

BIOSECURITY BLITZ PROGRAM

1139. Hon DARREN WEST to the Minister for Agriculture and Food:

I refer to the biosecurity blitz program.

- (1) What is the cost of the development and implementation of the program?
- (2) How was the program advertised to the public and what was the cost of the advertising?
- (3) How many reports of unusual pests and weeds were made for the duration of the blitz?

Hon KEN BASTON replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) The biosecurity blitz was run as part of the grains e-surveillance subproject of the royalties for regions-funded boosting biosecurity defences project. The specific cost for the biosecurity blitz is estimated at \$115 000, which includes staff time and response to identified pests.
- (2) The team used electronic, print and social media to inform the community about the biosecurity blitz. Costs for these sorts of media are low and require only staff time, which is covered above. The team designed and printed three posters describing the biosecurity blitz. These posters cost \$2 300. Other stakeholders promoted the blitz at no cost to the department.
- (3) The department received 500 reports during the biosecurity blitz.