

SANDALWOOD HARVEST

429. Hon COLIN HOLT to the minister representing the Minister for Forestry:

I refer to the Forest Products Commission contracts for sandalwood purchase for oil processing awarded to Mt Romance Australia Pty Ltd and Dutjahn Sandalwood Oils Pty Ltd.

- (1) How long are each of these contracts?
- (2) How long are the FPC harvest licence contracts with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions for sandalwood harvesting?
- (3) If the harvesting contracts are shorter than the contracts to supply for processing, how does FPC guarantee supply?

Hon ALANNAH MacTIERNAN replied:

I thank the member for the question. The following information has been provided by the Minister for Forestry.

- (1) The Mt Romance Australia Pty Ltd contract was terminated by mutual agreement in May 2018. The Dutjahn Sandalwood Oils Pty Ltd contract will expire on 30 September 2026.
- (2) The Forest Products Commission undertakes harvesting operations through contracts with third parties. The current harvest contracts do not extend beyond the Sandalwood (Limitation of Removal of Sandalwood) Order 2015 and are generally less than five years. The order covers the period 2016 to 2026. An annual quota for the harvesting of wild sandalwood from crown land is set by the order. The Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions manages the assignment of harvest volumes across land tenure.
- (3) The FPC expects to call tenders for further harvest contracts as the current contracts approach their expiry. There is a sufficient level of participation in the harvesting sector to supply the contract demand.