trade in chilled beef to Indonesia? Please provide these.	Written 2		
10.	APD 01	Coonan	Governance in MLA and with Department	<p>Please refer to the 2002 Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee’s report on “The Australian meat industry consultative structure and quota allocation”, specifically the “Second report: Existing government advisory structures in the Australian meat industry”.</p> <p>The report stipulates that “It was put to the Committee that this process is undemocratic”, in relation to the governance and Board structure of Meat and Livestock Australia (p. 11).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has the Government investigated this claim by the Committee? 2. Have there been concerns raised about the governance of MLA with the Department? 3. Have these concerns been investigated? 4. Does the Department or Minister have a process in place to investigate concerns such as those in the Senate committee report? 5. Have there been concerns raised by industry representatives or farmers to the Department or the Minister about the transparency or operation of MLA? 	Written 2		

11.	APD 02	Coonan	LIAWB	Why is the LIAWB working to encourage the adoption of OIE standards rather than Australian Standards?	Written 2		
12.	APD 03	Siewert	Restraint boxes	<p>Senator SIEWERT: The Animal Welfare and Product Integrity Committee. And it has also made comments about restraint boxes, is that correct?</p> <p>Mr Murnane: I am sorry, Senator, it does not come immediately to mind.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Would you take that on notice, please?</p> <p>Dr O'Connell: There is a lot of work goes through that committee, the AWPIC committee, so we would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: If you could, and take on notice what advice it has been provided and what has been the response to that advice. Thank you that would be appreciated.</p>	80 24/05/11		
13.	APD 04	Colbeck	COAG reforms	<p>COAG reforms</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can you provide an update on the COAG reforms and whether the June 2011 deadline will be fully met? 2. If not, what are the timeframes before full implementation will be reached? 3. What remains to be done? 	Written 1		
14.	APD 05	Colbeck	National Food Policy Working Group	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please provide details of the appointment process for the National Food Policy Working Group. Was there an open call for expressions of interest to going the working group? 2. Please provide details of the selection criteria for the National Food Policy Working Group. 3. Please provide details of how the number of working group was determined. 4. What is the annual budget for the working group? 5. Please provide details of how current working group expenditure compares to the budget. 	Written 1		
15.	APD 06	Colbeck	Carbon Tax	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has the Agricultural Productivity Division been consulted in the development and design of the proposed Carbon Tax? 2. What involvement, if any, has the Agricultural Productivity Division had in relation to the proposed Carbon Tax? 3. Has the Agricultural Productivity provided any advice or been asked to provide any advice to the Minister or others in relation to the proposed Carbon Tax? 	Written 1		

				<p>4. Has any assessment been made of the implications for our Agricultural sector of the proposed Carbon Tax?</p> <p>5. Does the Agricultural Productivity Division expect to are you planning to provide any advice or undertake any work in relation to the Carbon Tax in the future?</p>			
16.	APD 07	Heffernan	Effect of High Australian dollar on Agriculture Industry	<p>1. The Government have clearly underestimated the damage caused to the agricultural industry by the abnormally high Australian dollar through their minimalistic budget cuts. How does the Government plan to ease the pressure of the Australian dollar on Australian farmers?</p>	Written 2		
17.	APD 08	Heffernan	Unsustainable Milk process	<p>In answer to QON 32 Additional estimates Feb 2011 on the impact of unsustainable milk prices you said the department was working with industry to assess any impact of this on production and processing.</p> <p>1. How is that progressing?</p> <p>2. Who from industry are you engaging with?</p> <p>3. Are you speaking to the processors and Coles?</p> <p>4. Are you looking at the impact on the different states especially WA, Qld and NSW?</p> <p>5. In answer to QON 44 Additional estimates Feb 2011 on the transparency of Viterra. Your answer missed the point of the question Viterra has access to information that no other grain buyer in SA has. They are the only ones who know how much of each grain at each classification is available in SA by receival site this gives them an unfair marketing advantage as they know exactly what competition they have when selling into markets whereas other grain buyers do not. Do you agree that this gives them an unfair market advantage (please explain your answer)?</p> <p>6. In QON 51 Additional estimates Feb 2011 you were asked that as one of the government's stated reasons for the drought pilot from the incoming government brief was that Some current policies and programs may unintentionally delay necessary change and discourage self reliance.”</p> <p>– what current policies and programs may unintentionally delay necessary change and discourage self reliance?</p> <p>7. What else are you referring to and can you provide details?</p> <p>8. Your answer was the Department was not referring to any other</p>	Written 2		

				current policies or programs. How do you then base your argument on the need for the pilot and changes to the drought support system when you were apparently not referring to any policy?			
18.	APD 09	Coonan	Staff in Indonesia	Since Mr Murane's advice on May 24 that there are 9 fulltime staff in the Livestock Industries and Animal Welfare Branch (LIAWB) and they are all based in Canberra, have any staff been allocated to Indonesia and are now based to investigate the welfare of cattle in Indonesia?	Written 2		
19.	APD 10	Coonan	Slaughter to Australian Standards	Transport, handling and slaughter of animals in countries that import Australian animals for slaughter is not done to Australian standards. How long would it take to achieve Australian standards in facilities that feedlot, handle and slaughter Australian animals in importing countries?	Written 2		
20.	APD 11	Coonan	Existing Government Advisory Structures in the Australian Meat Industry	I refer to the 2002 Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee's report on "The Australian meat industry consultative structure and quota allocation", specifically the "Second report: Existing government advisory structures in the Australian meat industry". <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The report stipulates that "It was put to the Committee that this process is undemocratic", in relation to the governance and Board structure of Meat and Livestock Australia (p. 11). 2. Has the MLA acted upon the concerns in the Report? 3. Have there been concerns raised about the governance of MLA with the Department? 4. Have these concerns been investigated? 5. Have there been concerns raised by industry representatives or farmers about the transparency or operation of MLA? 	Written 2		
21.	APD 12	Xenophon	Export of Livestock	Senator XENOPHON: In response to my question on notice from last estimates, it was reiterated that some state based agencies have the capability to enforce the Australian Standards for the Export of Livestock, the ASEL, but they do not have jurisdictional responsibility for administering the ASEL. Please provide me with the names of those agencies.	63 24/05/11	Transferred 29/6 from Biosecurity- Food	

				Mr Read: I will have to take that on notice.		02	
22.	APD 13	Coonan	Live Animal Exports - stunning in Indonesia	<p>Senator COONAN: Yes, I am sure industry do recognise the importance of continuing to make beneficial changes. I would certainly say that. Is there any difference in content, apart from the fact that Australian standards are enforceable, as to what best practice is between the OIE guidelines and Australian standards, and what recommended methods are for those sorts of things?</p> <p>Mr Glyde: The people that can most help you with this were on earlier on in the Biosecurity Services Group. We might be able to see if we can find someone who can help out, but really you are asking for a veterinary opinion in a way.</p> <p>Senator COONAN: I can put that on notice.</p> <p>Mr Murnane: For the sake of a complete answer it might be most sensible for us to get back to you with a complete answer. You are right—there are differences between the OIE standards and the standards that are enforced in Australia.</p>	76 24/05/11	Was TMAD 10	
23.	APD- APVMA 01	Back	Availability of Ag Vet chemicals	<p>Senator BACK: It is my understanding that at the moment one company has a product registered for use. Is that correct?</p> <p>Dr Bennet-Jenkins: Yes. There are several products registered for use but primarily in crop protection.</p> <p>Senator BACK: Is it still just the one company that has this product available on the market, to your knowledge?</p> <p>Dr Bennet-Jenkins: I think there is more than one product available, but there are not many suppliers that can supply the product. We can get you a list of the products that are available on notice, if you would like.</p> <p>Senator BACK: Yes, thank you. (cont.)</p>	117 23/05/11		
24.	APD- APVMA 02	Back	Use of trichlorfrom (reference to a letter)	<p>Senator BACK: I saw some correspondence when I was looking at this of a letter that had come from the department to the minister in which the writer was indicating a low- or no-volatility risk associated with the use of trichlorfon and the unlikely event of it breaking down into dichlorvos. Is that something you still maintain to be the circumstance?</p> <p>Dr Bennet-Jenkins: I might have to take that particular question on notice, because I am not aware of that letter. It is probably a letter that has come from the department rather than the authority. Maybe it is best if we can take that on notice, because it is a letter that has come from the department.</p>	119 23/05/11		

				Mr Glyde: The minister has received some correspondence in relation to this matter which we have had our chief scientist investigate. We are in the process of drafting some correspondence for the minister to consider.			
25.	APD-APVMA 03	Back	Staff turnover rate	<p>Senator BACK: What is the level of staff turnover in the agency? Is it increasing or decreasing?</p> <p>Dr Bennet-Jenkins: Staff turnover, I believe, is around 9 to 10 per cent for the year to date—or the annual separation rate; it might be an annualised figure. We could give you a more specific figure, but it is about that.</p> <p>Senator BACK: Is that consistent with the recent past and is that figure consistent with the overall department?</p> <p>Mr Glyde: I would have to take that on notice in terms of our turnover rate. It varies from year to year.</p> <p>Dr Bennet-Jenkins: It is within our target. Yes, 9.5 per cent is the total separation rate.</p>	120 23/05/11		
26.	APD-APVMA 04	Back	New applications that come before APVMA	<p>Senator BACK: Am I right in my question that your New Zealand equivalent does in fact have some process whereby an applicant can pay a fee for an expedited assessment? Are you familiar with that?</p> <p>Dr Bennet-Jenkins: I would have to take that on notice to really verify that I am giving you the correct information on that question.</p>	120-121 23/05/11		
27.	APD-APVMA 05	Milne	Honey bees – chemicals used	<p>Senator MILNE: So you are satisfied that those chemicals do not pose a risk to bees in Australia?</p> <p>Dr Bennet-Jenkins: Not if the products are used in accordance with the label instructions and they are not sprayed when bees are foraging. There are very extensive label instructions in terms of how to mitigate the risks to bees.</p> <p>Senator MILNE: When were they approved?</p> <p>Dr Bennet-Jenkins: I would have to take that on notice. I do not know the exact year when the first approval was made or when the first approvals related to uses in crops where bees were a particular concern.</p>	121 23/05/11		
28.	APD-APVMA 06	Colbeck	Testing list of chemicals that FSANZ gives to AQIS	<p>Senator COLBECK: Dr Bennet-Jenkins has not actually strayed into that, and I have tried not to ask questions directly about it. I am trying to get some sense of the interaction between APVMA, which is an agency with obvious expertise in that area, and FSANZ, which actually does do that work. That is what I am trying to get to. Perhaps my next question might take it a bit further. We have had some conversations with both</p>	124 23/05/11		

				<p>FSANZ and AQIS about the testing list of chemicals that FSANZ gives to AQIS to test products at the border. My question is: does FSANZ seek advice from the APVMA in respect of the make-up of that list?</p> <p>Dr Bennet-Jenkins: I would have to take that on notice. I am not aware that it does.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: I am just not sure that I am completely satisfied as to where we are at with that, but it is something that we need to continue to pursue. I will leave it at that for the moment.</p>			
29.	APD-APVMA 07	Heffernan	Spray application pesticides	<p>Spray application pesticides, chemical health issues and exposure to dangerous pesticides by members of the public.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why does the APVMA allow application of pesticides to crops for which the APVMA has no data on the potential for spray drift-e.g. avocados, macadamias? AGDRIFT has no data for these crops, and even the scientist who created AgDrift (Prof Andrew Hewitt) is unwilling to speculate as to whether AgDrift could be predictive for crops other than those which were actually tested, under the climatic conditions of the USA under which they were tested. 2. Why does the APVMA not require registrants to supply data on spray drift for application to all specific individual crops by all permitted methods, such as air blasting, as was required by the US EPA prior to the submission of the data generated by the chemical companies in the Spray Drift Taskforce AgDrift model project? 3. Does the APVMA consider that a neighbour to an orchard, with a home under 100m from the edge of the orchard, may suffer inadvertent exposures, of the quantum of occupational inhalational and dermal exposures, particularly from products which volatise and continue to be available for off-site movement for days after application, such as trichlorfon? 4. Is APVMA aware of the several epidemiological and peer reviewed studies linking the impact of pre-natal exposure to organophosphate pesticides and their children's diminished IQ? 5. If the APVMA are aware of this research, what action do they propose to take regarding pre-natal exposure to organophosphate pesticides? Under real world changing wind conditions are current label conditions sufficiently protective to prevent exposure to these organophosphates? 6. How do current labelling and notification requirements permit 	Written 1		

				<p>neighbours to be protected from such exposure risk?</p> <p>7. Does the APVMA consider that a neighbour to an orchard, with a home under 100m from the edge of the orchard, may suffer inadvertent exposures, of the quantum of occupational inhalational and dermal exposures, particularly from products which volatilise and continue to be available for off-site movement for days after application, such as trichlorfon?</p> <p>8. Is the APVMA aware of the epidemiological paper demonstrating enhanced risk of Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma in persons occupationally exposed to pesticides?</p> <p>9. What legislative changes or resourcing changes would assist the APVMA in completing full pesticide reviews in under 12 months from the time of initiation?</p> <p>10. When will the APVMA conduct toxicological evaluation of excipient chemicals used in pesticide products, especially as these chemicals have been banned in other countries for their adverse affects e.g. nonylphenol surfactants, and impurities such as dioxins?</p> <p>11. When will the APMVA commence toxicological evaluation of both active ingredients and other agents (such as surfactants) that are used in pesticides, herbicides and other agricultural chemicals, in order to characterise endocrine disrupting potential according to the US EPA definition of endocrine disrupting compounds as being 'exogenous agent(s) that interfere with synthesis, secretion, transport, metabolism, binding action, or elimination of natural blood-borne hormones that are present in the body and are responsible for homeostasis, reproduction, and developmental process'?</p> <p>12. When will the APVMA undertake full life-cycle toxicological testing with the best available scientific evidence (including endocrine disruption and immune function modulation using in vitro models) for pesticide product mixtures (including impurities) and those frequently applied as mixtures, especially those which have been detected in waterways draining locations of agrichemical application?</p> <p>13. When will the APVMA ensure markers are used in pesticides by manufacturers, retailers, land owners and therefore 'applicators', to enable pollution to be traced to the source?</p> <p>14. When will the APVMA undertake monitoring of off-site pesticide movement, to determine if its desk top risk assessments, which</p>			
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				are largely based on registrants data, have under Australian conditions been sufficiently protective, to ensure no exceedance of ANZECC water quality guidelines, during the full range of climatic conditions?			
30.	APD-APVMA 08	Colbeck	Agvet chemical regulation reform	<p>Agvet chemical regulation reform</p> <p>1. Can you please explain the statement contained in an APVMA media release on 13 May 2011 titled “Preliminary announcement on agvet chemicals regulation reform”</p> <p>“The APVMA and the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry are continuing to inform the policy development process and preparing to develop processes to implement the Government’s reforms once the specific nature of the reforms has been announced”.</p> <p>2. Can you provide any specific information regarding the status of the policy development?</p> <p>3. Can you provide any specific information regarding the nature of the Government’s reforms?</p>	Written 1		
31.	APD-APVMA 09	Colbeck	Pesticide Usage	<p>Sunland Fish Hatchery</p> <p>In response to QON 56, February 2011, you provided some information in relation to an incident in the Sunland area – can you provide an update on this issue and whether there has been a resolution or what remains outstanding to be determined?</p>	Written 1		
32.	APD-APVMA 10	Colbeck	Regulatory reforms	<p>Independents MPs made mention of the APVMA in their agreement with the Government. Can you provide some information on what work has been undertaken for the Government to meet the demands of the Independents and Greens?</p>	Written 1		
33.	APD-APVMA 11	Colbeck	Regulatory reforms	<p>Can you identify specific examples where the regulatory reforms have or will achieve a reduction in regulatory burden, and provide details of these examples?</p>	Written 1		
34.	APD-APVMA 12	Colbeck	National Framework for Agricultural and Veterinary	<p>1. In response to QON 39 you provided some details about the National Framework for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals. Can you provide an update on progress since Additional Estimates?</p>	Written 1		

			Chemicals	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Please provide an overview of the efficiencies expected to be achieved from the proposed reforms to the regulatory system for agricultural and veterinary chemicals. 3. Please provide an overview of the submissions to the Better Regulation of Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals discussion paper. 			
35.	APD-APVMA 13	Heffernan	Mouse Plague	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the APVMA doing to ease the shortage of chemicals available for mice control? 2. Where is the emergency application for Zinc Phosphide at? 3. Does the Minister understand the timeliness of the requirements to have sufficient mouse control? 4. Is the department doing anything to assist the fast tracking of the application in a timely matter? 	Written 2		
36.	APD-APVMA 14	Heffernan	APVMA Review	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Where is the APVMA review up to? 2. Will there be any increase in costs to farmers due to the reform of the APVMA? 3. Where are we up to with the Fenthion and Dimethoate reviews when will those reviews be finalised? 4. You propose decreasing the costs of importing apples through the draft import protocols for NZ and at the same time changes to chemical registrations is likely to markedly increase the costs of exports (by up to 10 times if growers have to move to irradiation). How do you propose managing the competitive advantage that you are giving our industries competitors? 	Written 2		
37.	APD-APVMA 15	Back	Chemical Use	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is APVMA aware of the volatility of the registered organophosphate insecticide trichlorfon, which is applied to macadamia orchards amongst other crops, by air blast mist spraying? 2. Is it aware that trichlorfon breaks down into dichlorvos which is substantially more volatile and documented to readily move off-site of its application? 3. Is the APVMA aware of the Canadian review of trichlorfon 2008 which identified considerable risk remained after application to orchards for humans, for days, due to volatilising dichlorvos? 4. Why was the Minister, Joe Ludwig, advised by Greg Williamson 	Written 2		

				<p>(DAFF) that there was no volatility risk associated with the use of trichlorfon in his response to a letter from Dr Matt Landos?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Does the label of these products require its use to ensure safe wind directions, during the entire period of spray application and the days of volatising afterwards to ensure, neighbouring properties people and animals are unexposed? 6. Is it meteorologically normal for the wind blow from the same direction continuously all day and night for days at a time? 7. If not, how can APVMA be satisfied that there is adequate control of the off-site movement of a vapour hours to days after application? 8. Is the APVMA aware of the CSIRO guidelines for spray application which highlight the climatic conditions particularly at night, and in warm conditions which enhance off-site movement? 9. Given trichlorfon is applied during northern rivers spring and early summer, has the APVMA risk assessment which permits use, accounted for the climatic conditions at that time which are hot and conducive to drift? 10. Given the detection of dichlorvos on a testing strip inside a fish hatchery building, adjacent to a macadamia farm, time coincident with the application of trichlorfon on a neighbouring macadamia farm, has the APVMA assessed the cumulative inhalational and dermal exposure risks for neighbours of macadamia farms? 11. Why has the APVMA not acquired the Qld Noosa Fish Health Investigation Taskforce final report, and the reports of the assisting scientists to assist in its investigations of Adverse Event reports lodged in October 2008 and subsequently? 12. Why has it not sent out the report of Dr Matt Landos, which was provided to it by Dr Landos, to its independent scientists for review? 13. Is APVMA aware of the recently published US epidemiological studies linking the impact of exposures to Organophosphates on diminishing children's IQ? 14. Is the APVMA aware of the Australian epidemiological paper demonstrating enhanced risk of non-hodgkins lymphoma in person's occupationally exposed to pesticides? 15. Why does the APVMA permit use of this product on macadamia orchards when there are residential houses in close proximity (many under 100m) to many orchards around the Northern 			
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				<p>Rivers of NSW and South East Queensland?</p> <p>16. Why were trichlorfon products not included in the APVMA review of Dichlorvos, when it is fact that it breaks down into that compound?</p> <p>17. Why has the dichlorvos review taken 15 years to complete?</p> <p>18. What legislative changes or resourcing changes would assist the APVMA in completing reviews in under 12 months from the time of initiation?</p>			
38.	APD- AWI 01	Nash	Staffing	<p>Senator NASH: How many staff are employed domestically and, of the countries overseas, how many in each place?</p> <p>Mr McCullough: I can take that on notice and give you the exact figures. Roughly, we have about 70 in Sydney and the rest are based overseas. Something like 70 are based overseas.</p> <p>Senator NASH: The breakdown of that would be great. You were talking about the HRH launch. I gather that was a great success?</p> <p>Mr McCullough: Yes.</p>	100 24/05/11		
39.	APD- AWI 02	Nash	Mulesing Clips	<p>Senator NASH: I was just having a look through your website the other day, and obviously the mulesing clips are still up and still being promoted. If it is not going that well—and we can get back to that in a minute—is it advantageous to still have it on the website looking like the clips have proven successful? Is there a bit of a disconnect between what is there and what is actually happening on the ground?</p> <p>Mr McCullough: We put \$7 million into the project, so it was a significant investment. We have a sense of how they are going—there is no doubt about that—and the sense is that the adoption, or sales, are not that good. But I will endeavour to get you an accurate figure on it rather than guess at it. Certainly they have worked okay with plainer breached animals, but for anything with even a modest amount of wrinkle they do not work so well. The biodegradable version of that is not available either.</p> <p>Senator NASH: What are the reasons for the failure? Obviously you would be aware if their take-up has not been that great; why they are not working would be getting back to you at least anecdotally. What sorts of stories are coming back to you?</p> <p>Mr Merriman: We have a problem here in that it is a commercial business. We have done the R&D and there are commercial rules about us talking about a commercial product. Stuart can get you all the information he wants, but our company wants a suit from the maker of the clips.</p> <p>Senator NASH: So you know that the take-up is not great but you cannot</p>	102-103 24/05/11		

				<p>tell me why not?</p> <p>Mr Merriman: It is a commercial product out there and it is just between buyer and seller.</p> <p>Senator NASH: I am a woolgrower myself. If I were to ring AWI and say, 'How are these clips going? Has anyone had any problems?' you would not tell me?</p> <p>Mr Merriman: We could show you the research and we could put you on to the clip manufacturer.</p> <p>Mr McCullough: We have certainly got some personnel in the company who we could put a woolgrower in touch with. There is a chap called Geoff Linden. He could talk to them about the body style of the sheep and what is required and what you should do and should not do. He could recommend contractors that can apply these things. We, of course, support the commercial partner here—</p> <p>Senator NASH: I am just very interested that it is up on your website but you cannot give me any idea of how it is going.</p> <p>Mr McCullough: We will try to get the sales figures for you, and I presume they will tell the story.</p> <p>Senator NASH: But, having invested the money, wouldn't you want to know why, how and when it is not working given that the information is still here for people to go and see? Having invested all that money, wouldn't you want a bit of a measurement of how it is going?</p> <p>Mr McCullough: We monitor these. If you ask me, they dwelt in the trial phase too long before they got to a commercial partner. I think we will get those figures and communicate them to the committee.</p> <p>Senator NASH: That would be very useful. Thank you. Is that \$7 million the investment from AWI into the research for this from start to finish?</p> <p>Mr McCullough: Yes.</p> <p>Senator NASH: And when did you start on that?</p> <p>Mr McCullough: 2004.</p> <p>Senator NASH: I shall look forward to any information you can provide to the committee. That would be very, very useful. Thank you.</p>			
40.	APD- AWI 03	Back	On-farm and off-farm research projects	<p>Senator BACK: My final question in relation to this is very encouraging, I think—these sums of money being expended. What is the proportion of Australian research organisations that have been successful in your applications, roughly, percentagewise—is it three-quarters, all?</p> <p>Mr McCullough: All the on-farm research portfolio is pretty much all Australian, so you can tick that off. It is \$9 million or \$16 million next year. I do not think we do any international projects in the on-farm</p>	105 24/05/11		

				<p>research portfolio, to the best of my knowledge, but I will take that on notice and make sure that that is right. Let me take the post-farm research on notice, but I would say the majority would be with the supply chain overseas.</p> <p>Senator BACK: Excellent. That concludes my questions, Chair, thank you.</p>			
41.	APD-GRDC 01	Nash	Germplasm	<p>Mr Harvey: This is the exact question that some of the developing countries have been asking, and that is the reason that there was this agreement to set up a fund—so that there would be something in it for the developing countries.</p> <p>Senator NASH: Am I right then in saying that one of the main parts of it is for developed nations to assist developing nations? Or is it the other way around, or—</p> <p>Mr Harvey: It is probably not as simple as that. I think the developed world is very dependent on being able to access material from all over the world. A lot of the areas that are particularly good areas in which to look for new variation in genetic material is some of the undeveloped world, so—</p> <p>Senator NASH: So we do not want to take advantage of them by not having some sort of return in it for them.</p> <p>Mr Harvey: Exactly—it needs to be a quid pro quo.</p> <p>Senator NASH: You may not know this: how many countries contribute to the fund?</p> <p>Mr Harvey: No, I would have to take that on notice. I would have to check to see that the fund is actually up and operating. I know that a number of countries have signed the treaty.</p>	108 24/05/11		
42.	APD-GRDC 02	Nash	Germplasm	<p>Mr Harvey: We run a range of trials. The trials that we run—particularly with canola and the bulk of the trials that we run that have genetically modified crops in them—are the NBT national variety trials. We have a record of all those trials and we have a record of whether or not they have been involved in a flood. We can certainly get back to you and let you know if any of those trials were flooded.</p> <p>Senator NASH: That would be really interesting. As a gross generalisation, I imagine that those running the trials would be the least likely to come and tell you that there had been an issue.</p> <p>Mr Perrett: Under the management arrangements we have for those trials, they are obliged to report any instances that might affect the results, and certainly a flood would.</p>	110-111 24/05/11		

