

J. Lupton  
12/18

Dear Secretary,

I am pleased the Senate is to investigate the pricing of fertilizer. I have been a farmer for 28 years and the recent price rises in fertilizer are as I have never experienced. I feel my farm has been picked up & moved to Zimbabwe or some similar State with out of control inflation.

Our planting fertilizer DAP has increased 100% in 12 months, Urea has increased 40% in the last few months. I find it hard to believe Incepic Pivot who supplies over 70% of fertilizer sales on the eastern coast has experienced cost increases to justify such a price increase. These price increases make a joke of a 4% inflation rate & if left unchecked will have a dramatic affect on food prices to the Australian consumer. Incepic Pivot share price is at record levels, so obviously costs cannot be squeezing profit margins too much.

I would request that the Senate Select Committee be made aware of my concerns and ask them to leave no stone unturned in investigating whether the merger of Incepic & Pivot a few years ago, has resulted in uncompetitive pricing of fertilizer to Queensland farmers.

Yours sincerely  
Jeff Lupton