

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Budget Estimates

1 June – 3 June 2010

Question: BET 79

Topic: 'Country-of-Origin' Claims

Hansard Page: E102 (02/06/2010)

Senator XENOPHON asked:

Senator XENOPHON—Sure. I understand the constraints. I think the Chair might be generous in giving me one more minute. Can the commission indicate the number of complaints it has received on country-of-origin claims since the last estimates, in terms of food labelling?

Mr Samuel—We will have to take that one on notice, I think.

Answer:

In the period between 10 February 2010 (the date of the ACCC's Additional Estimates 2009–10 hearing) and 30 June 2010 the ACCC received 26 contacts in relation to country of origin claims, in terms of food labelling.

Of these 26 contacts, 24 were complaints that generally concerned the labelling of a food item as 'Product of Australia' or 'Australian made' where it was alleged the product was not of Australian origin or did not satisfy the representation.