				<p>Senator NASH: To quite a significant degree, I would imagine. If you would supply the background information on that, that would be very useful.</p>			
43.	APD- MLA 01	Siewert	Restraint boxes	<p>Senator SIEWERT: If we could move to the restraint boxes, and you are probably aware that we had a conversation earlier on—it was late this afternoon—in terms of restraint boxes mark 1 and mark 4. Could you tell us how many restraint boxes the MLA has supported as to mark 1 and mark 4 in Indonesia?</p> <p>Mr Palmer: Yes. Mark 1: about 109 boxes have been constructed, and I think they are spread across about 85 to 89 meat plants and they would represent about 85 per cent of the slaughter in Indonesia. Mark 4: these boxes are relatively new and more sophisticated and perhaps more complex and it depends on the circumstances of where they are going as to whether a plant is capable of taking them on. But I think there are about four at the moment although there may be more; I am not too sure. Don't hold me to that. We could take that on notice. Mark 4 is a recent innovation. Mark 1, in the circumstances that it finds itself in the nature of the plants, has achieved a lot and we will continue to work with the mark 1 as we will work with successive models. But it depends a bit on the plant and it depends on what are their circumstances and what is available. We are looking at some stunning trials at the moment as well, but again it depends very much on the level of sophistication and the level of infrastructure and logistics that might operate in a plant.</p>	114 24/05/11		
44.	APD- MLA 02	Siewert	Cattle exports to Indonesia	<p>Senator SIEWERT: I want to quickly go back to the number of cattle exported. What has been the highest number that we have exported to Indonesia?</p> <p>Mr Palmer: I had better take that on notice. I was going to say 700 or 750, but I would prefer to take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: That is fine. I understand what you are saying and that you cannot tell me precisely but it is around what we exported last year and that was around 780 or something like that.</p> <p>Mr Palmer: Yes, but we would be down on that.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: That is about the highest.</p> <p>Mr Palmer: That would be the highest. I think in a big year we would have moved nearly 900 or one million, but that is to all destinations, and 60 or 70 per cent was going to Indonesia. The figures you are quoting would be pretty close to the mark. I would be happy to give you the actual figure and we will do that on notice.</p>	116 24/05/11		

45.	APD- MLA 03	Siewert	Cattle exports	<p>Senator SIEWERT: What is our next biggest market for live cattle? Mr Palmer: The Middle East. I cannot break it down, I am sorry, but Egypt, Jordan and Israel would be the three major ones. Senator SIEWERT: It you would take it on notice to give me that breakdown, that would be great. Mr Palmer: Yes.</p>	116 24/05/11		
46.	APD- MLA 04	Siewert	Stunning trials	<p>Senator SIEWERT: Thank you. Regarding the stunning trials, what evaluation process do you have in place to see if it is delivering benefits? You say you have five stunning trials already established with five planned by the end of the year. How much is MLA investing in those trials? Mr Palmer: I cannot answer that question tonight; I will have to take that on notice. The first five are under trial now, so there will be an evaluation process going on as we speak, but I am not across it. The other five have not come on; they will be later. There are five under trial at the moment, but, as to the actual cost related to those five and what preliminary evaluation has occurred, I will have to take that on notice. Senator SIEWERT: If you could take on notice the cost of the first set and the second set, what the evaluation process is and when you expect to release those results, that would be appreciated. Mr Palmer: Yes, definitely. Senator SIEWERT: Thank you.</p>	116 24/05/11		
47.	APD- MLA 05	Coonan	Mark Boxes in Abattoirs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can the Department confirm that 104 Mark 1 boxes plus another five Mark IV were installed? If not how many? 2. Have any and if so how many of the Mark 1 boxes been removed from these abattoirs. If still in situ how many are still installed and/or being used? 	Written 2		
48.	APD- MLA 06	Coonan	Restraint Boxes	<p>Is it still correct that restraint boxes were in just 10 locations as suggested in the May 2010 report? If not how many locations were they installed in?</p>	Written 2		
49.	APD- MLA 07	Coonan	Calf Boxes	<p>Are the four new calf boxes proposed as part of the 2010/2011 project now installed or still pending?</p>	Written 2		
50.	APD- MLA 08	Coonan	Training on Boxes by MLA	<p>According to the May 2010 report, training had been provided by MLA on about 50 of the boxes (reference: May 2010 report, page 5). Can the Department identify the proposed plan and timetable to</p>	Written 2		

				complete training on the rest of the boxes?			
51.	APD- MLA 09	Coonan	Slaughter Facilities in Indonesia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many slaughter facilities are there in Indonesia? 2. How many have been inspected since March 2010? 3. In May 2010, only 85 facilities had been inspected. Have those been re-inspected since? 4. What was the assessment? 	Written 2		
52.	APD- MLA 10	Coonan	Stunning	How many and where are the facilities using stunning and where are the best practice ones situated?	Written 2		
53.	APD- MLA 11	Coonan	Stunning	How many of all facilities have electricity?	Written 2		
54.	APD- MLA 12	Coonan	Action on May 2010 Report	Has any action been taken in relation to the government run operations that the May 2010 report says are the most poorly run? If so, what?	Written 2		
55.	APD- MLA 13	Coonan	Stunning	The May 2010 report identifies that regular use of stunning leads to better practice. Therefore, is it possible to identify what facilities process the greatest head of cattle? If so what and where are those facilities?	Written 2		
56.	APD- MLA 14	Coonan	Funding to MLA from levies	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much funding does MLA receive each year from producers by way of levies? 2. How much is spent on overseeing and managing Australian live exports to Indonesia? 	Written 2		
57.	APD- MLA 15	Coonan	Mark 1 Restraint Boxes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much has been spent on Mark 1 restraint boxes? 2. How many have been supplied? 	Written 2		
58.	APD- MLA 16	Coonan	Mark 1 Restraint Boxes	When was the moratorium on the supply and/or use of Mark 1 boxes issued and by whom?	Written 2		
59.	APD- MLA 17	Coonan	Beef Levy Review	I refer to the report of May 2009 entitled, "Beef Levy Review 2009" which was prepared by industry experts and stakeholders of the Beef	Written 2		

				<p>Marketing Funding Committee.</p> <p>The report outlined a suggested budget for MLA. It proposed to retain the same level of funding for “improving welfare standards” from 2008 to 2014/15 at \$186 000 (reference, page 46).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What was the extent of MLA’s involvement in consultation of the report? 2. Were the report’s recommendations taken into account when considering future budgets for animal welfare provisions? 3. Does the MLA stand by the advice of this report? 4. Has the Committee’s position on animal welfare funding changed in light of the current circumstances and in the aftermath of the Four Corners report? 5. The report also indicates an indicative program budget for MLA by 2014/15 and recommends an increase from \$800 000 to \$1.9 million for “increased defence activities against welfare and environmental claims” (page 50). 6. Has MLA taken the advice of the Committee and included their proposed budgetary provisions in their own budget? 7. Can MLA identify the nature of “increased defence activities”? 8. Why are “increased defence activities” recommended as deserving a \$1.1 million budget increase whereas the funding standard for “improving welfare standards” remained the same over the same period? 9. Is this indicative of the Committee’s priorities? 10. If not, why is animal welfare granted a smaller budget allocation as opposed to an increase in improving the public image of the industry? 			
60.	APD- MLA 18	Coonan	Animal Welfare manager for Indoneasia (Cameron McDonald)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I understand that in May 2010 Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA) and LiveCorp appointed an animal welfare manager for Indonesia (Cameron McDonald), to be responsible for delivering ongoing animal welfare improvements for Australian cattle exported to that important market. Is this correct? If yes, what were and are Mr McDonald’s duties? 2. Was one of his duties to monitor and report on practices in slaughterhouses or abattoirs? 3. If so how many has he visited to date? 4. Was one of his duties to monitor the use of restraint boxes and 	Written 2		

				<p>observe the slaughter of Australian livestock?</p> <p>5. Has Mr McDonald prepared a report on his activities and if so can that be provided?</p> <p>6. Has MLA appointed any other personnel either before or since May 2010 to Indonesia and if so who and when, what are their duties and what reports have they provided?</p>			
61.	APD- MLA 19	Coonan	Animal Welfare	<p>1. According to the Departments website, animal welfare conditions were improved in 2009/10. Do you agree with that statement? If not why not?</p> <p>2. How does MLA measure whether improvements in animal welfare are being achieved by MLA activities?</p>	Written 2		
62.	APD- MLA 20	Coonan	Animal Welfare	<p>1. More broadly over the last 12 months, how many full time equivalent MLA employees work on improving animal welfare in the Middle East?</p> <p>2. Where are they based?</p>	Written 2		
63.	APD- MLA 21	Coonan	Animal Welfare	<p>1. Over the last 12 months, how many full time equivalent MLA employees work on improving animal welfare in South East Asia?</p> <p>2. Where are they based?</p>	Written 2		
64.	APD- MLA 22	Coonan	Animal Welfare	How does MLA measure whether improvements in animal welfare are being achieved by MLA activities?	Written 2		
65.	APD- MLA 23	Coonan	Restraint Box Training	<p>1. According to the May 2010 report, training had been provided by MLA on about 50 of the boxes? (reference: May 2010 report, page 5)</p> <p>2. Can MLA identify the proposed plan and timetable to complete training on the rest of the boxes?</p>	Written 2		
66.	APD- MLA 24	Coonan	Accreditation on Abattoirs	<p>Please note: This is the same as the question above. The Senator has requested it be referred to MLA for response.</p> <p>In relation to the MLA's "Australian cattle industry provides animal welfare solution" publicly released on June 6 2011 please advise:</p>	Written 2		

				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The location of the 25 selected abattoirs for accreditation and what category each is in. ie <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Those currently using stunning b) Those able to introduce stunning in the near future c) Those that can be gradually introduced 2. What is the timeframe for accreditation of each of these proposed facilities? 3. What are the criteria for accreditation? 4. Will it be to OIE standards (which doesn't mandate stunning) or Australian standards? 5. Who is able to independently audit the abattoirs for current status and verify compliance with upgrades? 6. When will the 'closed system' commence? 7. What is going to happen in the meantime as no-one seems clear on this thus far? 			
67.	APD- MLA 25	Coonan	Mr Palmers Visit to Indonesian Abattoirs	<p>In his evidence to Estimates on May 24 MLA Managing Director Mr Palmer advised that he had visited abattoirs in Indonesia that killed 20-40 cattle a night.</p> <p>When did he visit, where did were these abattoirs and what did he observe of the slaughtering?</p>	Written 2		
68.	APD- MLA 26	Coonan	Mr Palmers Visit to Indonesian Abattoirs	<p>Mr Palmer advised of the national identification system that Australia invested in and was 'set up for all our trade'.</p> <p>Was it considered for Indonesia and if so when?</p>	Written 2		
69.	APD- MLA 27	Coonan	Meat Sales and meat Growth	<p>What are the MLA projections for meat sales and meat growth in Indonesia for both Live and boxed meat that Mr Palmer referred to?</p>	Written 2		
70.	APD- MLA 28	MLA Money received from levies	Coonan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much money does MLA receive each year from producers by way of levies? 2. How much is spent on overseeing and managing Australian live exports to Indonesia? 	Written 2		
71.	APD- RIRDC 01	Nash	Weeds program	<p>Senator NASH: Just on that weeds program, can you give us a bit of an outline of the expenditure of the \$12.4 million, a bit of the detail around how that funding was expended? Obviously there were two staff so that would indicate a significant spend on areas other than staffing.</p>	67 24/05/11		

				<p>Mr Burns: I think the best thing to do would be to provide on notice the details of that, and we are quite happy to do that because we have recently announced a number of the projects. The projects vary in spend, but I will not go into the details of them; I will provide them on notice. For example, some might be \$200,000 or \$300,000 done in conjunction with the CSIRO, which is already putting in money. So we are effectively leveraging, say, a \$1 million project through to smaller projects which might be \$25,000 or \$30,000 to look at other issues. (cont.)</p>			
72.	APD-RIRDC 02	Nash	Biofuels	<p>Senator NASH: So you don't know for lignocellulose? Mr Burns: A little bit but not a lot at the moment. Senator NASH: Okay. So what sort of second generation— Mr Burns: Again, I do not have that detail with me, unfortunately. I can take that on notice and provide all of those details as to the breakdown of the individual projects under those programs. Senator NASH: That would be very useful.</p>	68 24/05/11		
73.	APD-RIRDC 03	Nash	Biofuels	<p>Senator NASH: So what sort of things are being considered as elements that would make the biofuels industry sustainable? Mr Burns: I will take that one on notice. Senator NASH: I do understand that you cannot possibly have all of the information required in your head, Mr Burns. One of the things that you have done in the past is, if I am right, to do with the on-farm impacts of an Australian emissions trading scheme economic analysis. That was one of yours, wasn't it? Mr Burns: Yes.</p>	68 24/05/11		
74.	APD-RIRDC 04	Nash	Emissions Trading Scheme (Report)	<p>Mr Burns: But we have not specifically followed up on that and we do not have any plans to do that at the moment. A lot of the work that is being done on climate change is being done through a collaborative effort which was part of one of these strategies that are being organised through PISC. The University of Melbourne currently runs a thing called, CCRSPI which is coordinating a lot of the climate change research that is being done. We are part of that program. We have not got any projects to my knowledge—but I will check—that are following up on that specific report. Senator NASH: When was that report initiated? Mr Burns: I could not tell you that. That was before I started at the organisation. I would have to take that one on notice too. Senator NASH: Yes, on notice. Is that something that you would have</p>	69 24/05/11		

				<p>been asked to do? What is the situation with these sorts of reports that you do? Are you asked by government to do them or are they initiated from within RIRDC?</p> <p>Mr Burns: Most of our projects are ideas that come to us from researchers. We have an open call for ideas and we have advisory committees that look at those ideas and make recommendations to us about what work should usefully be done. It is possible for the government to ask us to do particular work. I do not know the circumstances of that project because, again, it was before my time, but I will check and provide you with that information.</p> <p>Senator NASH: That would be useful.(cont.)</p>			
75.	APD-RIRDC 05	Colbeck	'New connections driving innovation and productivity' case studies	<p>Rural Businesses and Broadband</p> <p>With regard to the "New Connections Driving Innovation and Productivity" case studies, is RIRDC intending to do further comparative studies, including examining service technologies?</p>	Written 1		
76.	APD-RIRDC 06	Colbeck	Pollination Program	<p>Pollination program</p> <p>The Commonwealth has made \$2 million available to the Asian Honeybee National Management Group to support the national pilot program aimed at creating an ongoing solution to the management of the Asian honeybee. A plan is being developed in relation to the utilisation of this funding.</p> <p>1. When will the plan be finalised, and can RIRDC provide the timeline for the development of this plan and a detailed breakdown of the budget allocations?</p> <p>The Pollination R&D program has identified objectives and anticipated share of the annual Program budget.</p> <p>1. How were the research objectives for the program identified and defined?</p> <p>2. How were budget allocations determined?</p> <p>One of the objectives of the program is listed as 10% allocation to communication activities, including pollination education, extension</p>	Written 1		

				<p>and capacity building.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Please provide details of the expenditure in the current financial year and for 2011-12 for communication activities and the percentage this is of the program budget. 4. Please provide details of the types of communication activities undertaken in the current financial year and planned for 2011-12. 5. How is the efficacy of the communication activities assessed? 6. Are extension activities also included under the other program objectives? 7. If so, please provide details of the types of activities undertaken and the percentage these activities contribute to the budgets of individual projects. 8. Please provide details of expenditure and projects under the Pollination program that relate directly to pollination dependent Tasmania's agricultural industries. 9. Does this expenditure correlate with the relative contribution of Tasmanian pollination agricultural industries as compared to the value of the national pollination dependent agricultural industries? 			
77.	APD-RIRDC 07	Colbeck	Funding allocations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please provide details of the funding allocations across RIRDC's portfolios, specifically: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Animal Industries ○ Plant Industries ○ Rural People and Issues ○ Rural Environment ○ Research 2. Please provide details of the funding allocations to the programs within each of these portfolios. 	Written 1		
78.	APD-RIRDC 08	Colbeck	Honeybee pollination program	<p>Weeds – Phase 2 Research projects</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many research projects from phase 1 have been extended to phase 2? 2. Please provide details of project proposals received for Phases 1 and 2 of this program that relate to Tasmanian weeds. 	Written 1		
79.	APD - WEA 01	Nash	Grain Exports	<p>Senator NASH: Do you have any concept of the reason it did not hit the peak that you thought it might? Was it the wet season? Or are there any</p>	91-92 24/05/11		

				<p>sort or anomalies? Mr Woods: Probably, for a financial year, we are doing better than we thought, because the exports for last year and the financial year are different to what we thought. But, for the marketing year, they are also probably better than we thought at the moment. Given that there is a significant amount of feed wheat around, we were concerned that it would impact adversely on exports, but a number of new markets have opened for feed wheat and exports have actually gone faster than what we may have initially thought once the rain started. Senator NASH: What are those markets for feed wheat? Mr Woods: I think Egypt has opened up as a new market. Senator NASH: Can you take that on notice and let me know if there are any others. Mr Woods: Yes, there are a couple of others. Senator NASH: Thank you, that would be quite useful. (cont.)</p>			
80.	APD - WEA 02	Nash	Export figures	<p>Mr Woodley: At the end of September. I draw your attention to page 15 because it does show the proportionate share of the 18 or so active accredited exporters and it shows the movements between years in terms of their market share. There have been significant movements which show that the market is dynamic and highly competitive. It also shows that no one exporter dominates exporting. ----- Mr Woods: There were 17 or 18 then. I think that year to date there are 10 exporters who have exported over 800,000 tonnes across Australia. Senator NASH: Are those figures that we can have now or do we have to wait? Mr Woodley: That figure cannot be correct. We will have to check that. Senator NASH: That is all right. I understand that this will not be done again until the end of the year, but are there any interim figures you could supply to the committee? Mr Woods: We can provide some interim ones. We do that in newsletters every six months. Senator NASH: That would be very useful, thank you. (cont.)</p>	92-93 24/05/11		
81.	APD - WEA 03	Nash	Sumitomo exports	<p>Mr Woods: Sumitomo used to be an exporter. Senator NASH: When was that? Mr Woods: There were accredited back in probably August 2008 and surrendered their accreditation some six, eight or 10 months ago. Senator NASH: How much grain did they exploit during that time?</p>	96 24/05/11		

				<p>Mr Woods: I am not sure that they were active.</p> <p>Mr Woodley: I do not think they were active.</p> <p>Senator NASH: So they were accredited but they were not active.</p> <p>Mr Woodley: Let me say that we are using the word 'Sumitomo' a little bit loosely, because there are a number of companies within the Sumitomo group. The Australian company was the one that was accredited, but there are other companies within the Sumitomo group that have the interest in Melbourne port terminal.</p> <p>Senator NASH: Could you take that on notice and clarify that for me—that there was not any active trading during that period?</p> <p>Mr Woods: Sure.</p> <p>Senator NASH: Most enlightening, thank you, gentlemen.</p>			
82.	APD - WEA 04	Back	Seasonal Weather Effect on Grain Exports	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has the bad seasonal weather had an impact on the quality of grain? 2. Has there been any reaction from export markets concerning the quality exported from Australia? If so, what? 3. Is this reflected in the demand for Australian grain? 4. Is this reflected in any price fluctuations? 5. Have any new markets for Australian grain been identified? If so, which markets and what action is being taken to secure trade? If not, why? 	Written 2		
83.	APD - WEA 05	Back	Wheat Industry Expert Group	<p>The Wheat Industry Expert Group (IEG) recommended a number of industry development functions for efficient and effective delivery of industry development functions under the new deregulated wheat arrangements.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much of this agency's budget is made up of the wheat export charge (22c per tonne) and how much is anticipated in the forward estimates? 2. WEA regulates the export of wheat from Australia with accreditation powers that monitor and enforce responsibilities by exporters. What proportion of the agency's work does this represent given that there are about 20(?) exporters? What portion of the budget is allocated to this work? 3. Has WEA had to take action against accredited exports? If so, can you provide detail? 4. What makes up the remaining balance of their program? Are any of these industry development functions? Budget? 5. Does WEA undertake a communications program to advise 	Written 2		

				<p>growers of breaches by exporters or pass on information about wheat data, etc? If not, why? Does it think it should?</p> <p>6. Given that the productivity commissions review recommended that the WEA be scrapped do they consider that there are resources capacity to put in place a stronger structure to the deregulated industry?</p> <p>7. What is the status of the industry development functions?</p>			
84.	APD- Wine Australia 01	Xenophon	Auditing	<p>Senator XENOPHON: What spot audits do these protocols allow for, and can you provide a copy of the agreement and the protocols on notice?</p> <p>Mr Clark: Absolutely. I can provide a copy of the standard and the communication we have had with all the packaging facilities in China. We are setting up an audit process. This has just commenced as of 1 April. We are working in the next three to four months for all facilities to be subject to an initial audit and then we will review the outcomes of that audit and then assess the frequency of audits that take place after that.</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: What sort of spot checks do you envisage though? Do you envisage them at the point that it is bottled? How do you envisage the audit process working in terms of spot checks?</p> <p>Mr Clark: We are in the initial phase of implementation and all the facilities will be subject to an initial audit, and they will go in to ensure that they are complying with the standard. From there we will ascertain what resources and what additional checks are required, but I think it is important for us to ascertain the results of this initial phase of audits.</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: I just want to understand the process. There is going to be an auditing process at the packaging facility where presumably the bulk wine is bottled, and then you need to comply with the China Quality Certification Centre standards.</p>	127 23/05/11		
85.	APD- Wine Australia 02	Xenophon	Risk Assessments	<p>Senator XENOPHON: Can you provide details, again on notice, of any risk assessment as to why you would want to stop just at that wholesale level?</p> <p>Mr Clark: I am happy to respond with details.</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: Will the results of these audits be available to wine exporters?</p> <p>Mr Clark: As a general rule, we treat the details about the approved facilities in China as commercial-in-confidence information, because they are effectively the customer of the exporter.</p>	128 23/05/11		

86.	APD- Wine Australia 03	Xenophon	Auditing	<p>Senator XENOPHON: So we have this new system that is supposed to address some of these concerns as part of a previous review. How much extra money has been allocated for this process? China and what other major markets will this audit process apply to and what resources are being put into it?</p> <p>Mr Clark: At this stage the way we have constructed it, it is largely self funding in China because the facilities will need to pay for the audit to take place from CQC.</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: What do you anticipate the cost to be approximately?</p> <p>Mr Clark: Perhaps about \$5,000 per annum, but I can provide further details on notice. But in addition to that we propose, as I said, to send up some of our employees who are auditors here in Australia. We have made an allocation for next year's budget.</p>	128 23/05/11		
87.	APD- Wine Australia 04	Xenophon	Auditing	<p>Senator XENOPHON: And again, on notice, could you give us some idea how often those visits of Australian based auditors or testers will be?</p> <p>Mr Clark: Certainly.</p>	129 23/05/11		
88.	APD- Wine Australia 05	Xenophon	Current technology updates	<p>Mr Clark: Again, I cannot speak to it—I am not a scientist. We have had discussions with bodies involved in these types of activities—the primary one, based in Adelaide, being the Australian Wine Research Institute. They are focused on developing mechanisms which enables that type of fingerprinting of a wine to take place so that ultimately you can zap a wine or put a probe and it can tell you the variety, its vintage and where it is from. But I think is fair to say, and my understanding is, that we are not at that point quite yet. There are techniques under development, which will assist.</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: Could you take on notice to inform me just how advanced we are and how accurate it is?</p> <p>Mr Clark: Certainly.</p>	129 23/05/11		
89.	APD- Wine Australia 06	Nash	Wine	<p>On page 200, there are many words about supporting Australia's winegrowers, what funding is allocated to promoting Australian wines through events such as the Sydney International Wine Competition?</p>	Written 1		
90.	Biosecurity - Animal 01	Xenophon	Export of Livestock	<p>Senator XENOPHON: Okay, take that on notice. I will race through these. Could you provide the comparative mortality figures for sheep exported to the Northern Hemisphere in the first and second halves of</p>	63 24/05/11		

