

## QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 745

asked on Tuesday, 24 May 2005

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MR O'BRIEN ASKED THE MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINES (MR ROBERTSON)—

QUESTION:

What is the impact of Navua sedge in the wet tropics and how is his department addressing this problem weed?

ANSWER:

Navua sedge grows in cleared, low-lying, water-logged areas in the Wet Tropics region of north Queensland. This weed can become the dominant plant in roadside drains, flood-prone pastures and other poorly drained habitats. On some grazing properties, Navua sedge appears to have replaced more productive pasture grasses. Navua sedge can also grow in low-lying sugar cane land and drainage ditches.

My Department has undertaken research into control of Navua sedge and provides recommendations on control options and management strategies.

Navua sedge is not declared under the *Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002*. While Navua sedge is locally significant on coastal lowlands within the Wet Tropics, it does not rank among the State's worst weeds, and is not considered to require the Statewide powers of the *Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002* for its management.

However, local governments can declare locally significant weeds under their local law.