



Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee
Budget Estimates 2021-22
Wednesday, 26 May 2021
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 9.03am until 6.31pm.

The committee called:

- various divisions under outcomes 3 and 4 of the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment; and the Inspector-General for Biosecurity.

Topics discussed by the committee included:

- development of the department's reconciliation action plan;
- meetings of the Agriculture Minister's Forum;
- mouse plague in New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria, and South Australia;
- agricultural workforce challenges and programs;
- delivery of the Food Waste for Healthy Soils Fund;
- resources for cotton growing in the Northern Territory;
- national framework for dealing with pests and diseases;
- outbreak of yellow crazy ants in North Queensland;
- live exports to the Middle East and North Africa; and
- fire ant eradication program.