				<p>each year for the past 10 years on notice. Can you confirm that AQIS has in its high mortality investigation reports on shipments over the past several years recommended that stocking densities be reduced for animals travelling to the Middle East or the Northern Hemisphere in the months of May to October?</p> <p>Ms Mellor: Yes.</p>			
91.	Biosecurity - Animal 02	Xenophon	Export of Livestock	<p>Senator XENOPHON: Please provide further details on notice in relation to that. In those reports, where heat stress has been a major contributing factor to the high level of deaths, how many times has that recommendation on similar recommendations to decrease stocking density been made? Please take that question on notice.</p> <p>Ms Mellor: Okay.</p>	63 24/05/11		
92.	Biosecurity - Animal 03	Xenophon	Export of Livestock	<p>Senator XENOPHON: Then I have these questions, which you can take on notice. Over what period of time were the recommendations made? Where heat stress has been a causal or primary contributing factor, in what percentage of all reports has AQIS made the recommendation for lower stocking densities on subsequent voyages?</p> <p>Ms Mellor: Yes.</p>	63 24/05/11		
93.	Biosecurity - Animal 04	Heffernan	Notifiable diseases in New Zealand and Australia	<p>Senator HEFFERNAN: Could you provide us today with a list of the notifiable diseases in New Zealand and in Australia?</p> <p>Dr O'Connell: We can provide that to you tomorrow in Biosecurity—</p> <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: I am just getting in so they will bring it and will not say, 'We'll provide it to you the day after tomorrow.' Could you, tomorrow, provide us with a list of notifiable diseases?</p> <p>Dr O'Connell: Can you be a little more precise about notifiable diseases? What do you mean?</p> <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: Footrot is notifiable, right?</p> <p>Dr O'Connell: Notifiable, state or national.</p> <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: Animal and plant diseases are notifiable.</p> <p>Dr O'Connell: I was trying to get a clarification whether or not—what I was trying to ask you was: do you want those to be notifiable on a national basis or at state level?</p> <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: Both.</p>	25 23/05/11		
94.	Biosecurity - Animal 05	Xenophon	Export of livestock	<p>What percentage of all reports where heat stress has been a causal or primary contributing factor, has AQIS made the recommendation for lower stocking densities on subsequent voyages?</p>	Written 1		

95.	Biosecurity - Animal 06	Xenophon	Export of livestock	Can you confirm that AQIS has also recommended in several of those reports in 2010 that the live export industry implement before 1 May 2011 revised heat stress risk assessment (HSRA) software that better addresses the risk of mortality due to heat stress during the northern hemisphere summer, and if not implemented before 1 May 2011, AQIS should consider implementing additional space requirements for the 2011 northern ME summer?	Written 1		
96.	Biosecurity - Animal 07	Xenophon	Export of livestock	Has new revised HSRA software yet been developed and adopted? If not, when will that upgrade be undertaken and adopted?	Written 1		
97.	Biosecurity - Animal 08	Xenophon	Export of livestock	1. Has AQIS implemented additional space requirements since 1 May 2011 for shipments of live animals to the northern hemisphere? 2. If so, what are those stocking densities, over what period will they apply, and to which countries do they apply?	Written 1		
98.	Biosecurity - Animal 09	Xenophon	Export of livestock	In response to a question I placed on notice in February, you responded that “the aim of the heat risk assessment is to prevent consignments being exported if there is an identifiable unmanageable risk of heat stress”. Can you please provide me with information on how the ‘identifiable unmanageable risk’ is defined?	Written 1		
99.	Biosecurity - Animal 10	Back	Vaccines	Dr Deborah Middleton, veterinary pathologist at AAHL presented research suggesting to the AVA conference last week that if trials and registration progress as expected that a vaccine could be a year away. This was a collaborative effort between AAHL and US Govt’s Uniformed Services University 1. Funding was provided by the Qld & Federal Government – once the vaccine is approved, who will receive the profits from the vaccine? 2. Will AAHL continue to be the key laboratory in developing	Written 2		

				<p>vaccines for zoonotic diseases in the future or will the Centre for Excellence have a role in future international collaborations?</p> <p>3. The Hendra vaccine being developed by AAHL is the first step protecting humans against zoonotic diseases that are transferred from animals and will likely be developed into a vaccine for humans. Has any further action being taken to follow international examples and build stronger relationships between department of health and agriculture (biosecurity)? One-Health?</p>			
100.	Biosecurity - Food 01	Back	Cost Recovery	<p>Senator BACK: Can you just clarify for me full cost recovery? Full cost recovery relates to those expenses that directly relate to the export inspection and related services. Are there any other costs that are added in—overhead costs unrelated to the role that people perform supporting the export inspections that is actually now being apportioned to exporters?</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator BACK: Just help my understanding, your costs, for example, and on costs would all be apportioned to the program for cost recovery?</p> <p>Mr Read: Correct.</p> <p>Senator BACK: What proportion is the secretaries or Ms Mellor?</p> <p>Ms Mellor: There is a proportion of our costs that is attributed to public value. There is a formula that is used to work out what the overhead and on-costs are.</p> <p>Senator BACK: Would those proportions—not dollars, necessarily—be made available to industry so that they have a comprehension of that process?</p> <p>Mr Read: They have seen the detailed Ernst and Young report that in detail goes through all those issues.</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: We will make that report public.</p> <p>Senator BACK: Thank you. That would be appreciated. That would certainly help my understanding.</p>	57 24/05/11		

101.	Biosecurity - Food 02	Heffernan	Short-selling weight product	<p>Senator HEFFERNAN: Short-selling weight produce is an issue that I have been wanting to raise all day.</p> <p>CHAIR: It is on notice, this question.</p> <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: Are you familiar with the practice and is there something that we are going to do about it.</p> <p>CHAIR: It is on notice, thank you. (cont.)</p>	66 24/05/11		
102.	Biosecurity - Food 03	Heffernan	Closer economic relations	<p>Senator HEFFERNAN: Also on notice for tomorrow, could you give us your understanding of the obligations that we have committed ourselves to under the closer economic arrangements with New Zealand as regards agricultural trade?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: We may just require a little bit more specificity as to what you mean.</p> <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: I will give you an example of what I am after.</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: That would be helpful.</p> <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: Because we have a closer economic arrangement with New Zealand, and because we accept their protocols and farm management practices, I am advised that we cannot insist on testing their produce for antibiotics whereas from other countries we can. That is the sort of stuff I am after. That is an arrangement that comes out of the closer economic agreement.</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: By way of assistance, we will certainly take it on notice and see if Biosecurity Australia can add anything to the question you have asked, but, as a clarification, if you have questions around antibiotics, it would appear that would be a question you should direct to FSANZ with this—</p> <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: No. This is simply an administrative arrangement through the closer economic agreement.</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: I understand that broader question, but I am just making sure that there is no mistake about that</p>	26 23/05/11		
103.	Biosecurity - Food 04	Xenophon	Closer economic relations	<p>Senator XENOPHON: How about I narrow the question, and I am conscious this is a supplementary. Insofar as it affects agriculture production in this country, to what extent does your department assess any risk factors in an administrative sense with respect to the CER with New</p>	27 23/05/11		

				<p>Zealand? Senator HEFFERNAN: So far all you have said is, 'It is 20 years old and I do not remember.' Dr O'Connell: Not that I do not remember; I think we— Senator HEFFERNAN: That is what Alan Bond used to say. Senator Ludwig: That is not the evidence. Senator XENOPHON: I am happy for it to be taken on notice. Senator Ludwig: We are happy to take it on notice and get back to you. One of the challenges, of course, is that this is getting asked in the corporate time when hopefully Biosecurity Australia will be able to provide additional—</p>			
104.	Biosecurity - Food 05	Heffernan	AQIS Reforms	<p>AQIS reforms</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Will there be any reforms and efficiencies actually delivered by the time the rebate cut out? 2. Have any of the reviews or reforms of industries to increase efficiencies actually lead to more costs, more paper work and more bureaucracy contrary to the aims of the review? 3. Can you give an update on the progress of the reforms in each industry and whether they will be completed by the time the subsidy is removed. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Horticulture b. Meat – Industry based certified inspectors c. Dairy d. Grains e. Fish f. Live animals 4. Was there an understanding by industry that these reforms would have been completed by the time the rebate period ran out? 5. Are industries expressing concerns about this? 6. In answer to QON 197 (2) Additional estimates Feb 2011 you said that the Export certification reform package is progressing on schedule and on budget. This means there must be a schedule for the reforms what is the schedule and are they still on schedule? 7. One of the things agreed in the reform process was for the government to commission a study by an independent body to look at what are the legitimate costs for government of AQIS inspections. <p>Has the study been undertaken and if so what are the findings?</p>	Written 2		

				<p>8. Given that in the USA industry only pays 14% of the inspection fees and in Brazil its 7% how does this make it a level playing field when we have to compete in the same markets?</p> <p>9. When the Government decided to remove the government rebate on AQIS fees was the USA approached through the trade agreement to ensure we were not giving the US industry an unnecessary advantage?</p> <p>10. Given the NZ has 100% cost recovery and has a much higher rate of diseases such as fireblight and Bacterial canker in Kiwi Fruit or Zebra Chip in Potatoes, was any research done on their model to see whether this compromised the countries biosecurity arrangements</p>			
105.	Biosecurity - Food 06	Heffernan	Export certification reform	<p>Export Certification Program - understand there is no Government contribution to a reform model that actually increases the regulatory burden and increases the total cost of export certification.</p> <p>1. Was there a project in the Export Certification Reform agenda on the Legitimate Costs of Government?</p> <p>2. If yes, why wasn't it ever carried through under the Ministerial Task Force (MTF)?</p> <p>3. Why was it left to industry to undertake their own independent review?</p> <p>4. Minister Burke in his letter to industry dated 16th December 2009 stated that "Successfully implementing these reforms will reduce regulatory costs to export industries in the order of \$30 million per year from 1st July 2011. It will also provide the opportunity to remove substantial cost from the export supply chain for industry and AQIS". The industry is telling us that while there are cost savings for the Government with the retrenchment of meat inspectors, there are no such cost savings for industry since these costs have simply transferred to meat processors who have had to hire their own staff to cover these positions? Is that true?</p> <p>5. As part of the 7-point plan originally put to both sides of Government back in October 2009, was agreement to a reform model that centred on what was then described as the Meat Safety Enhanced Program (MSEP). This agreement with Government was formally acknowledged in a letter jointly signed by the then head of AQIS and the Chair of the Ministerial</p>	Written 1		

				<p>Taskforce on 27th August 2009.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Did MSEP have all of the additional Food Safety Meat Assessors (FSMA's) as part of that system that are there today ? 7. Why was it necessary to include them? 8. Has their inclusion added cost to the new model? MSEP, as a model, has been operating successfully in the pig industry for the last 12-15 years with no market access risk and an impressive hygiene record. 9. Why wasn't the agreed MSEP model deliverable for beef in our major export markets? 10. In the joint letter of 27th August 2009 was signed, advice from Government was there were no market access issues with the MSEP model. Progressively from that point more regulatory burden and costs were placed on the export meat processing industry. Is this true? Please provide details. 11. Initially the industry was told that the FSMA position at the end of the slaughter lines would be removed from 1st July 2011. Is that correct? If yes, please provide details? 12. Did the timeframe blow out to 3-5 years – if so, why? 13. If that is true, was that the outcome of negotiating technical market access requirements for each market? 14. With the additional costs of the FSMA positions and the new verification framework, it would appear the final model that AQIS has negotiated for market access will deliver none of the promised cost-savings to industry in Minister Burke's letter of 16th December 2009. As a result, if full cost recovery is implemented as proposed, industry tells me that every member of the meat industry, big and small, will be faced with substantially increased costs in total. Is this correct? Please provide details. 15. Do you think these increased costs will affect some companies' viability and therefore jobs? 16. Recommendation 79 of the Beale Report suggested that Government move back to 100% Government funding of export services and remove their 40% contribution. The Government accepted that recommendation, didn't they? Is this correct, please provide an explanation. 17. The next recommendation in the Beale Review (Recommendation 80) stated that "The Government should enhance budget funding for activities which support biosecurity-related technical market access for Australian exporters". 			
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				<p>18. Indeed on page 214 it said “The Commonwealth should enhance efforts to defend Australia’s export systems and gain additional market access, including through multilateral, regional and bilateral negotiations. These functions should be funded from the Commonwealth budget rather than via cost-recovery mechanisms”.</p> <p>19. If this recommendation from the Beale Review is also to be picked up, shouldn’t any additional costs that have been part of the market access negotiations by the Government be funded by Government?</p> <p>20. Please outline staff travel and accommodation costs involved?</p> <p>21. Government agreed to MSEP as a base model for reform. Shouldn’t the sentiments expressed in Recommendation 80 mean that if your negotiations led to technical market access that is more onerous and costly than the base model, then Government should accept the additional costs until they can be negotiated away?</p> <p>22. While the redundancy program has focussed on the AQIS on-plant meat inspectors, has there been any review of the staff and overhead costs involved with Head Office as well?</p> <p>23. I understand there has been a reduction in the field staff but no commensurate reduction in office staff in Canberra and State offices, is this true, please detail.</p> <p>24. My understanding is that the Australian Export Meat Inspection System (AEMIS) model has been put on hold pending resolution on the funding issues. Is that correct?</p> <p>25. If yes, in that case has there been any thought given to the human side of this issue and all of the meat inspectors that have accepted new positions or redundancies, that may have sold homes or are moving to new locations, the new appointees to the AQIS Approved Officer positions and the new FSMA’s. Has there been any thought given to the new level of uncertainty they now face? Please provide details.</p>			
106.	Biosecurity - Food 7	Heffernan	AQIS Export Certification Fees and Charges	<p>At page 53 of the Budget Estimates Hansard, 24 May 2011, Senator Ludwig states: “We put \$124 million into the program to ensure that they could get efficiencies.”</p> <p>In the letter of 23 November from Minister Burke to Shadow Minister Cobb, Minister Burke states that</p>	Written 2	Was Biosecurity- Food 13	

				<p>“Successful implementation of these reforms will provide a reduction in annual regulatory costs to the export industries in the order of \$30 million per year from 1 July 2011”</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can the government identify what efficiencies they are talking about? 2. The government has saved \$30 million from the retrenched meat inspectors but total industry inspection costs have risen by between 44% to over 110% once full cost recovery is applied – where are the efficiencies for industry as promised? 			
107.	Biosecurity - Food 8	Colbeck	AQIS fees and charges	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What was the budget appropriation for travel for the activities associated with the current review of AQIS fees and charges? 2. Was this appropriation included in initial budget estimates or was this money an additional subsequent allocation? 3. If so, where was this money drawn from and how was that reallocation justified? 	Written 1		
108.	Biosecurity - Food 9	Nash	MRL for forchlorfenuron	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the acceptable daily intake of the chemical forchlorfenuron? 2. What is the Maximum Residue Level for the chemical forchlorfenuron? 3. Dr Clegg stated “there are really no food safety risks associated with it (forchlorfenuron) that we are able to establish from the press reports” – is the department able to confirm this with more credible research/information? 	Written 1		
109.	Biosecurity - Food 10	Nash	Exploding watermelons	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have any incidents similar to exploding watermelons previously happened elsewhere in China? 2. If so, when and what produce did it involve and do we import produce from the affected province(s)? 3. Dr Clegg said there had been no discussion with China regarding the exploding watermelons as Australia doesn’t import them. However, will the dept still contact China to ensure the correct protocol for chemical use is in place for produce we do import? 	Written 1		
110.	Biosecurity - Food 11	Colbeck	Maximum Residue Limits	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Which agency has responsibility for assessing compliance of imported foods with the Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) as 	Written 1		

				<p>detailed in the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code?</p> <p>2. How are breaches of Australian MRLs by imported foods handled and communicated?</p>			
111.	Biosecurity - Food 12	Heffernan	AQIS Export Certification Fees and Charges	<p>The Government as part of their agreement with the Coalition to allow the passage of the Export Control (Fees) Order 2001 promised to commission an independent study on the legitimate costs of government AQIS Export Certification fees and charges.</p> <p>This study was in addition to the audit of AQIS costs and processes as undertaken by Ernst and Young which was also part of the agreement.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why did the Government and the agricultural department fail to keep their agreement to conduct a legitimate costs of government study AQIS Export Certification fees and charges. 2. Will you now undertake to carry out the study? 3. Will the Government agree to continue the 40% government subsidy on the AQIS Export Certification fees and charges until you have met the terms of the agreement? 	Written 2		
112.	Biosecurity - Food 13	Heffernan	Export certification	<p>At page 54 of the Budget Estimates Hansard, 24 May 2011: Senator Heffernan: "Industry said to me that every member of the meat industry, big and small, will be faced with substantially increased costs in total. Won't that be the result?"</p> <p>Mr Read: "I don't think that is true -----"AEMIS is a cheaper regulatory model to run on the industry than the current meat inspection model"</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Isn't this only true for the Government? 2. Industry advises that with full cost recovery for the Government component of the AEMIS model plus the added cost of the abattoir employing the FSMA's under the model plus the extra cost of the additional verification required under the AEMIS model that in fact it a more expensive model. In fact there are no efficiencies offsetting the return to full cost recovery – a principle objective of the reform. The majority of the Australian export abattoirs are worse off than they would have been with no reform 	Written 2	Was Biosecurity- Plant 15	

				due to the reforms additional regulatory burden. On this basis hasn't the reform program failed?			
113.	Biosecurity - Food 14	Heffernan	Closer economic relations	<p>Ms Evans: I think, Senator, your question was: has the agreement ever been reviewed?</p> <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: Yes.</p> <p>Ms Evans: The advice that we have is that since its inception the agreement has undergone three general reviews. The first accelerated the achievement of free trade in goods meeting the closer economic relationship rules of origin so that by June 1990 all tariffs and quantitative restrictions on trade were eliminated. The second widened the scope of the 1983 agreement to include trade in services. The third deepened the agreement by seeking to harmonise a range of non-tariff measures that affect the flow of goods and services.</p> <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: The proposition which first came to my attention with Powerade drinks, which are imported into New Zealand and got automatic entry into Australia—have those types of arrangements been reviewed?</p> <p>Ms Evans: I would have to take that on notice or ask AQIS or DFAT to confirm. I am not aware of the Powerade—</p>	15 24/05/11	Was TMAD 03	
114.	Biosecurity - Plant 01	Heffernan	New Zealand apple imports	<p>Senator HEFFERNAN: Could you provide to the committee a list of countries who are producers and exporters of apples globally who do not have fire blight?</p> <p>Dr Grant: We can do that.</p> <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: It would include places like South Africa, I guess.</p> <p>Dr Grant: We will get you that list.</p>	27-28 24/05/11		
115.	Biosecurity - Plant 02	Heffernan	New Zealand apple imports	<p>Senator HEFFERNAN: What other countries accept the importation of New Zealand produce without phytosanitary measures and rely purely on the basis of standard orchard practices developed, operated and policed by the exporting nation? You might choose to take that on notice.</p> <p>Dr Grant: We can take it on notice, but there are a number; for example, China will accept New Zealand apples imported into China.</p> <p>Dr Grant: Can I confine our question, if I can. You have asked a question: can we respond to every country in the world that accepts product—I understood—from any other country based on commercial practices—</p>	29-30 24/05/11		

				<p>Senator HEFFERNAN: You might, to the best of your ability, provide a list.</p> <p>Dr Grant: Was it New Zealand apples?</p> <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: What countries accept imports on such a basis? Just farm management practices.</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: Are we confining it to New Zealand apples?</p> <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: You can do whatever you like with it.</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: I am making sure that the question, when it comes back, is responsive to the question.</p> <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: When the questions come back, if they are not right, I am sure we will clarify them.</p> <p>Dr O'Connell: If you are happy, we might keep that within reason; otherwise we are going to have to do a matrix of 150-odd countries, and it will be—</p> <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: Within reason. We will see what 'within reason' means. (cont.)</p>			
116.	Biosecurity - Plant 03	Nash	New Zealand apple imports	<p>Dr Grant: The system has been in place for quite a few years now. It was initiated originally in 1998, as I recall, and progressively was adopted more broadly in industry and since, I believe, about 2002-03 has been widely adopted in industry. New Zealand will attest to that. We accept that system and we have the provision to audit it, as we say. New Zealand exports vast quantities of its apples to a large number of countries and they accept the system in those countries.</p> <p>Senator NASH: How many of those countries do not have fire blight?</p> <p>Dr Grant: Yes. China would be one. China, Japan.</p> <p>Senator NASH: How many countries do they export to?</p> <p>Dr Grant: The major markets that they have are UK, USA, Netherlands, Belgium, Taiwan, China, and Japan.</p> <p>Senator NASH: The ones that do not have fire blight?</p> <p>Dr Grant: Certainly amongst those are China and Japan. We would have to look at the others and take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator NASH: There is an awful lot that they are exporting to that have fire blight so it is a totally different situation than Australia.</p> <p>Dr Grant: I would not say an awful lot, but we will give you that list to the best we can.</p>	33 24/05/11		
117.	Biosecurity - Plant 04	Heffernan	New Zealand apple imports	<p>Senator HEFFERNAN: Could we have the report coming out of those inspections tabled to this committee?</p> <p>Dr Findlay: The report from that is included in section 3, and how we</p>	35 24/05/11		

				<p>have applied it to managing risk.</p> <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: Could you excise it and provide it to this committee? I know that is a dreadful thing to have to ask a whole lot of—</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: We can send you the entire report.</p> <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: Is it too much trouble to just excise the precise part? Could you now provide us with who did the visit—who were the people that actually went on the visit, their names and rank and serial numbers—and how long they were at each facility, the names of the facilities and farms they inspected and at what time of the year each of those inspections was undertaken.</p> <p>Dr O'Connell: Certainly we can provide the information, but I will take on notice the names of the people just in case—</p> <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: This was done, and I think the Prime Minister made an announcement in February. These inspections, as I understand it, were taken in March. Where would that be in terms of the apple orchard phenomenon in New Zealand? Is that at harvest?</p> <p>Dr Grant: Yes, it is essentially the middle of the harvest season and packing season.</p> <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: You will provide the farms, the packing houses, addresses, names and the people who did the inspections and how long they spent at each facility. Thank you very much.</p> <p>Dr Grant: We will certainly take it on notice.</p>			
118.	Biosecurity - Plant 05	Xenophon	New Zealand Apples	<p>Senator XENOPHON: You are aware of the Asian Honeybee as is Senator Milne in particular and others. What will happen to adjacent farms? What strategies are in place? If fire blight is discovered in an individual orchard, what will happen to adjacent farms in Australia?</p> <p>Dr Grant: We are speculating but we would apply the emergency management measures that exist under the deeds that are in existence, the plant deed, the animal deed. Potentially the consultative committee for emergency plant pests would be convened. It would look at the issue. It would propose to the national management group a suite of actions. The national management group would consider those, make its determination and, on that basis, subject to what that outcome was, an incursion management regime would be put in place.</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: On notice, can you provide documents that set out what these protocols would be in the event that fire blight is discovered in an apple orchard in Australia? Presumably you already have some contingencies in the event that occurs.</p> <p>Dr Grant: We can certainly take it on notice and provide you with the</p>	37 24/05/11		

				procedures, yes.			
119.	Biosecurity - Plant 06	Heffernan	New Zealand apples	<p>Biosecurity Australia has proposed to replace Australia phytosanitary measures for New Zealand apples with “standard commercial practices” directed, operated and policed by the NZ agricultural industry.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. By changing their quarantine practices what precedents is Biosecurity Australia setting for the importation of other agricultural products into Australia? 2. What other countries will be able to replace phytosanitary measures with a code of practice program based on ‘standard commercial practices’ for agricultural production and export freely into this country? 3. What other countries accept the importation of New Zealand produce without phytosanitary measures and rely purely on the basis of ‘standard orchard practices’ developed, operated and policed by the exporting industry? 4. What countries accept imports from any nation on such a basis? 5. Why has Biosecurity Australia failed to recommend that apple fruit from a block or orchard be excluded from export to Australia if a pre-harvest outbreak of fire blight is detected? What specific guarantees are provided by NZ’s “standard commercial practices” that would replace the need for such exclusions? 6. Why has Biosecurity Australia failed to recommend that apple fruit be either excluded or fumigated when a heavy infestation of apple leaf curling midge or leaf rollers occurs in an orchard? What specific guarantees are provided by NZ’s “standard commercial practices” that would replace the need for such measures? 7. To what extent did Biosecurity Australia take into account the fact that New Zealand’s Integrated Fruit Production system – its “standard commercial practices” - failed to prevent NZ exporting coddling moth in shipments bound for Taiwan 2007? How can that very same system be trusted to prevent fire blight, canker and Leaf Curling Midge from being exported to Australia? 8. Why has Biosecurity Australia failed to propose a system that engages Australian Quarantine inspectors (or at a minimum NZ Quarantine inspectors) to undertake the pre-clearance 	Written 1		

				<p>inspections at the pack house? How will Biosecurity Australia ensure that those inspections will be sufficiently robust and rigorous to prevent the export of pests and diseases of concern or the export of trash carrying pests and diseases?</p> <p>9. How does Biosecurity Australia propose to ensure that New Zealand’s “standard commercial practices” are indeed standard and that human interpretation and application of those standard practices will not differ from orchard block to orchard block, grower to grower and region to region?</p> <p>10. What levels of auditing will Biosecurity Australia employ to ensure compliance to the standard orchard practices? Who will undertake these audits, AQIS or the New Zealand industry?</p> <p>11. Why has Biosecurity Australia proposed a border inspection regime that only requires the inspection of 600 pieces of apple fruit per consignment when one consignment could involve the importation of many millions of pieces of fruit and indeed fruit from many ‘lots’ or ‘lines’ from multiple orchards and multiple packing facilities?</p> <p>12. Why has Biosecurity Australia failed to recommend that high risk areas for European canker, such as Auckland and Otago, be excluded from exporting to Australia?</p> <p>13. During Biosecurity Australia representatives’ visits to New Zealand how many orchards, packing facilities and exporters did they visit and inspect?</p> <p>14. Who did they visit and how long was each inspection?</p> <p>15. At what time of the year was each visit undertaken?</p>			
120.	Biosecurity - Plant 07	Nash	Honeybee Industry	<p>On page 164, dot point 4, it says “Biosecurity - working with specific industries, RIRDC will support biosecurity research for example in the honeybee and chicken meat industries.</p> <p>1. What support can RIRDC provide to the honeybee industry?</p> <p>2. What funding has been allocated and how much for the honeybee industry?</p> <p>3. What other support is assigned to the honeybee industry?</p>	Written 1		
121.	Biosecurity - Plant 08	Colbeck	Asian Honeybee	<p>Asian Honeybee (NB this is the same question as raised in RIRDC QON)</p> <p>The Commonwealth has made \$2 million available to the Asian</p>	Written 1		

