

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD — CLIMATE-ADAPTED CROPS

1228. Hon LYNN MacLAREN to the Minister for Agriculture and Food:

Has the Department of Agriculture and Food advised the minister that “climate-adapted crops” may not be feasible using the genetic manipulation techniques now available, as climate adaptation is a multi-gene trait that GM cut-and-paste techniques cannot be used to transfer into new host plants?

Hon KEN BASTON replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of this question.

No. The Department of Agriculture and Food WA, among other groups, has raised with me a range of possible future GM crops that are currently being investigated internationally.