

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Additional Estimates February 2017

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question Number: 29

Division/Agency: Biosecurity Animal Division

Topic: White Spot

Proof Hansard Page: 29

Senator CAROL BROWN asked:

Senator CAROL BROWN: Maybe I can ask the assistant minister: when did you become aware of the white spot outbreak?

Senator Ruston: I would have to take on notice the exact date, but I was advised, I think, in early December—in the first few days of December—that an outbreak of white spot disease had been identified in a prawn farm adjacent to the Logan River.

Answer:

The department advised the office of the Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources office on 1 December 2016.

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Additional Estimates February 2017

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question Number: 30

Division/Agency: Biosecurity Animal Division

Topic: Compliance for importation of breeding goats

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator STERLE asked:

1. What are the current compliance requirements for the importation of breeding goats
 - i. Is the department doing any work with developing Import Risk Assessment for the importation of breeding goats for milk production?

Answer:

Australia has import conditions for live breeding goats for milk production from New Zealand, which is the only country that Australia recognises as being both a country free from foot and mouth disease without vaccination and a country free from classical scrapie.

New Zealand recently changed its import conditions to allow importation of sheep and goat germplasm from countries not free from scrapie. Consequently, Australia now requires additional certification from New Zealand to ensure that imports of live breeding goats for milk production from New Zealand do not pose a biosecurity risk associated with scrapie.

The department is not working on an Import Risk Assessment for the importation of breeding goats for milk production for any other country.