



Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee
Budget Estimates 2020-21
Wednesday, 21 October 2020
Daily summary

Here is the summary of today's proceedings in the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee estimates hearing.

The committee met from 9.00am until 9.20pm.

The committee called:

- Corporate Division; Departmental officers under Outcomes 3 and 4; Inspector-General of Live Animal Exports; Future Drought Fund Consultative Committee; Inspector-General for Biosecurity; Plant Health Australia; Horticulture Innovation Australia; and Regional Investment Corporation.

Topics discussed by the committee included:

- agricultural workforce availability in regional areas;
- progress on a national horse tracing register;
- barley trade with China;
- food labelling standards;
- application of recommendation made by the Inspector-General of Biosecurity's review of risk management of international express airfreight pathway for non-commercial consignments, and the application of new technologies to identify biosecurity risks at Australia's ports;
- impact of staffing camps of Australia's biosecurity systems;
- stocking densities of live export and the economic impacts for exporters;
- Good Mood Food marketing campaign;
- timeliness of annual reporting; and
- administration of the National Water Infrastructure Loan Facility.

The committee will next meet at 9.00am on Thursday, 22 October 2020 in Committee Room 2R1.