

CHICKEN, MEAT AND EGG INDUSTRY, PROTECTION FROM INFECTIOUS BURSAL DISEASE  
VIRUS

1880. Mrs C.L. Edwardes to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

I refer the Minister to the CSIRO publication 'Taking Stock', August 2003 edition, and ask -

- (a) what action is the Department of Agriculture taking to ensure that the Western Australian Chicken Meat and Egg Industry is protected from the Infectious Bursal Disease Virus (IBDV);
- (b) has the Department of Agriculture investigated the new diagnostic test, developed by the CSIRO; and
- (c) if not, why not?

Mr F.M. LOGAN replied:

- (a) Only the very virulent strain of Virulent Infectious Bursal Disease (VIBD) is of concern to Australia. Australia's quarantine measures, which are administered by the Commonwealth Government, are designed to prevent the entry of this disease.
- (b) No
- (c) As part of Australia's exotic disease prevention strategy, test development and evaluation of tests for exotic animal diseases such as VIBD is conducted only at the CSIRO's high security Australia Animal Health Laboratory (AHL), Geelong, Victoria.