				<p>Honeybee National Management Group to support the national pilot program aimed at creating an ongoing solution to the management of the Asian honeybee. A plan is being developed in relation to the utilisation of this funding.</p> <p>Once the plan is finalised, please provide details of the plan, including budget allocations.</p>			
122.	Biosecurity - Plant 09	Colbeck	Kiwi Canker	<p>1. How many New Zealand orchards are now confirmed as infected with Kiwi Canker?</p> <p>Biosecurity Australia has previously advised suspension of importation of nursery stock and pollen of kiwifruit from all countries where bacterial canker is present.</p> <p>2. Which countries does this include?</p> <p>3. Does the suspension cover importation of kiwi fruit?</p> <p>4. When was the last shipment of kiwi fruit to Australia from New Zealand or any of the other countries where bacterial canker is present?</p> <p>5. What is the current understanding of the epidemiology of Kiwi Canker, and particularly the understanding of vectors for its distribution and spread?</p> <p>6. Has a risk assessment been undertaken to evaluate the potential of transfer to Australian Kiwi orchards through goods and human vectors?</p> <p>7. If so, what are the risks and how are they being controlled?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Are additional quarantine checks have been put in place for people and goods entering Australia from New Zealand? b. Are specific questions asked of people entering Australia from New Zealand to identify those that have recently visited farms in New Zealand? 	Written 1		
123.	Biosecurity - Plant 10	Nash	Fire Blight in apples	<p>On page 69, Program 2.2 Deliverables, point 1 says “strengthen Australia’s biosecurity system to enhance national capacity to manage pest and disease risk”</p>	Written 1		

				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Will the measures being proposed for the importation of apples from fire blight regions in NZ, satisfy this deliverable? 2. What strategies are in place in the event fire blight is found on an individual orchardist? 3. What will happen to adjacent farms? 			
124.	Biosecurity - Plant 11	Heffernan	Myrtle Rust	<p>Myrtle Rust In answer to QON 208 part 3 Additional estimates Feb 2011</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does the department think it would have been eradicated if the National response plan was implemented as though it was Guava Rust? 2. In your answer, the department said that the response to all incursions is set out in the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed and for Myrtle rust has been the same as if it were any other fungi, including those in the Guava rust complex. Is your answer incorrect or just misleading given as you would know there was a 3 month delay in establishing that it was myrtle rust where very little action was taken to eradication the disease whereas if it was taken as Guava rust action would have been immediate and the chance to eradicate it was high. Also this meant that potentially affected industries such as the tea tree industry, lemon myrtle and commercial eucalypt plantations were also kept in the dark as to the potential impact of this disease so when they were alerted it was too late. Please explain. 3. Further in your answer you claim that Spores of Myrtle rust (like most rust fungi) are spread by wind and can travel long distances. My question is that scientists are now saying that evidence of spread in the early months show the pathogen was initially only moved by human movement and it wasn't until the change of weather and conditions that facilitated the spores being moved by wind. So that during the first three months it was eradicable. Does the department have scientist and expertise to assess these claims and what are you views on this? 4. I note in your answer to part 8 of 211 you also said there are now 4 varieties of Eucalypts affected by myrtle rust. What ongoing funding are you making available to manage this outbreak? 5. What R&D money are we putting into this considering Queensland expert Geoff Pegg said 70 -80% of our native forests are Myrtaceae species and susceptible to this disease? 6. What is the role of the National Management Coordination 	Written 2		

				<p>Committee in this process?</p> <p>7. Could I have the names of the members of the NMC Committee, what are their qualifications, who is the Chair?</p> <p>8. What level of expertise do they have in relation to Myrtle rust?</p>			
125.	Biosecurity - Plant 12	Heffernan	NZ Apples and Diseases in Exports	<p>Apples</p> <p>1. What category is apples under the Emergency plant pest response deed?</p> <p>2. Under Category 2 Industry has to fund 20% of the eradication program, is that correct?</p> <p>3. So if the government weakens the protocols and allows fire blight into the country not only has the government co through negligence contributed to the outbreak but you are then going to turn around and ask industry to help you clean up your mess. Are you aware that of the 49 countries that contracted fire blight not one has eradicated it?</p> <p>4. Has do you develop an acceptable risk management approach in those circumstances?</p> <p>5. Why do we not have the equivalent protocols for the import of apples from China?</p> <p>6. Given the outbreak of diseases in NZ such as Bacterial Canker in Kiwi Fruit or Zebra Chip in potatoes New Zealand cannot stop diseases coming into their country. What confidence have we that they can stop diseases in exports?</p>	Written 2		
126.	Biosecurity - Plant 13	Heffernan	Biosecurity Australia Review	<p>1. Biosecurity Australia asserts (in the Review released 4 May) that this is a “non regulated review”. Can Biosecurity Australia reconcile that this Review is, in fact, a complete reassessment of the risk as expressed in the document itself?</p> <p>2. Given this Review is indeed an IRA, should not all of the processes regulated by Part 6A of the Regulations be included in this Review?</p> <p>3. Why has Biosecurity Australia made a decision to not use the semi quantitative method which they used in 2006 but rather to revert to a purely qualitative assessment?</p> <p>4. Biosecurity Australia asserts (page xv) the draft report “takes into account the pre-harvest, harvest and post-harvest practices described as being standard commercial practice for the</p>	Written 2		

				<p>production of apples for export in New Zealand”. Why has Biosecurity Australia chosen to take these practices into account now when they were aware of such practices as early as 1999 and referred to by Apple and Pear Australia Limited in its submission to the 2004 IRA?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. It is readily apparent from the content of that “Draft report”, and from a comparison of its conclusions with those of the IRA 2007, that Biosecurity Australia has conducted a reassessment of the level of quarantine risk associated with the importation, or the proposed importation, of apples from New Zealand and has come to a radically different conclusion. What specific new science was used to reach such a radically different conclusion? 6. What components of the WTO rulings were used by Biosecurity Australia as the bases of making the new rulings within this Draft IRA? 7. During visits to New Zealand Biosecurity Australia representatives how many orchards, packing facilities and exporters did they visit and inspect? 8. Who did the visit and how long was each inspection? 9. At what time of the year was each visit undertaken? 			
127.	Biosecurity - Plant 14	Heffernan	Potato Disease ‘Zebra Chip’	<p>With the potato disease complex ‘zebra chip’ widespread in New Zealand there is very real threat of infestation in the Australian crop by imported potatoes.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is it true that Biosecurity Australia has conceded that infected potatoes would inevitably be imported into Australia if New Zealand was given import rights, but consider there to be adequate means through quarantine facilities to control the risk? 2. Is it also true than Australian experts have travelled to New Zealand and inspected the spread of the disease and have expressed concern about the lack of understanding regarding the pest and its vectors, and allowing infected potatoes into Australia would be highly irresponsible? 	Written 2		
128.	Biosecurity - Plant 15	Heffernan	Phytosanitary measures	<p>Phytosanitary measures</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Given Biosecurity Australia’s proposal to replace pre-border phytosanitary measures for Australian apples from New Zealand 	Written 2		

				<p>with ‘standard commercial practices’ developed, operated and policed by a foreign industry, what precedents is Biosecurity Australia setting for the importation of other agricultural products into Australia?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. What other countries will be able to replace phytosanitary measures with a code of practice program based on ‘standard commercial practices’ for agricultural production and export freely into this country? 3. What other countries accept the importation of New Zealand produce without phytosanitary measures and rely purely on the basis of ‘standard orchard practices’ developed, operated and policed the exporting industry? 4. What countries accept imports from any nation on such a basis? 5. Why has Biosecurity Australia failed to recommend that apple fruit from a block or orchard be excluded from export to Australia if a pre-harvest outbreak of fire blight is detected? 6. What specific guarantees are provided by NZ’s so-called “standard commercial practices” that would replace the need for such exclusions? 7. Why has Biosecurity Australia proposed specific SPS measures for codling moth for WA and yet has not proposed any SPS measures for fire blight and canker when these diseases are considerably more serious to Australian fruit industries? 8. How can Biosecurity Australia say that visual inspection is not assessed as an effective measure for codling moth in WA due to the potential for infestations to be undetectable by visual means and yet not reach the same conclusions for the bacteria causing fire blight? 9. Why has Biosecurity Australia failed to recommend that apple fruit be either excluded or fumigated when a heavy infestation of apple leaf curling midge or leaf rollers occurs in an orchard? 10. What specific guarantees are provided by NZ’s so-called “standard commercial practices” that would replace the need for such measures? 11. To what extent did Biosecurity Australia take into account the fact that New Zealand’s Integrated Fruit Production system – its “standard commercial practices” - failed to prevent NZ exporting codling moth in shipments bound for Taiwan 2007? 12. How can that very same system be trusted to prevent fire blight, canker and Leaf Curling Midge from being exported to 			
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				<p>Australia?</p> <p>13. Why has Biosecurity Australia failed to propose a system that engages Australian Quarantine inspectors (or at a minimum NZ Quarantine inspectors) to undertake the pre-clearance inspections at the pack house?</p> <p>14. Why has Biosecurity Australia proposed that such inspections could be under-taken by those with a vested financial interest in the trade, the pack house itself?</p> <p>15. How will Biosecurity Australia ensure that those inspections will be sufficiently robust and rigorous to prevent the export of pests and diseases of concern or the export of trash carrying pests and diseases?</p> <p>16. How does Biosecurity Australia propose to ensure that New Zealand’s “standard commercial practices” are indeed standard and that human interpretation and application of those standard practices will not differ from orchard block to orchard block, grower to grower and region to region?</p> <p>17. How does Biosecurity Australia propose to ensure that New Zealand’s “standard commercial practices” are actually practiced and that human abuse or avoidance of procedures will not under</p> <p>18. mine the system and allow the export of pests and diseases? What levels of auditing will Biosecurity Australia employ to ensure compliance to the standard orchard practices?</p> <p>19. Who will undertake these audits, AQIS or the New Zealand industry?</p> <p>20. Will audits be carried out regularly, randomly and go beyond a paperwork check and actually have an expert witness practices?</p> <p>21. Does Biosecurity Australia accept that the Integrated Fruit Production system is no more than an industry “code of practice” based on only ‘standard commercial practices’ and that in reality practices are not only dependent upon the willingness and ability of orchardists to adopt them, but on a range of factors that can potentially undermine them?</p> <p>22. Does Biosecurity Australia believe that the NZ ‘standard commercial practices’ are different to those used by all orchardists around the World?</p> <p>23. If yes, in what way are they different?</p> <p>24. Does Biosecurity Australia accept that the Chinese authorities place much more stringent requirements on Australia for the</p>			
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				<p>export of apples and that these requirements are based on concerns relating to pests that are far less serious than the ones New Zealand poses for Australia?</p> <p>25. For example, can Biosecurity Australia reconcile its stance on New Zealand apples with the agreed protocols with China that Chinese inspectors must inspect apples being packed for export out of Tasmania and that, although the mainland operates a management system for fruit fly, exports of apples from the mainland are not permitted into China?</p> <p>26. Can Biosecurity Australia confirm what the difference is between a 'lot' or 'line' of fruit and a 'consignment' of fruit?</p> <p>27. Why has Biosecurity Australia proposed a border inspection regime that ONLY requires the inspection of 600 pieces of apple fruit per consignment when one consignment could involve the importation of many millions of pieces of fruit and indeed fruit from many 'lots' or 'lines' from multiple orchards and multiple packing facilities?</p> <p>28. Why has Biosecurity Australia failed to recommend that should there be a regional outbreak of fire blight, trade be suspended until a review of procedures is completed and alternative protocols are established?</p> <p>29. Why has Biosecurity Australia failed to recommend that where trash is found in consignments upon arrival, the entire consignment is rejected and that the concerned exporters and pack-houses be excluded from exporting to Australia until a review of procedures is completed?</p> <p>30. Why has Biosecurity Australia failed to recommend that high risk areas for European canker, such as Auckland and Otago, be excluded from exporting to Australia?</p> <p>31. Why has Biosecurity Australia failed to take into account in its recommendations for fire blight, the VBNC (viable but non-culturable) state of the disease and late season hail impacts on the incidence of the disease as noted by the WTO?</p> <p>32. Does Biosecurity Australia accept that China, Japan and Taiwan place greater controls on the importation of New Zealand apples than those being proposed within the Draft IRA for the importation of NZ apples to Australia?</p>			
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129.	Biosecurity - Plant 16	Heffernan	NZ Farm Practices for Importing Apples	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If we were to accept New Zealand farm practices as appropriate to management of the risk for importing apples, have New Zealand agreed to allow us to sue them if Australia contracts disease from the import of their apples such as fire blight due to their practices? 2. Have they also agreed to pay the costs associated with attempts to eradicate or manage the disease should an outbreak occur? 	Written 2		
130.	Biosecurity - Plant 17	Boswell	Philippines Bananas	Has the Philippines' Government made any application to export its bananas to the Australia?	Written 2		
131.	Biosecurity - Plant 18	Heffernan	Asian Honey Bee	<p>Asian Bees</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In answer to QON 200 Additional estimates Feb 2011 DAFF didn't answer the simple question of how many traps there were initially. Ms Ransom said there were very few traps to begin with and she was asked the questions surely if she was going to make that statement it would be based on some facts so the question remains. How many traps were initially used? 2. The emergency plant pest response deed sets out the requirements on how the commonwealth state and territory government must respond on specific pest incursions. Who makes the decision on behalf of the government is it the government chief scientist in the area or is it a bureaucrat? 3. When the person makes that decision does this deed outline the funding implications of any decision? 4. So each government then bases their decision on not just the science but also the funding implications, is that correct? 5. Was the commonwealth government or any of the other governments in possession of information as to the long term impacts on an incursion if not eradicated, like for example the economic and environment impact of not containing the cane toad or the rabbit or in this case the Asian bee? 6. If the decision to cease the funding as was proposed was due to science why did not all the states agree, were they looking at the same science or was it that the science was not definite and more work needed to be carried out to determine whether or not the bee could be eradicated? 7. What funding has been set aside in the budget for this outbreak 	Written 2	Moved from APD-APVMA 16	

				<p>and how is it to be used?</p> <p>8. Is funding to be used to contain and manage or are you trying to eradicate?</p> <p>9. Does the Department have a allocation of funds available for pest and disease incursions when they occur to allow an immediate response. Where is money for these outbreaks sourced from and how are the funds in this area used year on year?</p>			
132.	Biosecurity - Quarantine 01	Milne	Small hive beetle	<p>Dr Biddle: As I said before, the exact mode of entry, portal of entry, was not identified to my knowledge then, at the time of the incursion, or subsequently. There are specific procedures applied, as a routine, at Air Force bases for cargo coming, in and I am sure my colleagues from the cargo area can detail those.</p> <p>Senator MILNE: Was any investigation done at the time and was there any change to the arrangements there subsequent to this incursion or did we just say that we did not know where it came from?</p> <p>Mr Chapman: I would have to take on notice, because it is well before my time, as to whether an investigation was done. What I can tell you about, though, is the quarantine processes that we have at air bases and how we work with the Australian military to mitigate the whole range of quarantine issues...</p>	39 24/05/11		
133.	Biosecurity - Quarantine 02	Back	Leases and Upgrades on Quarantine Facilities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Budget Paper 2 states that of the \$19.1m, \$13.7 will be appropriated for upgrades to existing facilities – Will this include funding to upgrades Eastern Creek? How much? 2. Can you identify priority upgrades? 3. Provide detail on the amount of funding to be allocated to each facility? 4. Leases on quarantine facilities are due to end – which facilities' leases are due to expire and when? 5. The lease at Eastern Creek has already been extended for 5 years until 2015. When did negotiations commence – 2009? 6. What is the status of the renegotiation of this lease? 7. How much did the rent increase by at the end of the lease? 8. Industry anticipates that with a hostile landlord that any renegotiated rent will result in higher costs being passed on – request assurance that fees won't double. 9. Give the investment in upgrading the facilities – what new end of lease date does DAFF intend to negotiate for Eastern Creek? Until the new facility is built? 	Written 2		

				<p>10. Spotswood is temporarily suspended, has whether it would be cheaper to reopen than dealing with a hostile landlord at Eastern Creek been explored?</p> <p>11. How much funding would it take to bring it up to scratch? (\$400-800,000?) Compared to Eastern Creek?</p> <p>12. Does the Government intend to have horses processed through the one new future post-entry quarantine facility in the future?</p> <p>13. Is DAFF aware that the number of horses being processed at Government quarantine stations has been in decline since 2008 – just under a hundred in 2010, compared to 2009. Impact of this on quarantine fees and costs?</p>			
134.	Biosecurity - Quarantine 03	Colbeck	Importing food from Korea	<p>1. Why did AQIS recently release the “Importing food from Korea” fact sheet?</p> <p>2. Why was Korea specifically singled out?</p> <p>3. Is this related to the interception of a shipment of prohibited foods from Korea?</p> <p>4. How was this shipment intercepted, was it based on a risk assessment of the exporter, other market intelligence or some form of random verification of imported consignments?</p> <p>5. Have there been any other incidents of illegal imports from Korea?</p> <p>6. What risks, if any have these illegal imports posed?</p> <p>7. What is the extent of illegal imports from Korea and what investigative operations have AQIS put in place to address the risks?</p> <p>8. How does AQIS verify its import systems are effective in detecting illegal imports from all risk countries?</p> <p>9. Has the Korean incident impacted on trade?</p> <p>10. How does AQIS inspect consignments of frozen goods? a. Where do these inspections take place?</p> <p>11. Please explain the specific details of the process by which AQIS identifies consignments for inspection. a. What opportunity exists for incorrectly identified products to by – pass the AQIS inspection points? b. What, if anything, is AQIS doing to identify the risk and extent incorrectly identified products by-passing inspection points?</p>	Written 1	Was Biosecurity- Food 07	

135.	Biosecurity - Strategic Projects 01	Colbeck	The Independents and Greens arrangements with Government	<p>The Independents and Greens have asked for a range of matters to be dealt with by the Government as part of their arrangements with the Government.</p> <p>1. Please provide information regarding the work that has been undertaken for the Government in the Biosecurity Services Group area in order to meet the demands of the Independents and Greens.</p>	Written 1		
136.	Biosecurity - Strategic Projects 02	Back	Centre for Excellence for Biosecurity Risk Analysis and Research	<p>1. Where does funding for the Centre for Excellence for Biosecurity Risk Analysis and Research appear in the Budget Papers No 2?</p> <p>2. The funding allocated to the establishment of this Centre for Excellence is \$1.687mil – what does this funding provide for?</p> <p>3. Will additional funding be contributed by any other partners? (ie. Qld Govt? Industry?)</p> <p>4. Where will it be located?</p> <p>5. Will it bring together some of the expertise or previous projects from the Biosecurity CRC which the government scraped funding? Doesn't this represent a backflip on the Government's decision to defund the Biosecurity CRC?</p> <p>6. Last year – the Minister was presented with a proposal for a Centre for Excellence – Biosecurity does the funding allocated reflected the amount in the proposal?</p> <p>7. Is there any funding allocated in the forward estimates towards any aspect of this centre?</p>	Written 2		
137.	Biosecurity - Strategic Projects 03	Heffernan	Beale Review	<p>Beale review</p> <p>1. Of the 84 recommendations which recommendations have been implemented, what recommendations are yet to be implemented and when does the Government plan to allocate funding for the introduction of these essential recommendations?</p> <p>2. The 2008 Beale Review into Australia's Quarantine and Biosecurity systems found that our border defences are significantly under-resourced, putting Australia's economy, people and environment at significant risk. Yet the only recommendation that the government has adopted is to cut funding.</p>	Written 2		
138.	Biosecurity - Strategic	Back	Biosecurity Staff	<p>At a post-budget address to Crop-life in Canberra on 12 May 2011, Minister Ludwig said "We will transform the system into one based</p>	Written 2		

	Projects 04			<p>on a risk management approach. This means allocating resources where the risk is, at the border and across the biosecurity continuum”.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What part of biosecurity services does the government plan on reforming as part of their risk management approach? 2. The reallocation of resources to attend to risk – will this be from within DAFF and does that refer to staffing? 3. Where will they be reallocated? 4. Further in this same speech the Minister stated that this ‘risk-return approach’ would be ‘underpinned by legislation.’ Can you confirm whether this includes provisions for DAFF/Biosecurity to act against whoever breaches quarantine? Put in place penalties if, for example the quarantine responsibilities were to be outsourced to private providers as part of the new biosecurity mix? 			
139.	CC 01	Siewert	Drought Pilot	<p>Senator SIEWERT: I will be in Centrelink next week so we can follow it up there, thank you, rather than putting you to that trouble. Can I go on specifically, please, to the WA pilot. I have seen the update from earlier this year. I think it was December—and we asked in February. I would just like to update the figures from February, if I could. I am specifically interested to look at where some of the locations for the applications are coming in. I am conscious of privacy issues. We are talking about a large area of Western Australia, and I am particularly interested in looking at the regions where you are getting applications from. Does that make sense?</p> <p>Mr Mortimer: I understand that. I am not sure that we have that level of detail with us now. We can tell you the number of people who are benefiting from each of the measures but, subject to advice from Mr McDonald, I am not sure we have the applications by region.</p> <p>Mr McDonald: We do not have the information for a geographic spread with us here at the hearings.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Could you take it on notice?</p> <p>Mr McDonald: We will take it on notice, but we will have to check whether that raises any privacy issues, given the numbers of people available accessing support. If you wish, I can take you through each measure, if that helps.</p>	30-31 23/05/11		
140.	CCD 02	Nash	Farm Visits by Centrelink Rural Service Officers	<p>Mr McDonald: ...The rural service officers have made over 6,800 contacts with customers, and that has involved 723 farm visits. We have rural social workers who have made over 1,000 customer visits in the WA</p>	31 23/05/11		

				<p>pilot region, and over 200 of those have involved farm visits. There is also the mobile office which travels around Australia. That has made a number of trips to the pilot region, including visiting over 26 communities in the Western Australian pilot region.</p> <p>Senator NASH: The rural service officers you are talking about, are they initiated by the rural service officer or is that as a request for them to visit from the farm household?</p> <p>Mr McDonald: It could be either. So what that means is that it is a service that is going into someone's house.</p> <p>Senator NASH: Could you take it on notice—and I understand you would not have that now—to give us the breakdown of where they have been invited and where they have initiated the contact?</p> <p>Mr McDonald: I can check with Centrelink, yes, and take that on notice...</p>			
141.	CCD 03	Siewert	Drought Pilot	<p>Senator SIEWERT: Eight grants out of how many applications?</p> <p>Mr Mortimer: A couple of hundred, I think. They were assessed by the National Rural Advisory Council late last year and that council made recommendations to the minister. There was a considerable number, but the funding allowed for eight that were ranked as highest against the criteria.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: It was the funding that restricted how many could be funded?</p> <p>Mr Mortimer: The funding was agreed to be 300,000 and the total value of the grants that were sought exceeded that considerably.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: By how much?</p> <p>Mr Mortimer: I cannot remember; I will have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: If you could, that would be appreciated.</p>	31-32 23/05/11		
142.	CCD 04	Siewert	Drought Pilot	<p>Senator SIEWERT: I want to go back, before I move on, to this issue about geography. Could you give us a breakdown into pastoral properties and farm businesses? If you cannot, give us inter-regions.</p> <p>Mr McDonald: We will have to take that on notice and see what we can make available.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: That would be appreciated, thank you. I am not criticising the decision to expand it or to continue it, but can you go through the circumstances that have led to that; if, in doing that, you had taken into account some of the findings of the review already; and whether the review will be extended to cover the new circumstances?</p>	32 23/05/11		

