

WINE EXPORTS — CHINA

811. Hon COLIN TINCKNELL to the Minister for Agriculture and Food:

- (1) Does the McGowan government support the Chinese government's anti-dumping probe into Australia's wine industry?
- (2) What is the McGowan government doing to support and assist Western Australian winemakers during this uncertain time?
- (3) Will the McGowan government condemn the Chinese government's probe if no evidence of dumping can be substantiated?

Hon ALANNAH MacTIERNAN replied:

I thank the member for the question.

- (1)–(2) We have seen no evidence that would support the dumping claim. We note that Western Australian wines are generally at the premium end of the market. We will work with the commonwealth government and the wine industry to defend wine producers during the investigation.

Western Australian wine exports to China in 2019–20 were valued at \$21 million, which represents just two per cent of total Australian wine exports to China. We have also been working to diversify our export markets, with intense work underway in the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development to build our wine markets in Japan and the ASEAN countries. Even throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, we have been conducting virtual masterclasses in these markets. We have been working closely with Wines of Western Australia on a wine industry export growth partnership designed to improve international competitiveness and unlock the growth potential in diversified markets. We had been hoping for Wines Australia to join this partnership, but this participation has not been forthcoming to date.

- (3) The McGowan government has worked hard to maintain good relationships with China as our major trading partner. Our wine industry has developed strong relationships with our Chinese customers.