

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, BAD DEBTS

2024. Mrs C.L. Edwardes to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries; the Midwest, Wheatbelt and Great Southern

- (1) What was the amount of bad debts written off for each department and agency within the Minister's portfolio since 19 February 2001?
- (2) Were any of these debts above \$10,000 and if so, what is the name of the person or company who owed the debt?

Mr F.M. LOGAN replied:

Department of Agriculture

- (1) 19/2/01-30/06/01 Nil  
2001/02 \$8,895.54  
2002/03 Nil

- (2) Not applicable

Agriculture Protection Board

- (1) 19/2/01-30/6/01 Nil  
2001/02 \$254.99  
2002/03 \$1,720.80

- (2) Not applicable

Agriculture Produce Commission

- (1) 19/2/01-30/6/01 Nil  
2001/02 \$9,588.70  
2002/03 \$87,165.50

- (2) 2002/03 Manual Calzada \$11,160.00  
Techgro Limited \$10,740.00

Department of Fisheries

- 1) \$88,909
- 2) Debts written off for more than \$10,000:  
CALM \$20,000  
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South West Inland Fin Fish Association \$11,000  
JB Corp Images \$11,503

Forest Products Commission

- (1) \$9,737.08
- (2) No

Mid West Development Commission

- (1) \$314.10
- (2) No

Wheatbelt Development Commission

- (1) Nil
- (2) Not applicable

Great Southern Development Commission

- (1) \$735
- (2) In addition to the above, Ministerial approval was received in 2002/03 (under Regulation 10 of the FAAA Act 1984) to write off a fraud debt of \$84,826. A former employee was found guilty of defrauding the GSDC of \$133,500 in 1997. \$46,000 was recovered and an Order of Compensation was made to the GSDC for the recoup of the moneys. Payments from the former employee, who was then receiving an invalid pension and had no funds or assets, ceased in 2002. The matter was referred to the

Crown Solicitor's Office, to pursue the debtor for the remainder of the moneys, without success.  
Following the Crown Solicitor's advice the debt was written off.