143.	CCD 05	Siewert	Drought Pilot	<p>Senator SIEWERT: Is it expected that that review will be released prior to you making an announcement on the future policy approach in the next budget?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: I have not turned my mind to it. I will take your question on notice and have a think about it. It would be my broad view, because it does require the state and territories also to have a look at the review findings and settle some of the outcome from that. The sequence of events I would envisage, unless someone here corrects me, would be that the review will report its findings to the WA government and me. Then, examining that, we will make some decisions about what we think the future should look like. They will be then matters for us to progress through, I imagine, a COAG process. I do not want to second guess where that will end up either, but you can see the sequencing does mean that it will require the review findings, the WA government and ourselves to examine those, and then, particularly as we move forward for national examination of these issues, a COAG process again. There is some work to be done but that is broadly the outline of how things will progress, if that helps.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Yes, it does in terms of the timeline. I do not necessarily see the connection—I understand how you need to take the findings into account and take it to COAG et cetera. To me, that does not necessarily mean it is mutually exclusive from then releasing the actual review publicly so that the rest of us can understand the findings.</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: Because it is both WA and ourselves, it will be also contingent on a WA decision on that as well.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: I appreciate that.</p>	33 23/05/11		
144.	CCD 06	Nash	Exceptional Circumstances	<p>Senator NASH: Correct me if I am wrong, that 21.3 relates only to the River Murray and Lower Lakes extension?</p> <p>Mr McDonald: Correct. That represents a 12-month estimate for what that extension will cost the government.</p> <p>Senator NASH: Given we are a bit time constrained, could you take on notice for me and provide the breakup of the 21.3 and how that will operate through those two EC areas?</p> <p>Mr McDonald: We can do that.</p> <p>Senator NASH: That would be great. (cont.)</p>	36 23/05/11		
145.	CCD 07	Nash	NRAC visiting locations	<p>Senator NASH: Given that we are short of time, I have a whole range of questions I will put on notice. I understand that NRAC gives the advice and that is the determination they have made. Could you provide in detail</p>	37 23/05/11		

				<p>for the committee though the locations that NRAC visited across the country in terms of making these determinations?</p> <p>Mr Mortimer: Yes, absolutely.</p> <p>Senator NASH: Who they spoke with and what the consultation was throughout that process, in detail.</p> <p>Mr Mortimer: We do not necessarily have lists of all the people who attend the meetings; we do not do attendance lists on NRAC inspections, albeit it was a broad sense of how many people attended. We certainly have the itineraries and can inform you of where NRAC visited.</p> <p>Senator NASH: If you could ask NRAC though, even if they cannot give you individual names, the circumstances through which those people were at those meetings, were they farmers, were they local business people, just that type of information would be quite useful.</p>			
146.	CCD 08	Back	Program underspend	<p>Senator BACK: Why was it that \$780,000-odd was underspent? Was there not a demand for the program?</p> <p>Mr McDonald: I am not quite clear on what you are referring to.</p> <p>Mr Mortimer: Can you take us to the relevant page in—</p> <p>Senator BACK: Given the fact that I have got about two minutes left, perhaps I will place that on notice and we can explore it further.</p> <p>Mr McDonald: That would be helpful.</p>	38-39 23/05/11		
147.	CCD 09	Colbeck	Illegal Logging – Capacity Building	<p>Senator COLBECK: The 15 projects to date: what have they achieved?</p> <p>Mr Talbot: The projects to date in terms of the first round of capacity building were over a broad range of topics. They were involved in things like helping build capacity in certain areas such as to help with things like improving the skills of forest workers. They were also to improve things like the ways people manage their forests. I can give you details and give you outcomes. I just unfortunately cannot find my page at the moment, but I can give you details of them. We do have them up on our website the projects that were granted.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: What has been the feedback from those projects? What has been the reaction to those?</p> <p>Mr Talbot: The feedback to the projects has been quite good. I must admit I have not followed up on them recently so I will have to come back to you with that.</p>	42 23/05/11		
148.	CCD 10	Colbeck	Issues with PNG and Indonesian governments	<p>Senator COLBECK: Is there a tender process, an application process?</p> <p>Mr Talbot: There were two processes: there was an application process where we accepted applications from a number of proponents, and some</p>	44 23/05/11		

				<p>were accepted; and then there was another process where we worked with the governments of Indonesia and PNG on their priorities that matched ours.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: Through each of those processes we have had no successful commencements at this point in time?</p> <p>Mr Talbot: None have commenced at this point in time.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: Are the projects that you are looking to commence direct negotiated projects or ones that have been subject to an application process?</p> <p>Mr Talbot: I would have to take that on notice; I cannot remember off the top of my head.</p>			
149.	CCD 11	Brown	Tasmanian Forestry - Ta Ann	<p>Senator BOB BROWN: Has the department met up with Datuk Abdul Hamed Sepawi or other executives from Ta Ann?</p> <p>Mr Aldred: No.</p> <p>Senator BOB BROWN: Will you just check on that for me, take the question on notice?</p> <p>Mr Aldred: Okay.</p> <p>Senator BOB BROWN: You are telling me that there has been no communication between the Commonwealth—no direct negotiation or communication with Ta Ann operating in Tasmania?</p> <p>Dr O'Connell: Senator, I think you asked about the department. Not being the Commonwealth, I do not know we can answer on behalf of the Commonwealth because we can only say what we have done.</p> <p>Senator BOB BROWN: The department has had no communication or—</p> <p>Dr O'Connell: Recently?</p> <p>Senator BOB BROWN: No, I mean at all.</p> <p>Mr Aldred: Ever?</p> <p>Dr O'Connell: We will have to take that on notice, yes.</p> <p>Mr Aldred: We will take it on notice.</p>	46 23/05/11		
150.	CCD 12	Brown	Tasmanian Forestry - Ta Ann	<p>Senator BOB BROWN: The Commonwealth has helped fund the establishment of Ta Ann at Smithton and at Southwood, its veneer processing works in Tasmania. Do you know what due diligence was used on this company before that funding was supplied?</p> <p>Mr Aldred: I take that on notice. In terms of a funding program that may have assisted Ta Ann, it was several years ago, is my understanding. We would need to go back and look at that.</p>	47 23/05/11		

151.	CCD 13	Brown	Tasmanian Forestry - Ta Ann	<p>Senator Ludwig: Yes, and I was just going to add too that I met with Ta Ann—just so that it is clear. They presented their views in relation to the tariffs—the Tasmanian forest principles.</p> <p>Senator BOB BROWN: When was that?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: I do not recollect them raising the issues that you just raised.</p> <p>Senator BOB BROWN: Yes, when did you meet with them?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: Not long ago, I can get a date.</p> <p>Senator BOB BROWN: Can you? Where did that meeting take place?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: In my office.</p> <p>Senator BOB BROWN: Here or?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: In Canberra, sorry, yes.</p> <p>Senator BOB BROWN: What was the representation from Ta Ann, who was on it?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: I can get that on notice, I do not recall who was exactly there, this is just from my recollection today while you are talking about it. I did not want to let the record stand that I had not responded in this way. I can get a brief on that for you. My recollection was that it was principally in relation to the Tasmanian forest principles. I deal with a range of people that come to my office and make representations about a broad range of issues.</p> <p>Senator BOB BROWN: What was their representation to you, minister? This is Ta Ann's representation.</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: Yes, I will go and check the record to make plain what it was, but it would have been—</p> <p>Senator BOB BROWN: Could you tell the committee what their position was?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: As I said, I will go back and have a look at our meeting dates to make sure, because I do not want to mislead the committee in any way.</p>	47. 23/05/11 Note: page 49 (after break) for some response.		
152.	CCD 14	Brown	Tasmanian Forestry - Ta Ann	<p>Senator BOB BROWN: Good, I would be pleased if you did. I have heard from another committee this morning that there was no requirement on workers coming to Ta Ann from Malaysia to look first for semi-skilled or skilled workers in Tasmania or, indeed, in Australia. Were you aware of that?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: I am not aware of that specific matter, no.</p> <p>Senator BOB BROWN: Do you know why it was that there was no requirement on this company receiving some millions of dollars of investment funding from the Australian government to have Tasmanian</p>	47 23/05/11		

				<p>workers fill jobs such as machinists or program managers when there has been a considerable loss of jobs out of the Tasmanian industry and people who could have filled those jobs on the face of it?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: Yes, I am not familiar with the issue that you raise, so I am happy to take it on notice and see what I can find.</p> <p>Senator BOB BROWN: Do you know why it is that the minister for forestry is not familiar with an issue in which \$15 million of Commonwealth money has been put into an investment for Ta Ann to establish its operations in Tasmania at Smithton and in the south of the state?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: Yes, I am aware of the broad issues, but you are going to specifics about whether and how they accessed labour. What I then said was, in those specific examples, I am happy to take that on notice and have a look at the issue. You are then asking me to comment specifically on why they did not do X or Y, and on that basis it would be far wiser for me to look at the record as to what the Commonwealth has done in this area, what the contractual obligations were in this area, and when and on what basis the payments were made, certainly before my time as minister. I think that is correct, isn't it?</p>			
153.	CCD 15	Brown	Tasmanian Forestry - Ta Ann	<p>Senator BOB BROWN: Yes, I do. Would you be able to provide the committee not just with the information about that meeting with Ta Ann that apparently is worrying Senator Colbeck a great deal, but also a record of all previous meetings between Ta Ann and ministers in this period of Labor government?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: We will take it on notice and see what we can provide.</p> <p>Senator BOB BROWN: Would you also provide a record of meetings between ministerial officials—and we are getting it from the department—and Ta Ann or its representatives in that same period of time?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: I am not sure we outlined the period of time.</p> <p>Senator BOB BROWN: Since the elections in 2007.</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: That gives me a start date.</p> <p>Senator BOB BROWN: Yes.</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: I will see what I have on my record. I may not have access to other ministerial colleagues' diaries or information.</p>	48 23/05/11		
154.	CCD 16	Brown	Tasmanian Forestry - Ta Ann	<p>Senator BOB BROWN: Could you—I will understand if you need to take this on notice—supply the committee with the figures for the volume of wood that has been supplied or will be supplied between now and 2027</p>	49 23/05/11		

				<p>to Ta Ann from high conservation value forests as outlined in the current agreement by the submitters from the environment movement?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: I am not sure I have that information available to me. I will certainly see what the department has available, but I cannot say with any degree of certainty that we could provide that figure if the department does not have that figure.</p> <p>Senator BOB BROWN: Were you aware that Ta Ann has taken recently timber from a putative World Heritage value forest such as the Florentine, the Styx Valley, the Picton Valley and indeed, coupes, right down to bordering the World Heritage area against the south coast of Tasmania?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: I can check with the department as to whether they are aware of it.</p> <p>Senator BOB BROWN: Would you check whether in fact that is the case?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: Yes, but if it is not World Heritage then there would be nil.</p> <p>Senator BOB BROWN: No, I said putative World Heritage. Yes.</p>			
155.	CCD 17	Brown	Forestry Tasmania	<p>Senator BOB BROWN: I am concerned that those piles of corn indicate that there is the indiscriminate poisoning of marsupials—they are being directly targeted—including rare and endangered species, in that coupe and other coupes in the Weld Valley and elsewhere. Would you be able to take on notice to find out for this committee why corn is being used in these logged coupes after they have been burnt when they are being reseeded?</p> <p>Mr Aldred: I will take it on notice, but I suspect that my response will be it is an operational responsibility for Forestry Tasmania.</p>	50 23/05/11		
156.	CCD 18	Milne	Tasmanian Forestry - Ta Ann	<p>Senator MILNE: Never mind. I want to follow up questions about Ta Ann. As you would be aware, under the Tasmanian Community Forest Agreement grants process there were two separate grants made to Ta Ann. You may need to take this on notice. Subsequent to those grants being made, was the Commonwealth involved in changing the specifications of the logs that Ta Ann could receive from the Tasmanian forests? If so, what involvement did the Commonwealth have in changing those specifications? The second question is, in relation to the fraud inquiry which Senator Colbeck asked about earlier, I take from your answer that that has been concluded, from you saying that no further action had been taken. Has the department put out any statement or anything and when will the report of that inquiry be made public? It was very public in the</p>	52 23/05/11		

				<p>Tasmanian press that there was to be a fraud investigation into the 17 million and that it was going to be conducted by Edward Stanmore of the fraud investigation unit. It was going to be into the grants that had been made and to look at particularly whether there had been favouritism and whether the appropriate criteria had been adhered to et cetera. So when can we expect that report to be made public?</p> <p>Mr Aldred: In response to the first question around Ta Ann, as you indicated, I will take that on notice. I am not aware of any involvement in changing specifications or whatever but it is an issue that would have happened, I am assuming from your question, a few years ago.</p> <p>Senator MILNE: No, not that long ago, but it does go to the question of the Commonwealth granting money to get out of old-growth forests and to go to smaller logs. The grants were made on that basis and then subsequent to that Ta Ann had the specifications changed so that they could log old growth. That is where I am going with this, to establish whether the conditions of the grants have been met. But I just wanted to know the Commonwealth's involvement at this point in that process.</p> <p>Mr Aldred: I will take that on notice and find out what went on on that. In the sense of allegations of fraud, any fraud allegations are treated confidentially and internally. I have indicated, I think, that no further action will be taken unless new evidence comes to light. Again, we investigate any new allegation or new information. If I can, I would characterise, as I may have said earlier, the nature of the allegations as more related to misinterpretation of guidelines.</p>			
157.	CCD 19	Milne	Tasmanian Forestry	<p>Senator MILNE: Yes, but I ask the minister whether it is the government's intention to at least inform the Tasmanian community that the government has concluded that investigation and at least put the results out there because a lot of people in Tasmania just assume the investigation is ongoing. I do not know what they think. But there is not an end to it.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: I will take that on notice. I understand the point that you make...</p>	52 23/05/11		
158.	CCD 20	Milne	Forest enterprises Australia	<p>Senator MILNE: ...Coming back to the Tasmanian Community Forest Agreement grants, as you rightly mentioned a moment ago, if under the deed of agreement a company goes broke or sells out or something within a certain time frame then there is an obligation to pay the Commonwealth back – or there was under some of those grants. Can you tell me how much Forest Enterprises Australia have been required to pay back, and</p>	53 23/05/11		

				<p>how much the company who got the money for the boilers at Wesley Vale were meant to pay back and whether it has been paid back.</p> <p>Mr Aldred: Senator, a couple of things, if I may. There are asset disposal procedures. It does not specifically say in the deed of grant that the funds must be repaid, but it does say that we need to go through an asset disposal consideration of that. I just want to make that clear. In respect of the specific details of those that you have raised, I will have to take them notice.</p> <p>Senator MILNE: We have been asking these questions year in, year out since these grants started. We all know that Forest Enterprises Australia got \$7 million from the Commonwealth and then went into liquidation. Is the Commonwealth in receipt of any money back from Forest Enterprises Australia to date?</p> <p>Mr Aldred: I do not believe so. I will need to confirm, because I do believe that the asset disposal procedures have been invoked but I would preface that, if I may, by saying I would not wish to mislead the committee and I will check the details.</p> <p>Senator MILNE: The last time I asked you, you told me that you were pursuing three recipients of the grant to return some of the Commonwealth money. Have any of the three recipients returned any of that money?</p> <p>Mr Aldred: I will need to check that. I must say that I cannot recall saying that we were pursuing three. I personally cannot recall making that statement. I will need to check the <i>Hansard</i> and follow up.</p> <p>Senator MILNE: It was questions on notice. Perhaps Mr Talbot could help.</p> <p>Mr Talbot: I will have to take it on notice, too, Senator Milne. I am sorry</p>			
159.	CCD 21	Milne	Forestry Tasmania	<p>Senator MILNE: Can I ask in relation to Forestry Tasmania: it has been a recipient of more than \$100 million out of the Tasmanian Community Forestry Agreement grants. The Tasmanian auditor indicated that Forestry Tasmania had used that money to give itself an operational account; otherwise, it would have had no cash reserves. Can you tell me whether Forestry Tasmania is going to fulfil the obligations that it entered into with the Commonwealth for the more than \$100 million that it received upfront from the Commonwealth?</p> <p>Mr Aldred: We expect Forestry Tasmania to meet its obligations. The Commonwealth funds have, by my recollection of information that we chased up on notice, been acquitted. Funds that may be held by Forestry Tasmania and the Tasmanian audit report is a matter then for Tasmania.</p>	53-54 23/05/11		

				<p>Senator MILNE: No, it is not actually a matter for Tasmania. I disagree. It is taxpayers' money that was paid to Forestry Tasmania. You acquitted your side of it by making the funds available to them, but surely on behalf of the taxpayers we need to know that Forestry Tasmania spent the money as was required by what it was given to them for.</p> <p>Mr Aldred: By 'acquittal' I mean Forestry Tasmania, by my recollection, has acquitted the funds to the Commonwealth. I am happy to take it on notice and check that, but that is my understanding.</p> <p>Senator MILNE: I would like to know when that occurred because the auditor in Tasmania last year indicated that Forestry Tasmania had not spent the money as required by the Commonwealth but knew they had to do so. So I would be very interested to know when they actually spent it, as they were required to do so.</p> <p>Mr Aldred: I think, as you described, Forestry Tasmania received funds from both the Tasmanian government and the Commonwealth government for a range of activities. My understanding is that there are some activities—and I cannot be specific about them—which will require further works in future years and Forestry Tasmania has some funds in reserve. I indicated that my understanding is that Forestry Tasmania has made an acquittal of those Australian government funds to the Commonwealth.</p>			
160.	CCD 22	Bob Brown	Plenty Link Road	<p>Referring to the answer to question 119 from the February estimates climate change session, what has been the Commonwealth's total contribution to the building or repair of the Plenty Link road? If you cannot answer this question, please advise who can and why this department is unable to get the answer from that source?</p>	Written 1		
161.	CCD 23	Colbeck	World Forestry Congress	<p>Attendance at 2009 World Forestry Congress</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is it usual practice for Embassy Officials to attend International Forestry events on behalf of DAFF and the Government? 2. Did the Embassy Official have particular forestry-related knowledge or skills? 3. What were the outcomes of the official's attendance? Was a report made to DAFF? 	Written 1		

162.	CCD 24	Colbeck	World Forestry Congress	<p>Bid for the 14th World Forestry Congress</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can the Department expand on a previous QON Answer (#127 from Feb 2011 Additional Estimates) and detail why it did not support the bid from the Melbourne World Forestry Congress Bid Committee? 2. What would have been required for the Bid to be supported? 	Written 1		
163.	CCD 25	Colbeck	Intensive Forest Management program review	<p>When will the TCFA Intensive Forest Management program review commence?</p>	Written 1		
164.	CCD 26	Heffernan	Exceptional Circumstances	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is the direction of drought policy reform about reducing the cost to Government of helping farmers in drought rather than meeting the needs of the farming community? 2. Your Answer to your QON 99 from the February Additional Estimates outlines the polices terminating at the completion of an EC period. 3. With regard to the exit grants is a farmer eligible for an exit grant if he/she has being trying to sell their property during an EC declared period but does not complete the sale until after the period of EC for that area terminates? 	Written 2		
165.	CCD 27	Nash	Exceptional Circumstances	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is the government/department aware of the cumulative impact the floods have had on top of a prolonged drought? 2. The DAFF website states to be classified as an EC event, it: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • must be rare and severe, that is it must not have occurred more than once on average in every 20 to 25 years and must be a significant scale • must result in a rare and severe downturn in farm income over a prolonged period of time (e.g. greater than 12 months) <p>Given the time it will take many farmers to recover from the drought and floods, which will be at least 12 months, why won't the govt/dept extend EC assistance to allow them more time to recover?</p>	Written 2		
166.	CCD 28	Nash	Drought	<p>The Bureau of Meteorology states NSW recorded 803 mm of rainfall during 2010, well above the average of 559 mm. 2010 was the third wettest year on record and the state had the highest rainfall recorded in over 50 years. Further, the loss to agriculture in NSW, Victoria</p>	Written 2		

				<p>and Queensland from the floods is at least \$5 billion.</p> <p>1. Does this not meet the criteria that this event is rare and severe and of a significant scale?</p>			
167.	CCD 29	Nash	Exceptional Circumstances and Drought Pilot	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How would you define `exceptional circumstances`? 2. How long do you think it takes for a farmer to recover from an event that is of exceptional circumstances? 3. Are you aware there are farmers who have received little to no income for several years due to hardship? 4. Do you concede that if this was another industry/sector, it would not be tolerated? 5. I've been advised of attempted suicides and suicides by farmers in flood affected regions, who've just come out of drought – are you aware this is happening? 6. What information has the dept received? 7. Victoria has reportedly sought an extension of EC beyond March 31 – has it? Have other states done the same? 8. The govt's announced the WA drought pilot will be expanded and extended for another 12 months – why is the trial happening in areas that are not EC declared. NOTE: While many areas in eastern states are no longer EC declared, there were many before EC expired in March/April and when the WA drought pilot first started). 9. Why not trial it in Delungra in NSW which is EC declared? 10. A RIRDC paper – called `Decisions made by farmers that relate to Climate Change' - states many famers will have little if any equity left with which to rebuild their farms and are struggling financially to adapt to risks posed by climate change – how does the govt/dept propose to address this? 11. What is the govt's plans regarding a drought policy? 12. When will it be finalised? 13. How extensively are you consulting? 14. Farmers I've spoken to want EC support to continue a further 6-8 months, or a low interest loan with two years of no repayments, to help them recover – will the govt consider this option? 15. What would it cost to extend EC assistance for a further 6-8 months? 	Written 2		

168.	CFD 01	Colbeck	Contractors	<p>Senator COLBECK: At previous budget estimates and additional estimates, in response to question on notice No. 24, you indicated to us there that you were going to achieve efficiencies by prioritising some activities, by some restructuring and by reducing costs such as contractors and travel. I think at that point in time the 2011-12 estimate was \$3.58 million, to which you have to add another \$1.4 million, so you are looking at taking \$5.2 million out of the budget for 2011-12. Can you give us some sense of where the specific reductions to contractors referred to have been made?</p> <p>Dr O'Connell: I would have to take that on notice and look at the contract numbers that we have.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: You do not have any of that information with you?</p> <p>Dr O'Connell: I do not. We could probably get that before the day is done. I do not have it on the table.</p>	5 23/05/11		
169.	CFD 02	Colbeck	Reduction in travel	<p>Senator COLBECK: You also referred to specific reductions in travel. How has your travel budget varied over the last 12 months?</p> <p>Dr O'Connell: Again, I would have to get those numbers for you during the day, if that is okay.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: You do not have a consolidated travel figure for the portfolio?</p> <p>Mr Schaeffer: We do, we just do not have that level of detail with us.</p>	5 23/05/11		
170.	CFD 03	Colbeck	Cost recovery	<p>Senator COLBECK: How do you mean 'cost-recovered'?</p> <p>Mr Schaeffer: That is basically paid for by industry for activities that get applied to them under the legislation, under the Quarantine Act. It is difficult to do apples-to-apples comparisons when you are just talking about travel in its own right, because there are some embedded reductions in our travel, in our funded areas, but there will be an increase in some parts of our travel budget due to increases in activity that are cost-recovered.</p> <p>Dr O'Connell: The cost-recovery component overall of our budget is roughly 60 per cent, so it has a major impact upon the travel and it is probably more than that of the travel component, I think, because of the level of effort that is undertaken to do inspections and that sort of thing. We can give to you these numbers more precisely, if that is useful to you.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: Yes. You talk about an \$18 million—close to 19, 18.8 so far to April. You have still got May and June to go. What sort of budget reduction were you looking for out of travel as far as that particular area is concerned, over and above 2009-10?</p>	6 23/05/11 Highlighted additional text was added into this question as it appears on page 6 of the Hansard.		

