

MUCHEA LIVESTOCK CENTRE — ELECTRONIC IDENTIFICATION TAG SCANNING

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

I refer to the installation of electronic identification tag scanning equipment at the Muchea Livestock Centre.

- (1) Why was a three-way drafting gate configuration selected for the new equipment?
- (2) Is the minister aware that the selection of a three-way rather than a four-way drafting gate could increase animal welfare risks and result in a loss of productivity and increased operating costs?
- (3) If yes to (2), what actions has the minister taken to rectify this situation?

Hon JACKIE JARVIS replied:

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

- (1)–(3) The design of the pilot electronic identification tag scanning equipment on one of the drafts at the Muchea Livestock Centre was based on feedback from users and the installers of the equipment. The Western Australian Meat Industry Authority welcomes feedback on this pilot draft once livestock agents have trialled the system.