

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2010-2011, 20 October 2010

Question: E10-434

OUTCOME 1: Population Health

Topic: TESTING OF RESIDUES IN IMPORTED FOODS

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Senator Siewert asked:

When was the list of chemicals set up for which residue testing is performed on imported foods?

Answer:

The prescribed tests for surveillance foods, including the list of agricultural and veterinary chemicals for which residue testing is performed was established by FSANZ in 2001. A review of the prescribed tests for surveillance foods was conducted by FSANZ in 2007.

The next review will commence in 2011 and will include consideration of the current surveillance category testing program, identify any areas for improvement, including any food/hazard combinations that should be in the program and how frequently the testing program should be reviewed by AQIS and FSANZ.