				<p>Mr Schaeffer: The reductions are about 10 per cent but you cannot see it in the numbers because of the increases in activity that are cost-recovered. There is a netting-off in all that, so that is why we need to go back and get you those numbers.</p> <p>Dr O'Connell: We can provide those broken down into cost-recovered and appropriation.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: You talked about quarantine, for example, as far as cost-recovered.</p> <p>Mr Schaeffer: Sea-cargo inspections, where people have to travel to get to the port.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: What about the current process that you are going through in respect of reviewing all of the AQIS fees and charges? There has been a considerable amount of travel engaged in that. Is that an activity that would be cost recovered?</p> <p>Mr Schaeffer: We would have to take that on notice.</p>			
171.	CFD 04	Colbeck	Cost recovery	<p>Senator COLBECK: What proportion of your biosecurity budget would be cost recovered?</p> <p>Ms Mellor: It would be in the order of 60 to 65 per cent. The appropriation-funded activities are airports, technical science advice and Northern Australian Quarantine Strategy. For example, travel that is associated with the Northern Australian Quarantine Strategy, would come out of the appropriation budget not out of cost-recovered budget.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: I will be interested in seeing some more detailed information on this.</p> <p>Mr Schaeffer: If it is useful, we could provide on notice for you travel by program, if you like.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: Yes, and month so that I can get a sense of the cycles and the movement in the cycles.</p>	8-9 23/05/11		
172.	CFD 05	Colbeck	Efficiency – Reduced spending on contractors	<p>Senator COLBECK: What about contractors? Has there been a reduction in the spending on contractors so far this year?</p> <p>Mr Schaeffer: Once again, it is applicable to the relevant business unit so. If there is a need for contractors to increase due to the business activity increasing, that is allowed, but there is an overall objective to keep the contractors to a minimum. There is one area where we have reduced contractors or will be reducing contractors, which is in our IT area, under the Gershon policy that the government has set.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: How is that going to work?</p>	9-10 23/05/11		

				<p>Mr Schaeffer: The contractors come down there and then they will be replaced by employees, effectively.</p> <p>Dr O'Connell: There will be some in-sourcing of skills. I do not have contractor numbers here but we can provide those to you, if you want, over the similar three-year period.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: Yes. It is only a saving, though, if you spend less on internal employees than you do on the contractors.</p>			
173.	CFD 06	Heffernan	Contractor and consultant payments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e.within 30 days)? If not, why not, and what has been the timeframe for payment of accounts? Please provide a breakdown, average statistics etc as appropriate to give insight into how this issue is being approached.) 2. For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year? 3. Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined? 	Written 1		
174.	CFD 07	Colbeck	Reduction in departmental appropriation	<p>Page 64 of the PBS shows a massive reduction in the Departmental appropriation in 2011-12 and the forward estimates.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please provide details of the components of the reduction. 2. How much relates to export reform and how much to the efficiency dividend? 3. What other matters does it include? 4. Can you provide some detail as to what the efficiency dividend component will impact upon in practical terms and what the reduction specifically relates to? 	Written 1		
175.	CFD 08	Colbeck	Budget information for statutory research and development information	<p>Budget information has been provided for statutory research and development authorities. It is not clear where funding for other industry-owned companies that conduct research and development, such as Horticulture Australia Limited, are allocated within the Department.</p>	Written 1		

				Please provide details of where these budgets are allocated and details of the budget allocations for 2011-12 and the previous five financial years.			
176.	CFD 09	Colbeck	Underspends	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can you identify the total amount of underspending within the portfolio and the specific areas and amounts? 2. What are the reasons for these underspends? 3. Will any of the underspent funds be used for purposes other than originally intended? 4. Do you anticipate any underspends in 2011 – 12 and if so in what areas and why? 	Written 1		
177.	CFD 10	Colbeck	Small Business Payments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has the Department paid its accounts to small business in accordance with the Government policy in terms of time for payment i.e. within 30 days? 2. Please provide details on the number and percentages that are within and outside the timeframe? 3. Has any interest been paid on overdue accounts? 	Written 1		
178.	CFD 11	Nash	Post-entry quarantine facilities	<p>In the Portfolio Budget Statement 2011-12, Section 1: Agency Overview and Resources, 1.1 Strategic Direction Statement, page 12, paragraph 5, it says “In 2011-12, the department will also invest in our post-entry quarantine facilities and work closely with industry sectors to bed down export certification reforms”.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Where in the budget is the line item for the “investment in post-entry quarantine facilities”? 2. How much funding is allocated for this? 3. What exactly will you be investing in – capital works? Infrastructure? Staff? 4. How many staff are Department staff? How many are contractors? 5. How are the contractors trained? 	Written 1		
179.	CFD 12	Nash	Treasury payments	<p>On page 21, Table 1.2 Budget measures, footnote 2. It says “The government has allocated \$12.6 million in 2010-11 and \$2.8million in 2012-13 for the “Animal Pest and Disease Eradication programs” –</p>	Written 1		

				<p>meeting existing commitments measure. Payments will be made by the Department of the Treasury.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please define what payments are being made by Treasury; and 2. Why are payments being made by Treasury? 			
180.	CFD 13	Birmingham	Funding to organisations	<p>Has the Department provided any funding to any of the following organisations in the current financial year or in any of the previous three financial years? If so, please detail when it was provided and for what purpose.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Australian Conservation Foundation b. Australian Council of Trade Unions c. Australian Youth Climate Coalition d. Climate Action Network Australia e. The Climate Institute f. Environment Victoria g. GetUp! h. Greenpeace Australia Pacific i. World Wildlife Fund Australia 	Written 1		
181.	CFD 14	Colbeck	Departmental Efficiencies	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Will Biosecurity Services Group be impacted in any way by the Departmental Efficiencies measure in BP2, p86? 2. If so, please provide details. 	Written 1		
182.	CFD 15	Back	Future Post-Entry Quarantine arrangements	<p>The Government will provide funding to the Department of Finance and Deregulation to purchase land and undertake initial scoping and design work required to address future post-entry quarantine arrangements. The capital expenditure associated with this part of the measure is not for publication (nfp) as the negotiations will be commercial-in-confidence.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In this Budget, \$5.4m of the \$19.1m will be allocated to DAFF for initial work – What is this funding to be spent on – Inspector-General of Biosecurity? Particularly as Finance has the lead of identifying and purchasing the facility? 2. Can you confirm this is a new expense? 3. Why does this allocation appear in Budget Paper 2 – where does this appear and which appropriation bill provides for this 	Written 2		

				<p>money?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. What role will DAFF play in identification / purchase of the Future Post-Entry Quarantine Facility? 5. When does the Government anticipate that this facility will be completed? 6. Will quarantine be delivered by government officers only or through a mix of other methods? Sub-contracted etc through private facilities? 7. What locations / organisations are being considered? 			
183.	CFD 16	Colbeck	National Framework for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Page 50 of the PBS shows a reduction in the Departmental appropriation for Agricultural Resources of around \$1 million in 2012-13 compared with 2011-12 with further reductions over the forward estimates. Can you advise whether this just relates to the efficiency dividend or other matters? 2. Please provide some details as to what this will impact upon in practical terms and what the reduction specifically relates to. 	Written 1		
184.	CFD 17	Colbeck	National Framework for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Will Agricultural Productivity be impacted in any way by the Departmental Efficiency measures in PB2, p86? 2. If so, please provide details. 	Written 1		
185.	CFD 18	Colbeck	Contractors	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please provide details of the specific reductions to contracts and contractors being made to achieve the targeted budget reduction for 2011 – 12. 2. Please provide details of how the work undertaken by contractors is being reallocated. 3. If this reallocation involves employment of staff, please provide details of the cost saving associated with moving from contractors to internal employees, including consideration of on-costs and coverage of activities during periods of staff leave. 4. If this reallocation involves redeployment of staff, please provide details of the costs associated with upskilling / reskilling and relocation of staff. 	Written 1	Was CFD 20	
186.	CFD 19	Colbeck	Additional efficiency	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can you outline how the additional efficiency dividend will impact on the Sustainable Resource Management areas of DAFF? 2. Specifically which program areas will be impacted, and what will 	Written 1		

			dividend	be the reduction or change in activity?			
187.	CPD 01	Colbeck	Additional costs to provide media to opposition	<p>Senator COLBECK: In due deference to Senator Xenophon. I asked some questions about the cost of media monitoring at the last hearings and I think you had spent something like 283,000 so far in the financial year. I might ask you for an update on that. I also asked about supplying of the media-monitoring clips to opposition spokesmen, as part of that process. It is question 17 and section 4 of that says: Provision of press clips to opposition members is outside the current licensing arrangements. To provide access would result in higher costs to the Commonwealth.</p> <p>In question 19 you say that: The service was provided by Media Monitors Australia Pty Ltd. Media Monitors monitoring is provided daily to the department and is supplied electronically to the minister and the parliamentary secretary's office at no extra cost. Why is there no extra cost to provide it to the minister's office but additional cost to provide it to the opposition?</p> <p>Ms Freeman: Fran Freeman, Executive Manager of Corporate Policy Division. In answer to your first question, which was the total expenditure for media monitoring from 1 July 2010 to 30 April, for the department was 2008, \$409, GST inclusive.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: 2008?</p> <p>Ms Freeman: Yes, \$409.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: It has gone down since additional estimates.</p> <p>Ms Freeman: No, that was the amount—I think the 283 amount—</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: That was 2009-10.</p> <p>Ms Freeman: Yes, that was 2009-10. This is until the end of April, so still in train. Referring to the previous question on notice, my understanding is the provision to opposition senators was relating to the licensing agreement. I would have to take on notice why the additional expense aspect to that question.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: I am interested in the new arrangements and how they line up, because that does provide some consistency across all of government because it is a centrally sourced process. I would be interested to know how that impacts on your overall spend or whether or not you have a capacity to allocate within that broader procurement to the level of detail that you have done at the moment, because obviously you have made some efforts to look at that as an issue compared to what other departments may have done. I am interested whether you still have that</p>	28-30 23/05/11		

				capacity or not. Ms Freeman: Certainly, happy to.			
188.	CPD 02	Heffernan	Communication programs money spent	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What communications programs has the Department/Agency undertaken, or are planning to undertake? 2. For each program, what is the total spend? 	Written 1		
189.	CPD 03	Heffernan	Appointments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio? 2. Please detail any board appointments for the FYTD. 	Written 1		
190.	CPD 04	Heffernan	Community cabinet	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What was the cost of Ministers travel and expenses for the Community Cabinet meetings held this FYTD? 2. How many Ministerial Staff travelled with the Minister for the Cabinet meeting? What was the total cost of this travel? 3. How many Departmental officers travelled with the Minister for the Cabinet meeting? What was the total cost of this travel? 4. What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office? 	Written 1		
191.	CPD 05	Heffernan	Government reviews	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many Reviews are currently being undertaken by all departments and agencies in each portfolio? 2. When will each of these reviews be concluded? 3. What reviews have been concluded FYTD? 4. Which of these reviews has been provided to Government? 5. When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed? 6. What is the estimated cost of each of these Reviews? 7. What further reviews are planned for 2010 - 11 FY? 	Written 1		
192.	CPD 06	Heffernan	Media monitoring	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Minister's office FYTD? 2. Which agency or agencies provided these services? 3. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to 	Written 1		

				<p>the Department and its agencies in FYTD?</p> <p>4. Which agency or agencies provided these services?</p>			
193.	CPD 07	Heffernan	Commissioned reports	<p>1. How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in your portfolio FYTD? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members.</p> <p>2. How much did each report cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level?</p> <p>3. What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?</p>	Written 1		
194.	CPD 08	Heffernan	Preparation for Cabinet	<p>1. How much time is spent preparing papers/submissions for Cabinet and Sub-Cabinet Committee meetings?</p> <p>2. How often must papers/submissions for Cabinet and Sub-Cabinet Committee Meetings be redrafted or resubmitted? Please provide example of why this would happen. (i.e. last minute policy changes or redate papers due to items not being discussed when initially scheduled).</p>	Written 1		
195.	CPD 09	Heffernan	Stationary Requirements	<p>1. What are the government (Ministers/Parliamentary Secretaries) stationery requirements in your portfolio (i.e. special type of paper, envelopes)?</p> <p>2. What are the costs of these items?</p> <p>3. Is the Department/portfolio agencies paying for these?</p>	Written 1		
196.	CPD 10	Heffernan	Ministers travel	<p>1. For the FYTD, please detail all travel (itemised separately) undertaken by your portfolio Minister and Parliamentary Secretaries. Include what sum was spent on travel, accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses.</p> <p>2. For the FYTD, please provide the same information (itemised separately) for any Minister and Parliamentary staff that accompanied the Minister and Parliamentary on their travel and include a similar breakdown of the costs incurred by or on behalf</p>	Written 1		

				<p>of those staff.</p> <p>3. For the FYTD, please provide the same information (itemised separately) for Departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary on their travel and include a similar breakdown of the costs incurred by or on behalf of those staff.</p>			
197.	CPD 11	Colbeck	Media monitors	<p>1. Is there unused capacity in the current Media Monitors licensing arrangement?</p> <p>2. If so, what is preventing these unused licenses being utilised by members of the opposition?</p> <p>3. Given the current arrangement allows for 350 users to get the media monitoring service downstreamed and up to 600 users to access it on the Department's media portal, how much would it cost for one extra user?</p>	Written 1		
198.	CPD 12	Colbeck	Ministers Travel	<p>1. What is the total cost of travel by the Minister since Additional Estimates in February this year?</p> <p>2. What is the total cost of travel by the Minister's staff since Additional Estimates in February this year?</p> <p>3. What places has the Minister visited since Additional Estimates in February this year?</p> <p>4. In answer to QON 13 the Department advised the costs of travel for the Ministers and Ministerial staff since December 2007, can you provide these details broken down into financial years?</p> <p>5. In answer to QON 13 the Department advised that overseas trips were under consideration can you provide details of what trips are being considered, when they are likely to take place and the anticipated outcomes from this travel.</p>	Written 1		
199.	CPD 13	Colbeck	Ministerial staffing numbers	<p>1. Have there been any changes in the number of Ministerial staff or Ministerial staffing arrangements since Additional Estimates in February this year?</p> <p>2. If so, please provide details.</p>	Written 1		

200.	CPD 14	Colbeck	Release of Additional Estimates Briefing	<p>In response to QON 15 from Additional Estimates the Department advised that it would not provide a redacted version of the briefing material for the Minister for Additional Estimates despite making a redacted version of the Incoming Government Brief available.</p> <p>The reasoning given was that it would take in excess of 200 hours to edit the materials and that this constituted an unreasonable diversion of resources for the department.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can you advise how many hours it took to provide the redacted version of the Incoming Government Brief? 2. Why would it take longer to redact the Additional Estimates brief? 3. How was the 200 hours figure calculated? 4. How many hours does it take the Department to respond to Questions on Notice as a comparison? 5. How many hours does it take to actually produce the briefs for Additional Estimates? 6. Is it not in the public interest, as well as being a demonstration of transparency and accountability for the Government to provide the redacted briefs in the same way it did, to its credit, with the Incoming Government Brief? 	Written 1		
201.	CPD 15	Colbeck	Communication programs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What changes have been made to the Department's advertising or communications activities scheduled for 2010-11 since Additional Estimates in February and what activities have been undertaken during this period? Please provide details. 2. What are the details of the Department's advertising or communications activities planned for 2011-12 including the nature and cost of the activities? 	Written 1		
202.	CPD 16	Colbeck	Commissioned reports	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in your portfolio since Additional Estimates? Please you provide all relevant details? 2. What commissioned Reports are still being worked on and when will they be finalised? 3. Are you aware whether any consideration has been given to the commissioning of any Reports in 2011-12 and if so what are the 	Written 1		

				details?			
203.	CPD 17	Colbeck	Government reviews	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many Reviews have been commissioned in the portfolio since the Additional Estimates and can you provide all relevant details? 2. Are there any reviews planned or being considered for 2011-12? 	Written 1		
204.	CPD 18	Colbeck	Number of departmental Liason officers	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have there been any changes to the number of Department Liaison Officers in the Minister's office in the past year? 2. Please provide a comparison in each financial year since December 2007? 	Written 1		
205.	CPD 19	Colbeck	Blackberry communication	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can you provide a monthly breakdown of the expenditure on Blackberry communication since Additional Estimates in February this year? 2. Can you also provide an updated cumulative total of expenditure on Blackberry communication since December 2007? 3. Can you provide the amount spent on mobile phones in the Minister's office since Additional Estimates in February this year? 4. Can you provide an updated cumulative total of expenditure on mobile phones in the Department since December 2007? 5. Has there been any change in the number of Blackberry devices or iPads in the Minister's office? What are the current numbers? 6. In March 2011 the department has 1875 mobile phones, what is the latest number? 	Written 1		
206.	CSD 01	Colbeck	Tenders for stationary and office supplies	<p>Senator COLBECK: Perhaps the best way to start looking at that. How many tenders do you have out for stationery and office supplies at the moment?</p> <p>Ms Hazell: We have no tenders in the market at the moment; we have rolled over our current contracts awaiting the coordinated panel to come on board. I would need to take on notice how many actual contracts we have in the marketplace at the moment.</p>	13 23/05/11		
207.	CSD 02	Back	Inspector General	<p>Senator BACK: I want to ask you a couple of questions, if I may, in regard to the Inspector General of Biosecurity. I just wonder: is the</p>	16 23/05/11		

				<p>inspector general here to respond to any questions? ----- Senator BACK: I would be interested during estimates, would he be following anything up on the import risk-analysis process, for example, with BSE? Ms Hazell: That I would not have; I would have to take that on notice.</p>			
208.	CSD 03	Back	Inspector General	<p>Senator BACK: The position has been in place for almost two years, from late 2009 I think you said. Could I ask what reports has the Inspector General delivered to the minister, on what subjects? Dr O'Connell: We would have to just take that on notice and we get that to you later today. I just do not recall them off— Senator Ludwig: There is one I recall that I specifically asked for but I can get a list as to the issues that he has examined. You recall, I think at last estimates, we discussed the prawns issue. That was one I requested him to investigate. He plays an invaluable role in being able to support the work in biosecurity.</p>	17-18 23/05/11		
209.	CSD 04	Heffernan	Interim Inspector General of Biosecurity	<p>Senator HEFFERNAN: So what is he up to in Canada? Dr O'Connell: He runs his program which is laid out in advance and that he is looking to achieve— Senator HEFFERNAN: Could we see the program that he is on in America? You know what it is. Dr O'Connell: I think we can provide you with information on what he is doing or what his current— Senator HEFFERNAN: Do you know what he is doing? Dr O'Connell: Do I know what he is doing today? ----- Senator HEFFERNAN: So what is he doing? Dr O'Connell: He is dealing with his opposite numbers in Canada and the US. Senator HEFFERNAN: Looking at what, though? Dr O'Connell: Looking at the systems, as I understand it. Senator HEFFERNAN: Give us some detail of what he is looking at. Dr O'Connell: We can give you detail— Senator HEFFERNAN: No, give it now.</p>	19 23/05/11		
210.	CSD 05	Back	Inspector General	<p>Senator BACK: The allocation of I think \$19 million in the budget for future post-entry quarantine arrangements, the initial worth 13.7, I am just interested in knowing what role, if any, the Inspector General is having in</p>	20 23/05/11		

				<p>advising you on these aspects? Senator HEFFERNAN: You can read it out if you want to. Senator Ludwig: We can take that on notice as to whether or not the Inspector General is providing any advice in relation to those. This is part of the Biosecurity reform agenda. With the post-entry quarantine facilities, I am happy to take you through those. If you recall, as I mentioned, they were sold by the previous government. That left us in a circumstance where we have been leasing these PEQs since that time. What that has meant is that some of them of course are no longer modern facilities, if you could appreciate that.</p>			
211.	CSD 06	Nash	Inspector General	<p>Senator NASH: The audit work program for the Inspector General for 09-10. There are two activities, the horse health certifications: The object of this audit was to assess and check compliance of import health certification with the requirements for importing horses to Australia. It focused on certification for a number of consignments of stallions. The second one, the Sandown audit review: To independently assess the outcomes of the internal audit undertaken by the AQIS of the Sandown PEQ facility. There are only those two activities that are listed here. How do you determine value for money? I think you said around 700,000 to run the— Dr O'Connell: The list of 09-10 is considerably longer than that of his audit functions. Senator NASH: Why is that not on the website then? Dr O'Connell: I do not know. I will have to take that on notice. I read through them just a minute ago.</p>	22 23/05/11		
212.	CSD 07	Williams	Equine Influenza	<p>Senator WILLIAMS: Did any small businesses, for example any in the horse freight industry, receive any compensation? Do you know, Minister? Dr O'Connell? Senator Ludwig: I was just trying to remember who structured the package. I think it would have been the previous government that structured the package, but we can take it on notice. I do not have those details about who got what compensation. It would have been something worked out at the time, and I suspect it was the previous government that worked that compensation arrangement out. I think it straddled the two, but do not take my word for that—it may not be accurate. I would rather take it on notice. If anyone has got those details here—this was some time ago, obviously. We are going back to 2007. Dr O'Connell: There are a set of potential claims around for compensation. It is important to distinguish between compensation claims</p>	49 24/05/11		

				that are around for the outbreak and the assistance packages that were in train at the time. Those are two different things. The compensation claims are running through the legal processes and others but the assistance packages were time limited around 2008.			
213.	CSD 08	Williams	Equine Influenza	<p>Senator WILLIAMS: I was reading a story in the paper, 'Trucking group sues to recoup costs of equine flu outbreak', from 1 April this year. Minister are you aware of that action? I do not want to go into details of that action?</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: We can get the details on that for you. We can take the particular detail of that claim on notice.</p> <p>Senator WILLIAMS: It is a group called LTG – Livestock Transport Group.</p> <p>Dr O'Connell: LTG are one of the main transporters of racehorses when they come into the country.</p> <p>Senator WILLIAMS: The article claims that they have lost up to \$3 million. Three years ago the owner finds himself in the unenviable position of being a test case as the Commonwealth gears up to fight claims for damage. He is frustrated the bigger players with deeper pockets, such as the racing industry, have not taken the initiative. Fellow Independent MP Tony Windsor asked the government to settle the claims but the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Senator Joe Ludwig, has told Windsor the commonwealth is going to trial with livestock LTG Group basically to set a test case. Are you familiar with this document, Minister?</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: You are reading it to me. You can table it and I can have a look at it.</p>	49 24/05/11		
214.	CSD 09	Heffernan	Departmental staffing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many permanent staff has DAFF recruited this FYTD? 2. What classifications are these staff? 3. How many temporary positions exist or have been created by DAFF this FYTD? 4. This FYTD, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period? 	Written 1		
215.	CSD 10	Heffernan	Departmental staffing and graduate program	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have staffing numbers been reduced as a result of the efficiency dividend and/or other budget cuts? 2. If so, where and at what classification? 3. Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise 	Written 1		

				<p>details ie. reduction target, how this will be achieved, services/programs to be cut etc.</p> <p>4. What changes are underway or planned for graduate recruitment, cadetships or similar programs? If reductions are envisaged please explain including reasons, target numbers etc.</p>			
216.	CSD 11	Heffernan	Grants	<p>1. Has the Department complied with interim requirements relating to the publication of discretionary grants?</p>	Written 1		
217.	CSD 12	Heffernan	FOI	<p>1. Has the Department/agency received any advice on how to respond to FOI requests?</p> <p>2. How many FOI requests has the Department received?</p> <p>3. How many have been granted or denied?</p> <p>4. How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests?</p>	Written 1		
218.	CSD 13	Heffernan	Consultants	<p>1. How many consultancies have been undertaken or are underway this FYTD? Please identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc). Please also include total value for all consultancies.</p> <p>2. Does each department and agency stand by its current tenders on the Austenders website? Have any changes or corrections been made for any tenders advertised on to Government Tenders website(www.tenders.gov.au) for tenders advertised this financial year? Explain. Are up to date with reporting requirements?</p> <p>3. How many consultancies are planned for this calendar year? Have these been published in your Annual Procurement Plan (APP) on the AusTender website and if not why not? In each case please identify the subject matter, duration, cost and method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant if known.</p>	Written 1		
219.	CSD 14	Heffernan	Staff access to online social media	<p>1. Has there been any changes to department and agency social media or protocols about staff access and usage of Youtube; online social media, such as Facebook, MySpace and Twitter; and access to online discussions forums and blogs since October 2010?</p>	Written 1		

				Please explain.			
220.	CSD 15	Heffernan	Consultancy contracts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has the department/agency ever employed Hawker Britton in any capacity or is it considering employing Hawker Britton? If yes, provide details. 2. Has the department/agency ever employed Shannon’s Way in any capacity or is it considering employing Shannon’s Way? If yes, provide details. 3. Has the department/agency ever employed John Utting & UMR Research Group in any capacity or is it considering employing John Utting & UMR Research Group? If yes, provide details. 4. Has the department/agency ever employed McCann-Erickson in any capacity or is it considering employing McCann-Erickson? If yes, provide details. 5. Has the department/agency ever employed Cutting Edge in any capacity or is it considering employing Cutting Edge? If yes, provide details. 6. Has the department/agency ever employed Ikon Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing Ikon Communications? If yes, provide details. 7. Has the department/agency ever employed CMAX Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing CMAX Communications? If yes, provide details. 8. Has the department/agency ever employed Boston Consulting Group in any capacity or is it considering employing Boston Consulting Group? If yes, provide details. 9. Has the department/agency ever employed McKinsey & Company in any capacity or is it considering employing McKinsey & Company? If yes, provide details. 	Written 1		
221.	CSD 16	Heffernan	Grants	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Could the Department provide a list of all discretionary grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants FYTD? Please provide details of the recipients, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants. 2. Has the Department complied with interim requirements relating to the publication of discretionary grants? 	Written 1		

222.	CSD 17	Heffernan	Consultancy Contracts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to pay TV (for example Foxtel)? If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what channels. 2. Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to newspapers? If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what newspapers. 3. Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to magazines? If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what magazines. 	Written 1		
223.	CSD 18	Heffernan	Legal services expenditure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services FYTD within the department and agency? Please provide a list of each service and costs. 2. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services FYTD from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs. 3. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services FYTD from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs. 4. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services FYTD from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs. 	Written 1		
224.	CSD 19	Heffernan	Training	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please detail all education expenses (i.e. in house courses and tertiary studies) for each portfolio department and agency. Include what type of course, the cost and how many participants. 	Written 1		
225.	CSD 20	Heffernan	Training	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In relation to the purchase of executive coaching and/or other leadership training services purchased by each portfolio department and agency, please provide the following information FYTD: 2. Total spending on these services 3. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification 4. The number of employees who have utilised these services and their employment classification 5. The names of all service providers engaged 	Written 1		

				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. For each service purchased from a provider listed under (4), please provide: 7. The name and nature of the service purchased 8. Whether the service is one-on-one or group based 9. The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification 10. The total number of hours involved for all employees 11. The total amount spent on the service 12. A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package) 13. Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide: 14. The location used 15. The number of employees who took part on each occasion 16. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part 17. Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location 			
226.	CSD 21	Heffernan	Paid parental leave for staff	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please list how many staff in each portfolio department and agency are eligible to receive payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme? 2. Please list which portfolio department and agencies are providing its employees with payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme? Please list how many staff are in receipt of these payments. 	Written 1		
227.	CSD 22	Heffernan	Property	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For each portfolio department and agency office please list the occupied workpoint space allocated per person. 2. Does this adhere to the Government's Commonwealth Property Management Guidelines (the Guidelines)? Explain. 3. If yes, please explain if any refurbishment was required to meet the Guidelines and what the costs were. 4. What savings did each portfolio department and agency achieve by meeting the Guidelines? Please itemise each portfolio department and agency separately. 5. How much of these savings has each portfolio department and agency kept? Please itemise each portfolio department and agency separately. 	Written 1		

