

QUESTION ON NOTICE
No. 750
Asked on Thursday, 11 May 2006

MR PEARCE asked the Minister for Primary Industries and Fisheries (MR MULHERIN)-

QUESTION:

What export opportunities for Queensland beef arose from the recent Beef Australia 2006 event in Rockhampton?

ANSWER:

Beef Australia is a truly international activity held in Rockhampton every three years. In excess of 600 overseas visitors attended Beef 2006 this year, including beef producers, and leading meat and livestock companies from Brazil, Brunei, China, Korea, Chile, Bolivia, Vietnam, Argentina, Indonesia, Malaysia, Columbia, the European Union and the United States, amongst others.

The Queensland Government was a direct sponsor/contributor to Beef 2006 by means of a grant of \$500,000 to the Beef Australia organisers and I would like to congratulate the scores of people that worked tirelessly to make the event such a success with around 60,000 attending the five day event.

The Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries developed a new concept for business matching for the World Meat Congress and Beef 2006. The 'Handshakes' project was supported by the Queensland Government and Austrade and facilitated four seminars and more than 120 business to business meetings for Queensland companies.

As it is only a short time since the visitors departed, it is a little early to be able to provide definitive results of trade outcomes for the industry. However, I am aware that negotiations are underway which are expected to result in a significant rise in the value of goods and services marketed from Queensland.

To provide an idea of the range of this market opportunity, I am advised that negotiations are underway regarding the sale of beef genetics, live animals (including cattle, camels and sheep dogs), pasture and forage seed, traceability products, stockfeed, livestock handling equipment and halal beef products, together with training and consultancy services.

More than 20 trade staff from State and Federal agencies cooperated to make this activity successful and involve more than 50 Queensland companies in these trade opportunities.