

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 768

asked on Tuesday, 24 May 2005

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

QUESTION:

Can landholders still clear weeds such as lantana under the Vegetation Management Act 2004?

ANSWER:

Clearing of non-native plants and declared pests does not require a clearing permit under either the *Integrated Planning Act 1997* or the *Vegetation Management Act 1999*, unless it also involves clearing of native plants within remnant vegetation.

Weeds such as lantana are often most efficiently controlled by bulldozing rather than methods that target only the individual weed plants. This sort of mechanical clearing within remnant vegetation will also affect adjacent native plants in the under storey and hence is assessable clearing.

Under the *Vegetation Management Act* my Department can accept applications for clearing native vegetation as part of activities that control non-native plants and declared pests. Such applications are assessed against regional codes.

No application fee is required by applicants for clearing native vegetation associated with the control of non-native plants or declared pests.