				<p>6. If no, please give details why it does not, including whether an exemption has been received by the Finance Minister.</p> <p>7. What funding has been taken from each portfolio department and agency because they do not meet the Guidelines? Please itemise each portfolio department and agency separately.</p> <p>8. Are there plans to meet the Guidelines? Please explain.</p>			
228.	CSD 23	Heffernan	Hospitality	<p>1. What is the Department's hospitality spend FYTD? Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events. Please detail any catering costs, listing the cost of food and beverages, and include a separate list of alcohol costs.</p> <p>2. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary's office, please detail total hospitality spend FYTD. Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event. Please detail any catering costs, listing the cost of food and beverages, and include a separate list of alcohol costs.</p>	Written 1		
229.	CSD 24	Colbeck	Consultancy contracts	<p>1. How many consultancies have been undertaken or are underway since Additional Estimates in February this year?</p> <p>2. In answer to QON 3 from Additional Estimates the Department advised that it has spent \$36.8million on consultancy services since December 2007</p> <p>a) Can you provide a breakdown for the past 5 financial years as to the number of consultancies each year and the annual total cost of consultancies?</p> <p>b) Does the Department have any indicative percentage of Departmental spending that is available to be utilised for consultancies? If so, what is it?</p> <p>c) Please provide details as the percentage of Departmental spending allocated to consultancies over the past 5 years and plans for the forward estimates?</p> <p>d) How much expenditure is planned for consultancies for next financial year and what is the estimate for the number of consultancies?</p> <p>e) Have there been any changes to planned consultancies since Additional Estimates and if so can you provide details and the reasons?</p>	Written 1		

230.	CSD 25	Colbeck	Departmental travel	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please provide details of travel expenditure broken down by internal business unit/ program, indicating the domestic and international travel components and identifying costs which are subject to full cost recovery for the 2008 – 2009 and 2009 – 2010 financial years and year to date for 2010 – 2011. 2. Please also provide details monthly breakdowns of travel expenditure by program for the 2008 – 2009 and 2009 – 2010 and current year to date. 	Written 1		
231.	CSD 26	Colbeck	Coordinated Procurement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please provide details of the coordinated procurement arrangements that are being put in place, including details of when these arrangements become effective. 2. Based on the office supplies for the 12 months immediately preceding the implementation of this arrangement, what are the expected savings for the next 12 month period? 3. What are the expected savings in internal staff time? 4. What are the costs associated with charge back to the agency for the coordinated procurement service? 5. Please provide details of how the charge back fees are calculated. 	Written 1		
232.	CSD 27	Colbeck	Graduate Program	<p>Graduate program</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please provide details of the main activities, timing and timeframes of these activities. 2. For the last four years, please provide details of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) the number of applicants to the program b) the number from offers made c) the number of offers declined by graduates, and a brief explanation of why offers were declined d) number of graduates recruited and to which areas within DAFF e) retention rate of graduates for 1, 2 and 3 years after commencing with the department. 3. Please provide details of any KPIs that exist in relation to the graduate program, including advertising spend per recruit. 4. As no negative consequences or concerns have been identified 	Written 1		

				<p>flowing from the decision not to have the Graduate Program in 2010; why is it necessary to have a Graduate Program every year and can further savings be made by stopping for another year in future?</p>			
233.	CSD 28	Colbeck	Staff movements	<p>Information provided in response to QON 08 from February 2011 indicate that over 35 employees ceased employment for “employer initiated” reasons from BSG.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the underlying reasons for this significant staff movement? 2. How many of these “employer initiated” reasons were redundancies? 3. What was the cost of redundancies? 4. Was there any funding budgeted for redundancies in the current financial year. 5. If so what was the budget and how do costs for the year to date compare with the budget? 6. Is there any funding budgeted for redundancies in the forward estimates? 7. If so, what are the figures? 	Written 1		
234.	CSD 29	Colbeck	Staff access to online social media	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. At Additional Estimates the Department indicated that it had a draft social media policy – has this policy now been finalised and have there been any changes? 2. Have there been any changes to the staff who are permitted access to social media? 3. Have there been any breaches of the Department’s IT or social media policies? 4. Have there been any issues or adverse experience of staff using social media since Additional Estimates? 	Written 1		
235.	CSD 30	Colbeck	Consultancy services	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has the Minister, Minister’s staff or Department had any meetings with Hawker Britton or their clients since Additional Estimates? 2. If so, can you please provide details including date, subject matter and people present. 	Written 1		

236.	CSD 31	Colbeck	Workplace compensation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many reported workplace injuries have occurred over the past financial year? 2. How does this compare with previous years? 3. Which agencies / units have had the most reports? 4. How many cases of workplace compensation for injury or illness have occurred this financial year? 5. What was the level of total compensation? 6. Are there any ongoing cases? 	Written 1		
237.	CSD 32	Colbeck	Expenditure of retreats and conferences	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much has been spent in the past year on retreats and conferences? 2. Can you provide a breakdown of these? 3. How much has been spent each year since December 2007? 	Written 1		
238.	CSD 33	Colbeck	Reduction in Travel	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What was the total cost of international travel taken by Departmental staff in this financial year? 2. How does this compare with the previous 3 financial years? 3. What was the total cost of domestic travel taken by Departmental staff in the past year? 4. How does this compare with the previous 3 financial years? 	Written 1		
239.	CSD 34	Colbeck	Recruitment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What were DAFF's external recruitment costs this year? 2. How does this compare with the past 3 financial years? 	Written 1		
240.	CSD 35	Colbeck	Misconduct	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many Departmental employees were subject to an internal investigation owing to improper behaviour in past year and how does this compare with previous years? 2. How many of these were SES employees? 3. What types of actions were taken against individuals? 4. How many employees were terminated? 5. What was the value of items stolen or lost from the Department in the past year and how does this compare with previous years? 6. Please provide a breakdown of items stolen or lost with a value of 	Written 1		

				more than \$100.00.			
241.	CSD 36	Colbeck	Corporate expenses	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What was the cost of the Department leasing carparks for use by employees (broken down by city) during the past year? 2. Please provide a comparison with the previous 2 years? 3. What was the total cost of bottled water paid for by the Department during the past year? 4. Please provide a comparison with the previous 2 years? 5. What was the cost of Christmas decorations (or similar) during the past year? 6. Please provide a comparison with the previous 2 years? 	Written 1		
242.	CSD 37	Colbeck	Acting SES arrangements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many executives are presently in acting positions? What are reasons for, and the periods of, these appointments? 2. How many executives have been in acting positions in the past year? What are reasons for, and the periods of, these appointments? 3. Can you give a schedule on the appointment of permanent staff in these roles? 	Written 1		
243.	CSD 38	Colbeck	Staff turnover	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What has been the staff turnover rate in the past year? 2. What is the actual number of staff this relates to? 3. What has been the staff turnover rate for the past three years as a comparison? 	Written 1		
244.	CSD 39	Heffernan	Hospitality	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the Department's hospitality spend FYTD? 2. Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events. 3. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total hospitality spend FYTD. 4. Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event. 5. What is the Department's entertainment spend FYTD? 6. Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events. 7. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total entertainment spend FYTD. 8. Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event. 	Written 1		

245.	CSD 40	Colbeck	Hospitality	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the Department's hospitality spend since Additional Estimates in February 2011? 2. Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.? 3. For each Minister / Parliamentary Secretary's office, please detail hospitality spend since Additional Budget Estimates? 4. Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event. 	Written 1		
246.	CSD 41	Colbeck	Shredding/ Removal of confidential documents.	<p>In answer to QON 7 the total cost of shredding / secure removal of documents in the department from 1 December to 28 February 2011 was &389,827.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please provide the financial year breakdowns for this cost over the past 5 years? 2. What is the total cost of shredding/secure removal of documents since Additional Estimates for the Department? 3. What is the total cost of shredding / secure removal of documents since Additional Estimates for the Minister's / Parliamentary Secretary's offices? 	Written 1		
247.	CSD 42	Colbeck	Co-ordinated procurement savings	Do you have any estimate or sense of what the impact of the co-ordinated procurement savings will be within the Biosecurity Group?	Written 1		
248.	CSD 43	Heffernan	Inspector General Biosecurity	<p>Inspector General Biosecurity</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the role of the Inspector General? 2. What is his period of employment? 3. Who is he responsible to? 4. Is this role directly modelled on that proposed by the Beale Review? 5. What audits has he carried out? 6. Are his reports to be available publicly as outlined in the Beale Review? 7. What advice has the interim inspector general given on Myrtle rust, Asian Bee, NZ apples and Fire blight, bacterial canker in Kiwi fruit etc? 	Written 2		

249.	CSD 44	Back	Interim Inspector General of Biosecurity	<p>The office of the IGB has broad-ranging powers of audit and investigation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is the prawn incident the only incident that Dr Dunn has conducted since his appointment in 2009? If not provide detail on others. 2. How was this inquiry referred to the IGB for investigation? The Minister? 3. Why was this matter referred and not an inquiry into apples; sentinel bees, Hendra outbreak, BSE? 4. Does he have a role in the Import Risk Analysis process? 5. What investigations / audits or visit has he conducted since 2009? Any airports / ports/quarantine facilities etc? 	Written 2		
250.	CSD 45	Back	Interim Inspector General of Biosecurity	<p>Dr Dunn was initially engaged as Inspector-General of Horse Importation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has he undertaken any visits to horse quarantine facilities since his appointment? 2. Has he visited Eastern Creek or Spotswood prior to its temporary closure to assess the facilities as per the recommendations of the Callinan Review? If so, provide details and copies of reports (to the Minister?) 3. The government has committed funding has said that in this Budget it has allocated \$19.1 million for “Future Post Entry Quarantine Arrangements – initial work” - \$13.7 million of which go towards urgent capital work at existing facilities. Will the IGB be involved assessing what work needs to be done at existing facilities? 4. Will he be involved in the identification of the new post entry quarantine facility or in assessing its suitability? 	Written 2		
251.	CSD 46	Back	Interim Inspector General of Biosecurity	<p>Provide the following information on the appointment and role of the Interim Inspector-General of Biosecurity:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr Dunn is overseas at present – is it a matter of official business? 2. If yes, what is the purpose of his trip? 3. Is Dr Dunn’s role and responsibilities consistent with the recommendations of the Beale Review and the Callinan Inquiry? Job description? 4. What is the IGB’s salary? 5. Has it remained the same since his appointment in 2009? 	Written 2		

				<p>6. How many people work in the “Office of the Interim-Inspector of Biosecurity”?</p> <p>7. If it is not independently resourced – what resources are provided by the Department? (Details of number of staff and responsibilities)</p> <p>8. Where are expenses relating to the IGB provided for in the Budget?</p> <p>9. Provide detailed breakdown of actual budget since 2009 to 2011 and forward estimates.</p> <p>10. Will this expense continue to be incorporated within the DAFF Budget? If not, where?</p> <p>11. When will legislation be introduced to establish the statutory office of the ‘Inspector-General’?</p> <p>12. Who will be asked to comment on the exposure draft?</p>			
252.	CSD 47	Back	Staff during Disaster relief	<p>1. Were any Biosecurity staff reallocated to other departments to assist with disaster relief – if so, how many and where to?</p> <p>2. Have all reallocated staff returned to DAFF? If not, how many?</p> <p>3. Were staffing expenses also reallocated against the corresponding department?</p>	Written 2		
253.	CSD 48	Colbeck	National efficiency dividend	Do you have any estimate or sense of what the impact of the co-ordinated procurement savings will be with the Agricultural Productivity Division?	Written 1		
254.	SRM 01	Macdonald	Caring for our Country program - Grants	<p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: Okay. Did you say you would come back to me on what checking your department does to the groups that actually apply for these funds?</p> <p>Mr Thompson: Yes, I think we have said we can come back to you on that. As I said, the essential element is that the groups are legally incorporated et cetera, but we will take that on notice.</p>	91 23/05/11		
255.	SRM 02	Macdonald	Caring for our Country program - Grants	<p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: I am not for a moment suggesting that the head of the CFMEU in Adelaide does not have an interest in Sceale Bay, which is a fair way from Adelaide—but perhaps he has a beach house or something up there. I am not suggesting that. But it just seemed to me and to a lot of the locals who have reported this to me that it was a fraction odd. Does the website give an indication of the reasons why this project was selected over others?</p> <p>Mr Thompson: No, the website simply lists the name of the project, the</p>	91 23/05/11		

				<p>group, the amount of money and a brief description.</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: Could you, perhaps on notice, give me an indication of the basis on which this project was selected—for example, good for Aboriginal employment, good for fixing the dunes or whatever?</p> <p>Mr Thompson: We do have a record of the basis on which the decision was recommended, yes. We can do that.</p>			
256.	SRM 03	Macdonald	Caring for our Country program - Grants	<p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: But, with regard to Sceale Bay, there is no suggestion in the application or in the department's assessment that any of this money will go towards a particular lobbied outcome in relation to those sorts of issues?</p> <p>Mr Thompson: I do not have the application in front of me, and I do not have the assessment by the various panels, so I could not say whether or not there is any suggestion of that sort.</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: I have raised those issues and perhaps you can give me information, on notice, about that. I am going to be able to look up for myself how many grants were around that amount of money.</p> <p>Mr Thompson: Yes.</p>	93	23/05/11	
257.	SRM 04	Siewert	Caring for our Country program - Grants	<p>Senator SIEWERT: How does a member of the public or an NRM group find out who is making the decisions on the assessment panels?</p> <p>Mr Thompson: We have normally made the membership of the assessment panels public after the process. I am not sure what the timing is this year. The reason we were not in the past making them available before the process commenced was that some of those members said that they were being lobbied quite heavily during the period and that they preferred that their names not be made public. We would normally make them available after, but if someone were to ask for those lists to be made available I am not sure that we could say no.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: It just worries me that there is a process here that is spending a large amount of money, and decisions are being made that people do not know about until after the fact. I appreciate the issue around lobbying. Having been on many assessment panels, I understand that. But there are processes you can put in place to ensure that that does not happen or to minimise it and scare people off.</p> <p>Mr Thompson: These panels do not make the decisions; they make recommendations, which go through to ministers.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: I appreciate that. We did not make decisions</p>	96	23/05/11	

				<p>either on the panels that I have been on; we made recommendations to ministers. It is always the ministers in the department that make the decisions. It just seems to me a pretty secret process. If somebody wants to be involved in the assessment process, how do they get involved? In the past it was nominated by the community—and I understand and I have been through the arguments about not being representative anymore, et cetera—but it seems to me you have gone completely the other way now; now you make the decisions and the community is not involved at all.</p> <p>Mr Thompson: Most of the panels have a majority community membership and we recommend them on the basis of their connections and experience with the community.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: It still seems pretty in-house to me. If you could table the names of the people who are on the panels, that would be appreciated.</p> <p>Mr Thompson: Okay. We can do that.</p>			
258.	SRM 05	Colbeck	Fisheries – All activities and communications of the Recreational Fishing Advisory Committee	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can DAFF provide a comprehensive update on all activities and communications of the Recreational Fishing Roundtable? 2. What expenditure is available for the Recreational Fishing Roundtable in 2011-12 and beyond? 3. What activities are planned for the Recreational Fishing Advisory Committee from this point forward? 4. Has the Chair of the Recreational Fishing Advisory Committee received any additional remuneration for his position, outside of sitting fees in accordance with the Remuneration Tribunal Determinations? 5. What is the process for the Chair to cover any expenses incurred in the line of performing the role? Have additional expenses been incurred and, if so, can itemised details of the expense amounts and reasons be provided. 	Written 1		
259.	SRM 06	Colbeck	Marine Bioregional Planning	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What involvement has DAFF had with regard to the Marine Bioregional Planning process generally, and with specific regard to the South West Marine Networks proposal, since February 2011? 2. Has the Department provided advice to: (a) the Fisheries Minister, (b) the Fisheries Parliamentary Secretary or (c) the 	Written 1		

				<p>Environment Minister?</p> <p>3. What was DAFF's role in the development of the Displaced Effort policy recently released by the Government?</p> <p>4. Did DAFF provide advice to (a) the Fisheries Minister, (b) the Fisheries Parliamentary Secretary, or (c) the Environment Minister with regard to the Displaced Effort policy?</p> <p>5. What is DAFF's involvement in development of gear assessment guidelines?</p>			
260.	SRM 07	Colbeck	Reduction of FTE's in fisheries branch	<p>DAFF has previously advised the Fisheries Branch has reduced FTEs from 54 to 34 between 2007-08 and 2010-11.</p> <p>1. What is the current number of FTEs in the Fisheries Branch? Are there plans for further reductions in FTE numbers during the 2011-12 period?</p> <p>2. What is the staff turnover rate in the Fisheries Branch now?</p>	Written 1		
261.	SRM 08	Colbeck	Commonwealth Fisheries Harvest Policy	<p>1. Have the terms of reference for the review of the Commonwealth Fisheries Harvest Strategy Policy been developed? Are these available publicly?</p> <p>2. When will the formal review and consultation process commence?</p> <p>3. Noting former advice that the Review will commence in 2011 and be provided to the Commonwealth Government by September 2012, has DAFF actually devised a more detailed timeline for this project? And if so, can it be provided?</p> <p>4. Has a list of individuals and organisations been determined as yet? If so, can it be provided?</p> <p>5. Has a process or plan for this review been developed as yet? If so, can you outline this?</p>	Written 1		
262.	SRM 09	Colbeck	Fisheries – Seismic testing and Bass straight scallop bed deaths	<p>Seismic testing and Bass Strait scallop bed deaths</p> <p>1. What further action or activity has the Department undertaken with regard to this issue since it was raised at the Additional Estimates hearing in February 2011?</p> <p>2. Has DAFF provided advice to (a) the Fisheries Minister or (b) the</p>	Written 1		

				<p>Fisheries Parliamentary Secretary regarding this matter?</p> <p>3. Is DAFF aware of media reports in which the Fisheries Parliamentary Secretary indicated he had met with the Tasmanian Scallop Fisheries Association and he agreed that natural environmental factors are not the cause of the scallop bed deaths in Bass Strait?</p> <p>4. Is the Department aware of any other fisheries concerns related to seismic surveys, either in Australia or international waters? If so, can an outline of these concerns be detailed?</p> <p>5. Is the Department aware of the recently published findings of the Spanish Technological University of Barcelona? (as published in New Scientist, 16 April 2011)?</p> <p>6. What assessment does DAFF make of the content of this study in relation to the Bass Strait scallop issue?</p>			
263.	SRM 10	Colbeck	Recreational Fishing Advisory Committee	<p>1. Can DAFF provide a comprehensive update on all activities and communications of the Recreational Fishing Advisory Committee since February 2011? This request includes a detailed progress report on the national data collection project.</p> <p>2. What expenditure is available for the Recreational Fishing Advisory Committee in 2011-12 and beyond?</p> <p>3. What activities are planned for the Recreational Fishing Advisory Committee from this point forward?</p>	Written 1		
264.	SRM 11	Colbeck	Southern Blue Fin Tuna Scientific Research Program	<p>Senator COLBECK: You have effectively dealt with my specific question with respect to the potential for buyout, but that process has never been pursued before unless it is a broader industry such as the south-east process that occurred in I think 2005-06. I want to go back to terminated programs. It is my understanding that there were five of those in the budget: the Southern Bluefin Tuna Scientific Research Program, the Recreational Fishing Community Grants Program, the Southern Ocean Surveillance Continuation, the Fishing Structural Adjustment Package and the Illegal Foreign Fishing Vessels—High Seas Taskforce Initiative. What has been the impact of the cessation of the Southern Bluefin Tuna Scientific Research Program?</p> <p>Mr Thompson: I am not sure which program you are actually referring to there. The work we do on southern bluefin tuna is continuing. It is funded through the fisheries research fund. Work done by ABARES and CSIRO is still continuing. Dr Begg seems to have more detail on that.</p> <p>Dr Begg: Just to be clear, are you talking about the CCSBT scientific</p>	114 23/05/11		

				<p>research program that used to have tag, recapture and things like that?</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: It might go back a little earlier than just the last 12 months. There was funding allocated in the 2007-08 budget. There was nearly \$1 million effectively—\$999,000—according to answer to question on notice No. 157 from February's estimates. In that question I was asking about a range of things including staffing, which we have been through and talked about.</p> <p>Mr Thompson: On the southern bluefin tuna question specifically, we think you are referring to a specific item which referred to funding for the Convention for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna, where we provided research money to them for tagging and other activities. That has ceased. But there has been no termination of any fishing programs in this year's budget other than those that were foreshadowed before the structural adjustment package coming to an end.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: No, I understand that. The recreational fishing grants program was basically coming to an end as well.</p> <p>Mr Thompson: The Fisheries Resources Research Fund continues. As I said, we are funding work on southern bluefin tuna. The aerial survey and other work will receive some funding from that.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: It is listed on the second page of your answer to question No. 157—now you have confused me because on the first page you have 157 and on the second page you have 156, unless I have the two questions combined. It says: 'Southern Bluefin Tuna Scientific Research Program, \$999,000'. Perhaps you should take that on notice.</p>			
265.	SRM 12	Colbeck	Water quality Monitoring	<p>Senator COLBECK: I am not sure about how constructive they are running just at the moment. I asked some questions at last estimates about the impact of the extreme weather events up the east coast. We talked about some water quality monitoring, particularly in some of the areas outside the estuaries. Do you have any updates on any findings or any work that might have been done on that?</p> <p>Mr Thompson: I have no update on the findings. We would have to take that on notice as to what the results, if there are any, are.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: As part of that question could you see if there are any particular sectors of fisheries that have been more significantly impacted than others. The work is continuing, is it?</p> <p>Mr Thompson: The water quality monitoring work—there was some done straight after the cyclones. I know some results of that were made available. I am not familiar with all of them. I think some of them showed that, because of the sheer volume of water, some of the impacts were</p>	111 23/05/11		

				actually less than we might have otherwise expected. There was a dilution effect.			
266.	SRM- AFMA 01	Colbeck	Southern bluefin tuna aerial survey and marine bioregional planning	<p>Senator COLBECK: I was aware particularly of overlap in relation to the survey. I have been through and had a good look at a couple of the previous reports and so have some sense of where those actually run. But, again, I am interested in the interaction in that fishery and how it might impact on the management of the fishery itself. I would not have thought that it would have had an impact on the aerial survey given that there is not too much interaction with the ocean itself, hopefully, apart from having a view from a fair way up.</p> <p>Dr Dickson: It is probably something you could ask the environment department, but it is not something that they made us aware of in all the discussions we have had on this about any impact on SBT. Given there is a bit of complexity here, it is probably best to take this on notice and get a comprehensive answer to you on the proposed marine park for that region.</p>	108 23/05/11		
267.	SRM- AFMA 02	Siewert	200 metre isobath Offshore Constitutional Settlement boundary change	<p>200 metre isobath OCS boundary change</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is AFMA seeking changes to the boundaries of the Western Deepwater Trawl Fishery and North West Shelf Trawl Fishery that will open up over 6000 square kilometres of ocean floor to destruction by bottom trawling before the completion of the current DEWHA bioregional marine planning processes for South West and North West WA? 2. How is allowing uncapped and unmonitored (no catch limits and no effort controls) trawling in areas that will threaten the sustainability of vulnerable fish stocks, currently closely monitored and managed by WA state fisheries justified? 	Written 1		
268.	SRM- AFMA 03	Colbeck	Marine Bioregional Planning Gear Assessments	<p>Senator COLBECK: The assessments do form a critical part of the process because they then go on to form the management plans and what particular activities are permitted in the respective zones under the IUCN categories. They are pretty critical to the overall process, and I would have thought that this agency would be a good go-to, if you like, to provide that quality advice in the case of a report prepared by a consultant for the environment department and then perhaps an assessment of that process and the opportunity to pick up anything that might be raising a red flag to head off any of these particular concerns. Was there any consultation with the consultant that prepared those reports?</p>	109-110 23/05/11		

