

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**  
**No. 1939**  
**Asked on 26 November 2009**

**MS O'NEILL** asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Fisheries and Rural and Regional Queensland (MR MULHERIN)—

**QUESTION:**

How will fertiliser-free cane trials benefit Queensland's multi-million dollar sugar industry?

**ANSWER:**

The Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation has conducted fertiliser trials on farms in North Queensland. The results of these trials are expected to provide the sugar industry with major economic and environmental benefits.

The trials demonstrate that, with the use of mill mud, ash and fallow legumes, additional fertiliser requirements can be eliminated. This will result in lower costs and increased profits for Industry and improve nutrient content for future crops.

These trial results are an example of the government's commitment to develop sustainable and profitable farming practices to help protect the environment.