

FOREST PRODUCTS COMMISSION — SANDALWOOD TREES — WALLING ROCK STATION

3761. **Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Forestry:**

- (1) Did the Forest Products Commission (FPC) contract Walladar Enterprises to undertake any work on or near Walling Rock Station?
- (2) If yes to (1), how much was the contract for, and for what reason?
- (3) Was any of the work for the removal of sandalwood trees?
- (4) If yes to (3), how many trees were removed and who authorised this?
- (5) Was any of the work for the reseeded of sandalwood trees?
- (6) If yes to (5), how many seeds were planted?
- (7) If no to (5), why not?
- (8) Will the Minister table the findings of the research of sandalwood plots that the FPC put in on Walling Rock Station in 2006?
- (9) If no to (8), why not?

**Hon Ken Baston replied:**

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Walladar Enterprises held six contracts for the harvest and cartage of sandalwood from operations associated with Walling Rock Pastoral Lease. Three were harvesting contracts for; 100, 140 and 180 tonnes per year respectively.

Tonnes per annum	Start Date	End Date
100	01.07.2006	30.06.2011
140	01.07.2009	30.06.2014
180	01.07.2011	17.12.2015

The other three contracts were for cartage of the same quantities.

- (3) Yes.
- (4) The Forest Products Commission (FPC) does not record the number of trees removed by sandalwood harvest. The harvest contracts, authorised by the General Manager of the FPC, only require the contractor to provide records of weight.
- (5) Yes.
- (6) Two of the harvest contracts; for 100 and 140 tonnes, prescribed a requirement that 12 seeds were planted for every tree harvested. The FPC started using mechanical seeding as the primary technique for establishing regeneration of sandalwood in 2011, prior to 3<sup>rd</sup> contract. The mechanical seeding is undertaken by separate contractors.
- (7) Not applicable.
- (8) FPC did not install any research plots on Walling Rock Pastoral Lease in 2006.
- (9) Not applicable.