

QUESTION ON NOTICE
No. 348
Asked on 23 March 2011

MS GRACE asked the Minister for Agriculture, Food and Regional Economies (MR MULHERIN)–

QUESTION:

How will the Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation researchers and extension officers contribute to the Northern Beef Research Conference to be held in Darwin from 3-5 August 2011?

ANSWER:

The Northern Beef Research Update Conference will be held in Darwin from 2-5 August 2011. It is the major research, development and extension conference for the northern Australian beef industry. The last forum was held in Townsville in March 2007.

The conference provides an excellent opportunity for industry to hear leading researchers report on research projects focused on increasing the productivity, profitability and environmental sustainability of the northern beef industry.

Topics for the upcoming conference will include genomics and genetics, reproductive performance, liveweight gain, sustainable grazing, climate change adaptation and mitigation, animal health and welfare, business development and live export.

Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation (DEEDI) research and extension officers are contributing to the organisation of the conference and leading key presentations. Six DEEDI officers will present invited papers and a further 18 will present poster papers summarising their work for beef businesses. A DEEDI Senior Principal Researcher, Dr Richard Holroyd, is editor of the proceedings and co-ordinating the poster presentations.

In recognition of the importance of the event, DEEDI is also providing sponsorship of \$5,000 for the conference. It is also matching a grant of \$20,000 from Meat and Livestock Australia to enable DEEDI researchers and extension officers from a wide range of disciplines and locations across Queensland to attend the conference.