

FORMER AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH STATIONS — SALE

808. Hon DARREN WEST to the Minister for Agriculture and Food:

I refer to question 265 asked on Wednesday, 18 March, regarding the former agricultural research stations.

- (1) Has the sale of the former research stations at Badgingarra, part of Mt Barker, Newdegate, part of Wongan Hills, and Medina, been completed?
- (2) If yes, who purchased these stations?
- (3) If no, is the sale of these stations still to proceed?
- (4) Given the push for the Grains Research Development Corporation to move its headquarters to Northam, would the minister consider holding off on the sale of the research stations to enable them to be acquired for possible future use by the GRDC?

Hon KEN BASTON replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) No.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3) Yes. The properties are surplus to Department of Agriculture and Food needs and are approved for disposal. DAFWA is completing presale clearance obligations. The sale process is controlled and managed by the Department of Lands as the properties are crown land.
- (4) Not at this stage. However, if a demonstrated need was identified, this could be accommodated.