

Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee Budget Estimates 2021-22 Thursday, 27 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 7.03pm.

The committee called:

• Australian Livestock Export Corporation (LiveCorp); Meat and Livestock Australia; Australian Meat Processor Corporation; Australian Wool Innovation; Regional Investment Corporation; Cotton Research and Development Corporation; Wine Australia; Horticulture Innovation Australia; Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority; and Dairy Australia.

Topics discussed by the committee included:

- value and volume of live animal exports;
- effects of quarantine arrangements and border closures on live transports;
- MLA's presence and representation at international trade shows;
- effects of trade disruption with China on the red meat industry;
- PFAS contamination in red meat;
- possible increases in red meat exports resulting from Australia-UK and Australia-EU free trade agreements;
- development of National Vendor Declarations by Integrity Systems Company;
- development of new safety measures for meat processors;
- nomination process in the lead up to AWI's most recent board election;
- inclusion of North Korea in the AWI's emerging markets strategy;
- other emerging opportunities for the wool industry in Vietnam, Bangladesh, Laos, and Cambodia;
- feasibility studies for wool processing within Australia;
- consultation on, and uptake of, the WoolQ program;
- definition of primary producer for the purpose of access to RIC loans;
- application approval timelines for autogenous vaccine permits; and
- development of baits to control the ongoing mouse plague.