

AGRICULTURE — GRAIN — BIOSECURITY

1090. Hon COLIN de GRUSSA to the Minister for Agriculture and Food:

I refer to the grains biosecurity advisory committee and biosecurity risks to the grain industry in WA.

- (1) How many organisms that would negatively impact the WA grain industry were added to the Western Australian organism list in 2019–20 and 2020–21 to date?
- (2) How many sniffer dogs are currently funded through the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development and where are they deployed?
- (3) What is the current status of the GrainGuard biosecurity group?
- (4) Have any issues or concerns with container inspection and/or security been raised through GBAC or the GrainGuard group in 2019–20 and 2020–21 to date?
- (5) If yes to (4), please table details of each issue or concern, the date it was raised and how and when it was resolved, if applicable.

Hon ALANNAH MacTIERNAN replied:

I thank the member for the question.

- (1) In 2019–20, there were nil. To date in 2020–21, there have been six.
- (2) Four dogs are funded through DPIRD. Two are deployed at the airport and two are deployed to freight yards and Australia Post facilities.
- (3) GrainGuard was replaced with the grains biosecurity advisory committee in 2019. The membership of GBAC includes that of the previous GrainGuard, as well as broader representation from the grains supply chain to ensure that all areas of biosecurity risk are captured. GBAC membership includes representatives from the following organisations. From government, it includes the WA chief plant biosecurity officer, and secretariat and policy support. From industry, it includes representatives from WAFarmers, Pastoralists and Graziers Association, WA Grains Group, Co-operative Bulk Handling Ltd, Grains Industry Association of Western Australia, GrainGrowers Ltd, Grain Producers Australia, and Bunge Australia. The industry management committee comprises the grains, seeds and hay industry funding scheme committee. Under “Other”, it has a Plant Health Australia WA biosecurity officer.
- (4) Yes.
- (5) The answer is in tabular form. I seek leave to have the response incorporated into *Hansard*.

Leave granted.

The following material was incorporated —

Issue raised	Date raised	Response from DPIRD	Status
Khapra beetle and measures in place for protecting WA from an incursion from infested containers.	25 August 2020	DPIRD is working closely with the Commonwealth on the risk of khapra beetle introduction. Additional surveillance trapping for high risk areas both rural and metropolitan areas are to be completed within the next six months. Targeted communication plan developed. GBAC briefed.	In Progress
Concern with significant number of sea containers heading up-country. Who is responsible for biosecurity and cleanliness (Federal or State?)	5 August 2020	GBAC advised of responsibilities and process for managing biosecurity risk of containers by state and Commonwealth.	Completed.