				<p>Mr Thompson: I am not familiar with the detail of whether or not there was consultation with the consultants during the preparation of that report. There was quite a lot of officer discussion with counterparts in the environment department during the process on sort of day-to-day issues and questions and those sorts of things. I would have to take on notice whether we saw the consultant's report or commented on it formally.</p>			
269.	SRM- AFMA 04	Colbeck	Seismic work	<p>Senator COLBECK: I want to do a little bit on seismic work. There is a referral under the EPBC Act for BP applications in the GAB for a major seismic and exploratory drilling start. My understanding is that the tuna industry supports the developments but it has some concerns about the seismic survey taking place in the time frame, November through to April, that BP has applied for. Given that it overlaps the aerial survey time frame, has there been any consultation with the department in relation to that and any concern about that overlap?</p> <p>Mr Neil: I will have to take it on notice to give you any detail. I understand that there has been an issue about seismic work in the north, where there was a question about the limited period when they could do the seismic work due to weather considerations and the fishing. My understanding is they have normally had a very good working relationship in relation to the seismic work and with the industry. On this occasion they do have a problem with the window available to undertake the seismic work as well as the fishing. I understood the issue was still being discussed between the parties. We could possibly provide you with more advice.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: If you could do that, I would appreciate it. I am not sure that we are talking about the same locations—</p> <p>Mr Neil: No, I am not sure either.</p>	110 23/05/11		
270.	SRM- AFMA 05	Siewert	Australian Sea Lion Management Strategy	<p>1. What is the calculated reduction of impact upon the endemic Australian Sea Lion as a result of AFMA's Sea Lion Management Strategy and subsequent additional measures put in place?</p> <p>2. Scientific advice from Goldsworthy Report and international experts, recommends that bycatch of Australian Sea Lions and particularly that of females be reduced to as close to zero as possible. In light of scientific opinion, how does AFMA consider the setting of a 'trigger level' of 104 animals per year (a bycatch rate of 1.5% per breeding cycle) sustainable?</p> <p>3. In light of the complex genetic structure of sub-colonies of the Australian Sea Lion, how does DAFF/AFMA consider that the</p>	Written 1		

				<p>proposed strategy and measures will ensure the recovery of all sub-populations of the Australian Sea Lion?</p> <p>4. How is the proposed bycatch rate of this vulnerable species, listed under federal and state legislation in line with the objectives of the Fisheries Management Act's of ESD and precautionary principles? Particularly in light of national and international science recommending bycatch be as close to zero as possible?</p>			
271.	SRM- AFMA 06	Colbeck	Chair of Recreational Fishing Advisory Committee	<p>During Additional Estimates there were some questions asked about David Llewellyn's appointment as Chair of the Recreational Fishing Advisory Committee. In answer to QON 12 the Department advised that it was not aware of any real or perceived conflict of interest in relation to Mr Llewellyn.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can you advise that this is still the case that he has not had to declare any real or potential conflict of interest? 2. In his role as a lobbyist registered with the Tasmanian Department of Premier and Cabinet, does Mr Llewellyn now have any registered clients? 3. Please provide details of the payment arrangements in place for Mr Llewellyn. 4. What payments or reimbursements has he received since his appointment? 	Written 1		
272.	SRM- AFMA 07	Colbeck	Letters to Coles and Woolworths	<p>Has AFMA received responses from Coles or Woolworths, with regard to the letters AFMA sent the two supermarkets on March 25, 2011? If yes, can AFMA provide copies of the letters?</p>	Written 1		
273.	TMAD 01	Colbeck	Seafood trade with China – Invoice pricing	<p>Senator COLBECK: My understanding is that the numbers through Hong Kong have changed significantly now. Have you had anything put to you about the Chinese deeming an invoice price?</p> <p>Ms Evans: We have anecdotally heard of that type of behaviour from the industry, but for us to actually see any evidence of that we would need to see an import bill or something that actually referred to these kinds of charges. Other than that, our official inquiries have confirmed that the only charges being applied are the tariff at 15 per cent and the VAT charge at 13 per cent.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: I do not think there is any dispute about that—that</p>	7 24/05/11		

				<p>the tariffs are being charged at that rate—but the feedback that I have had is that everything going in at the moment is deemed at a price of \$70, when the invoice price here is something like \$50 to \$55 or lower. That exacerbates the competitive issues with, say, New Zealand who already have a step down to their tariff and are obviously operating under different circumstances.</p> <p>Ms Evans: We have had some discussions around that issue but I cannot recall the specific details of it. If it is okay, I will take it on notice to come back and confirm what it is that we have discussed.</p>			
274.	TMAD 02	Colbeck	International Agricultural Cooperation	<p>Senator COLBECK: On the issue of international agricultural cooperation, the incoming government brief says:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">While the department supports activities to further international cooperation and believes there is a strong case for targeted expansion in this area, we often have to argue against new activities with trading partners because we cannot pursue most of them without additional resources.</p> <p>Can you give us an example of where, in recent times, you have had to argue against new activities?</p> <p>Mr Glyde: I am struggling to come up with an example off the top of my head, but I think what often happens in the negotiations will be the expectation from the other side, usually about capacity-building activities and the like, and given that that has been done in the past where we have come to arrangements under free trade agreements or under bilateral cooperation on agriculture, there is that expectation that we will be able to do that. If you have a larger budget for those things and you can come to more agreements and be able to agree to that. In some cases we have not been able to do that. In some cases we have had to try to keep the discussions and the ongoing planning for international cooperation on the basis of exchange of information and things we can afford rather than detailed capacity-building projects and the like. If you like, I could reflect on that and provide that under notice but nothing comes to mind recently.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: I would appreciate it if you could take that and give me something on notice to get a sense of what the particular constraints might be.</p>	10 24/05/11		
275.	TMAD 03	Coonan	Live Trade Animal welfare Partnership 2009/10 Final	<p>The May 2010 report, “Live Trade Animal Welfare Partnership 2009/10 Final Report” identified animal management, slaughter facilities and animal welfare standards as points for improvement in animal welfare - stunning during slaughter was identified as a</p>	Written 2		

			Report	<p>‘priority’ and that stunning was accepted in Indonesia. The report said it had not been possible to implement a stunning trial in 09/10.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many licensed Halal facilities are there and where are they? 2. What does the annual certification process involve? 3. Noting at Estimates it was stated it was possible to use stunning and still be Halal, how real are cultural issues referred to in Estimates? 4. How many locations are stunning trials being conducted at? Where are they? 5. How are they being done? 6. Who is doing them? 7. Who is evaluating the outcomes? 8. The May 2010 report says of the 2 trial sites, they identified one who objected to stunning on the basis of it may cause death. Has it been possible to demonstrate otherwise to that site in the last year? 9. Funding was identified as a barrier to stunning. Is it correct that the government matches MLA funding dollar for dollar? 10. What funding has the Department allocated for this purpose in this financial year and next? 11. Noting that the sum of \$550,000 was allocated for the Live Animal Trade Partnership as part of Program 1.13 “International Market Access” how much of that budget has been used to promote the humane treatment of animals in Indonesia? Please provide a breakdown of the expenditure to date 			
276.	TMAD 04	Coonan	Diplomatic measures - Introduce Animal Welfare Laws	<p>What diplomatic measures has the Government taken to persuade the Indonesia government to introduce regulations to give effect to animal welfare laws?</p>	Written 2		
277.	TMAD 05	Back	In- Country officers	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Where does DAFF have in-country officers located? Provide detail on where and how many? 2. Are they all currently in place? 3. With the announcement last week by Minister for Trade, Craig Emerson announced that Austrade would be closing “small offices in Europe and North America’ and will be rationalising staffing in some locations” – does DAFF have any similar plans? If so, what are they? 	Written 2		

				<p>4. What work are these officers currently undertaking? Provide details of what project / work programs they are conducting?</p> <p>5. Does this include BSE IRA?</p>			
278.	TMAD 06	Coonan	Visits to Slaughter Facilities	<p>1. Who are the officer (s) who have ‘made several visits’ to see the facilities in operation.</p> <p>2. When and where did the visits take place; what did he/they report about slaughters observed and in particular the operation of the Mark 1 boxes?</p>	Written 2		
279.	TMAD 07	Coonan	Live Animal Exports - stunning in Indonesia	<p>Senator COONAN: So how many slaughter facilities have stunning in Indonesia? Perhaps I should ask: how many slaughter facilities are there in Indonesia?</p> <p>Ms Evans: I would have to take that on notice. In terms of the advice we have had from industry in terms of where Australian animals are slaughtered, the advice is that it can be in excess of 100 facilities. I would not be able to answer how many abattoirs there are in Indonesia.</p>	74 24/05/11		
280.	TMAD 08	Coonan	Live Animal Exports - stunning in Indonesia	<p>Senator COONAN: Take that on notice. I am perfectly happy with that. So how many of the identified facilities to which Australian cattle are sent have stunning facilities?</p> <p>Ms Evans: I would have to take it on notice to confirm, but my understanding is that there are three facilities currently operating with stunning and that there are two others that the industry is working on. Again, I will come back to you to confirm that my memory is not inaccurate on that.</p> <p>Senator COONAN: It is not meant to be a memory test. Of course, by all means check. The difficulty of course is that they would need to be halal certified to also be able to use stunning facilities.</p> <p>Ms Evans: In terms of halal certification in Indonesia, our understanding is that it is possible to use stunning and still be accepted as halal.</p>	74 24/05/11		
281.	TMAD 09	Coonan	Live Animal Exports - stunning in Indonesia	<p>Senator COONAN: Would you be able to take on notice and let me have a breakdown of where the Mark 1 boxes are and when they were installed? Are we still supplying them, for example, or do we only now supply Mark 4? What is the position?</p> <p>Ms Evans: There is another round of the Live Trade Animal Welfare Partnership program for the coming year where we have not yet finalised the projects themselves. But it is fair to say that there are still opportunities to put in Mark 1 boxes where that would have a substantial</p>	76-77 24/05/11		

				<p>animal welfare improvement. They are still in the mix of the kind of activities that could be considered under the program.</p> <p>Senator COONAN: Is that in places where there are some other countervailing reasons why you would not put in a more superior model?</p> <p>Ms Evans: I think that would be a fair description.</p> <p>Mr Glyde: Where there is no power for example.</p> <p>Senator COONAN: If I could have a breakdown I would appreciate that.</p>			
282.	TMAD 10	Coonan	Restraint boxes	<p>Senator COONAN: Yes. Perhaps for the purposes of your area of knowledge I would appreciate it if you would take on notice to give me a list of the projects in Indonesia and how they were implemented—in other words, whether consultants did it or whether LiveCorp did it, or whoever—and where.</p> <p>Ms Evans: From our perspective there are two projects in Indonesia, both of which were implemented by Meat and Livestock Australia. I think you might be asking about where, within each one of those projects, a whole series of activities were undertaken. That would be something we would have to ask MLA or take on notice.</p> <p>Senator COONAN: But it is basically the partnership that carries it out, the practical side of it.</p> <p>Ms Evans: That is correct.</p>	77 24/05/11		
283.	TMAD 11	Coonan	Restraint boxes	<p>Ms Evans: As part of the original project in 2009-10 there was an independent assessment, so not by the department.</p> <p>Senator COONAN: Who did it?</p> <p>Ms Evans: I would have to take that on notice to go back and check.</p>	78 24/05/11		
284.	TMAD 12	Coonan	Restraint boxes	<p>Senator COONAN: I just have two more questions. Does the department conduct any on-site inspections to assess the effectiveness in animal welfare terms of the funding that is allocated?</p> <p>Mr Glyde: The program has been running for a number of years; I would probably have to take that on notice to examine the extent to which we have done that.</p> <p>Senator COONAN: Do it by all means, but I am particularly interested in the past two years in how many on-site inspections of these projects have been undertaken by the department.</p> <p>Mr Glyde: I understand the question.</p>	78-79 24/05/11		
285.	TMAD 13	Siewert	Closed loop systems	<p>Ms Evans: The closed loop facility is the one facility that the Australian government does inspect. We do that jointly with MLA. We did that</p>	80 24/05/11		

				<p>before it opened to make sure it met the requirements we were looking for and the OIE standards. We do that on a random basis regularly under its operation.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: How much was invested in that?</p> <p>Ms Evans: In terms of Australian government funding, I would have to take it on notice. There was a small amount provided for the ear-tagging system.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Is there consideration being given to anymore?</p> <p>Ms Evans: There is at this point one other facility that is looking for accreditation, but it has not yet been approved.</p>				
286.	TMAD 14	Siewert	Egypt – live animal trade ‘closed system’	<p>Senator SIEWERT: What restraint boxes were they using, if they were using any, in Egypt?</p> <p>Ms Evans: In the closed systems?</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Previously.</p> <p>Ms Evans: I would have to take that on notice.</p>	81	24/05/11		
287.	TMAD 15	O'Brien	Slaughter operations in Indonesia	<p>Senator O'BRIEN: In relation to slaughter methods, FAO says that halal in Indonesia accepts stunning. Is there a government-to-government dialogue between Australia and Indonesia about the slaughter methods, the export of Australian cattle and the implementation of animal welfare standards?</p> <p>Ms Evans: In short, yes, there is a government-to-government dialogue. I mentioned before that we have a councillor on the ground in Jakarta and we also have delegations from time to time who travel and discuss animal welfare issues. So that is an ongoing dialogue, and when there is an appropriate opportunity to raise stunning we do use those opportunities.</p> <p>Senator O'BRIEN: Can you, perhaps on notice, supply the committee with what the government has in relation to the regulatory arrangements, if any, that apply to slaughter operations in Indonesia.</p> <p>Mr Glyde: It is the Indonesian regulatory arrangements.</p> <p>Senator O'BRIEN: Yes—obviously the English version, please.</p> <p>Ms Evans: Okay, we can take that on notice, thanks.</p>	83	24/05/11		
288.	TMAD 16	O'Brien	Slaughter operations in Indonesia	<p>Senator O'BRIEN: With the facilities where there has been Australian assistance with the slaughter process, can you tell us how many such facilities exist?</p> <p>Ms Evans: In Indonesia?</p> <p>Senator O'BRIEN: In Indonesia, yes.</p> <p>Ms Evans: The number of facilities where we have worked is around 100</p>	83	24/05/11		

				or 109. It is in that order. Senator O'BRIEN: Are they widely spread—Java, Sumatra et cetera? Mr Glyde: We will probably have to take that on notice, Senator, to give you a precise answer rather than a stab at it now.			
289.	TMAD 17	Coonan	Indonesian Farm and Animal Welfare Law	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is the Dept aware of the Indonesian Farm & Animal Welfare Law passed in the National Parliament 18 months ago? 2. Is the Dept aware there are no regulations to support those laws? 	Written 2		
290.	TMAD 18	Coonan	Animal Welfare	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Since the receipt by the Department of the May 2010 report, has the Government acted on the recommendations or investigated areas of concern over animal welfare issues? 2. Please identify the number of meetings that the Department or Minister held with MLA to discuss concerns over animal welfare issues since the release of the report. 3. Were any conclusions or recommendations drawn from the meetings? 4. If so what were they? 	Written 2		
291.	TMAD 19	Coonan	Live Trade Animal welfare Partnership 2009/10 Final Report	When did the Department and the Minister become aware of the May 2010 report?	Written 2		
292.	TMAD 20	Coonan	Live Exports	Noting that it was January 2011 when the Minister wrote to industry to bring forward a plan as he had heard concerns at “the last additional estimates”, what was the date of that letter, to whom was it sent and what did it say?	Written 2		
293.	TMAD 21	Coonan	Live Trade Animal welfare Partnership 2009/10 Final Report	What other action did the Department and/or the Minister take between first becoming aware of the May 2010 report and the letter to industry in January 2011?	Written 2		
294.	TMAD 22	Coonan	Government Meetings in	1. Referring to the government to government meetings in Indonesia in March 2010 which broadly discussed welfare issues,	Written 2		

			Indonesia on Welfare	<p>what specific issues were raised either by the Department or the Minister and with whom?</p> <p>2. In particular what concerns were raised about the humane treatment of Australian cattle in Indonesia abattoirs and/or feedlots?</p>			
295.	TMAD 23	Coonan	Accreditation on Abattoirs	<p>Please note: This is the same as the question below. The Senator has requested it be referred to DAFF for response.</p> <p>In relation to the MLA “Australian cattle industry provides animal welfare solution” publicly released on June 6 2011 please advise:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The location of the 25 selected abattoirs for accreditation and what category each is in: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Those currently using stunning b. Those able to introduce stunning in the near future c. Those that can be gradually introduced 2. What is the timeframe for accreditation of each of these proposed facilities? 3. What are the criteria for accreditation? 4. Will it be to OIE standards (which doesn’t mandate stunning) or Australian standards? 5. Who is able to independently audit the abattoirs for current status and verify compliance with upgrades? 6. When will the ‘closed system’ commence? 7. What is going to happen in the meantime as no-one seems clear on this thus far? 	Written 2		
296.	TMAD 24	Coonan	Stunning	<p>I refer you to the independent report dated May 2010 Live Trade Animal Welfare Partnership 2009/2010 conducted by MLA and Livecorp and in particular Milestone 2 – Stunning Trial which noted that ‘there are currently four abattoirs licensed to use pre-slaughter stunning. These facilities are licensed by the Halal certifying body – Indonesia Ulema Council (MUI) to use stunning prior to slaughter (pg4).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please identify the names and locations of these licensed facilities? 2. Has the stunning trial now proceeded? 3. If not why not? 	Written 2		

297.	TMAD 25	Heffernan	Closer Economic arrangement	<p>Senator HEFFERNAN: You are aware we have a closer economic arrangement?</p> <p>Dr O'Connell: Yes, I am aware of that. It is a question of what it is precisely around biosecurity.</p> <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: When it refers to agriculture, what are the main lines of interaction between a closer economic arrangement and your department? What things does it influence?</p> <p>Dr O'Connell: Our department, with its relationship?</p> <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: Yes, DAFF.</p> <p>Dr O'Connell: I am not sure that it—</p> <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: What input did you have into the arrangements behind the closer economic arrangement?</p> <p>Dr O'Connell: Well, the arrangements, that would be—</p> <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: If you would talk up a little bit—do not be frightened.</p> <p>Dr O'Connell: That would be going back into history and I would have to take that on notice. That goes back a long way—the development of the closer economic relationship.</p> <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: But you have the basic knowledge that—</p> <p>Dr O'Connell: I am happy enough to have that search done, if that is useful to you.</p> <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: Yes.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: ...In theory this fresh pig meat that is being imported into New Zealand can come into Australia because of the closer economic arrangements.</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: If that is a question we will take that on notice for tomorrow and deal with it in Biosecurity Australia.</p> <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: My question is: does the closer economic arrangement allow that to happen? That is an administrative matter; it is not a biosecurity matter. It is a matter for DAFF surrounding the closer economic arrangement we have with New Zealand.</p> <p>Dr O'Connell: On the biosecurity side of the question, we can answer that for you tomorrow. On the issue around the specifics on the closer economic relationship, we would have to take that on notice, but we could probably provide—the broad structure is very clear. What it means for pork I would have to have somebody look at. The biosecurity component we can answer tomorrow. We probably also need to look to our colleagues in Treasury and PM&C to see whether closer economic relationships develop.</p>	23-24 23/05/11	Transferred 29/6 was Biosecurity- Food 04	
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Questions on notice taken at Budget Estimates hearing on Monday 23 and Tuesday 24 May 2011 – and answered later in the hearing - **TABLED**

Q no.	Program/ Division or Agency	Senator	Broad topic	Question	Proof Hansard page & hearing date or Written Q	Date rec'd	Date tabled
	CSD	Colbeck	Centralised procurement	When does the centralised contracting process commence?	13 23/05/11		Tabled at hearing on 24/05/11 Tabled doc no.2 Q01
	CSD	Colbeck	Staffing levels	Which areas in the department are this current year's graduates working?	15 23/05/11		Tabled at hearing on 24/05/11 Tabled doc no.2 Q02
	CSD	Colbeck	Graduate retention rates	What is the rate of retention and turnover with respect to the graduate program?	15 23/05/11		Tabled at hearing on 24/05/11 Tabled doc no.2 Q03
	CSD	Colbeck	Staffing costs	What is the cost to date of this current year's graduate program?	15 23/05/11		Tabled at hearing on 24/05/11

							Tabled doc no.2 Q04
	TMAD	Nash	Treaty benefit sharing fund	What is the purpose of the Australian government's \$1 million contribution to the Treaty benefit sharing fund?	13 24/05/11		Tabled at hearing on 24/05/11 Tabled doc no.2 Q05
	TMAD	Nash	Funding	List of other countries who contribute to the treaty benefit sharing fund and how much they contribute?	16 24/05/11		Tabled at hearing on 24/05/11 Tabled doc no.2 Q06
	SRM	Back	Caring for our Country	With respect to the camel culling project funded under Caring for our Country, what were the targets for each of the four years?	99 23/05/11		Tabled at hearing on 24/05/11 Tabled doc no.2 Q07
	SRM	Macdonald	Caring for our Country	Provide a list of the staff working on the Caring for our Country review – their name, qualifications, levels etc.	89 23/05/11		Tabled at hearing on 24/05/11 Tabled doc no.2 Q08

	SRM	Macdonald	Caring for our Country	How many project proposals for the 2010-11 Caring for our Country open call were received by the department?	91 23/05/11		Tabled at hearing on 24/05/11 Tabled doc no.2 Q09
	SRM	Macdonald	Caring for our Country	Provide a list of the Working on Country projects (under Caring for our Country) and approximate funding?	87 23/05/11		Tabled at hearing on 24/05/11 Tabled doc no.2 Q10
	TMAD	Nash	Members	List the parties to the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and members to the Governing Body.	12 24/05/11		Tabled at hearing on 24/05/11 Tabled doc no.2 Q11
	BSG	Back	Hale and Taylor reference	Senator BACK: The reference Hale and Taylor 1999 in your references states, 'Effect of cool storage on erwinia amylovora in apple calyxes, Acta Horticulturae' et cetera indeed is not. That particular reference is a reference to a massive outbreak of fire blight in East Switzerland by Hasler, Schärer, Vogelsanger, Schoch and Vignutelli. I would be very pleased if someone can correct me. I make that point and move on if I can. Therefore I cannot comment on where I think you are with that statement. Dr Grant: We will provide you with a copy of that reference. Senator BACK: Thank you. I go further in your distribution section now. (cont.)	24 24/05/11		Additional information provided after the hearing (AI 01)
	CSD	Heffernan	Inspector General	Senator HEFFERNAN: Are we not entitled to know what is in his head? Dr O'Connell: No doubt he will be able to provide you with that. If you	18 23/05/11		Have removed

				ask questions of him he will no doubt be able to respond to that. Senator HEFFERNAN: When he comes back from his trip could we have a briefing from the Inspector General to this committee? Dr O'Connell: I will ask him to have a briefing. Senator Ludwig: It is a good idea. It is very helpful.			these from list of QONs Dept will ensure follow up for these briefings is undertaken -
	CC	Xenophon	Drought Pilot – Ext Programs	Senator XENOPHON: I am planning to introduce a bill on this fairly shortly and it may be that it may be co-sponsored by some of my colleagues in this room. Minister, could I get an urgent briefing from the department on this because there seems to be a concern about it? ----- Senator Ludwig: No, that is why I am not saying it is directed at you, Senator. I am happy for the department to provide a briefing in relation to this. When you then lump it with exit programs, I think in this instance you have to define the difference, that this was an exit program designed around those farms affected by drought so that the farm could still be in an arable land but it is challenged because of the drought circumstances. It is designed to exit from that because they are in financial difficulties. That is not to say that other farms throughout that period have been able to manage through drought. Senator XENOPHON: There is also the irrigators exit grants which were managed differently as well. Senator Ludwig: It depends on the policy intent and how the grant is then structured. Senator XENOPHON: Could I arrange a briefing in the next couple of days? That would be good. Senator Ludwig: It will depend on the department, they are at estimates, but it will depend on— Senator XENOPHON: When they have finished their estimates commitments that will be good.	35 23/05/11		
	TMAD 03	Nash	International	Senator NASH: What would be some of the high-impact projects? Can you give us a sense of what the high impact actually means?	14	This was	This was

			Treaty: high impact projects	<p>Ms Evans: It might be possible for some of my colleagues from the Agricultural Productivity Division to give you some other examples of how genetic resource projects themselves can have high impact but, from my division's perspective, the high impact is associated with the fact that this treaty is such a significant way of accessing agricultural genetic material. The money has gone to, among other things, supporting our region in terms of building its capacity in order to participate in that system. One thing we did that some of the Funding Australia has provided went to was a workshop in the region to help it to work through what systems it needs need in order to access the treaty and the genetic material that it allows access to.</p> <p>Senator NASH: Okay; so by 'high impact' you really mean 'significant benefit'.</p> <p>Ms Evans: I think that is fair.</p> <p>Senator NASH: That makes more sense. Could you take it on notice to get that list. If you could get it today, it would be useful. Can you give me have a bit more detail around what any of those high-impact projects might be?</p> <p>Mr Glyde: We can. The responsibility for the detail of this rests with the Agricultural Productivity Division. They are coming a little bit later on so we should be able to run through those for you.</p> <p>Senator NASH: That would be great.</p>	24/05/11	<p>Tabled at hearing on 24/05/11</p> <p>Tabled doc no.2 Q05</p>	moved here on 22/6 as per email.
	CC 30	Milne	Carbon Farming Initiative	<p>Senator MILNE: I just wanted to address this issue of the risk-of-reversal buffer, which is what—</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: Yes, I understand what he is getting at.</p> <p>Senator MILNE: Senator Heffernan is talking about here. I understand it is proposed that there be a five per cent risk-of-reversal buffer built into these projects, with an understanding that that would overcome some of these issues. I guess what Senator Heffernan would probably like to know is: has the department had any role in determining that the appropriate risk-of-reversal buffer should be five per cent for farmers who may be credited under these projects?</p> <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: And, if there were a 10-year drought, where would that figure end up? You do not know the answer, so—</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: We will take it on notice. I am not sure—</p> <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: You have no idea!</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: that would actually fall within DCCEE.</p>	68-69 23/05/11		This was answered later in the day at the hearings