

## QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 743

asked on Tuesday, 24 May 2005

---

MR SHINE ASKED THE MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINES (MR ROBERTSON)—

QUESTION:

How much does his department spend on pest management throughout Queensland and how much has his department contributed to assisting landholders address the locust plague through many parts of western Queensland in 2004-05?

ANSWER:

My Department's total base funded budget for pest management in 2004-2005 is \$11.13 million, including approximately \$1.2 million for locust control in 2004-2005. The \$1.2 million includes a special allocation of \$1 million for assistance to landholders. My Department is offering rebates to landholders of 50% of the cost of registered insecticides used by them to control juvenile locusts before they swarm. My Department is also purchasing 20 misting machines that will be given to local government to assist landholders to spray locusts.

In conjunction with the Australian Plague Locust Commission, my Department has sprayed over 1,000 square kilometres of medium to high density locust swarms in 2004-2005 and is now replenishing pesticide stocks.