

QUESTION ON NOTICE
No. 418
Asked on Thursday, 24 March 2005

MRS PRATT asked the Minister for Primary Industries and Fisheries (MR PALASZCZUK)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the production and sale of produce from the organic food industry and imported organic produce—

- (1) Why is it that due to stringent requirements on Queensland organic produce, local organic farmers cannot compete against inferior imports because there are no standards set for organic imports?
- (2) As a constituent has alleged that conventionally grown snow peas are being imported from China and India with lower minimum standards and as they also claim it is impossible for local growers to compete against imported produce due to lower overseas standards, will he give some assurance to introduce a minimum standard for imported produce?
- (3) Is it correct that once organically grown peanuts are fumigated they cannot be claimed to be organic?
- (4) Will he clarify the minimum standards and requirements for imported produce to be sold in Queensland and classified as organic?

ANSWER:

I refer the Honourable Member to my answer to her question without notice of Wednesday 20 April, 2005.