

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

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QUESTION WITHOUT NOTICE
(Of which some notice has been given)

Thursday, 7 April 2011

Hon Lynn MacLaren to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Minister for Agriculture and Food.

I refer to the Premier's recent statement that he did not support genetically modified (GM) wheat.

- (1) In the past two years how much funding has the Government allocated to GM wheat research?
- (2) In the past two years how much funding has the Government allocated to non-GM wheat breeding techniques such as marker assisted selection?
- (3) Does the Government intend to discontinue its funding of GM wheat research, given the market rejection of this product?
- (4) Is the Minister aware of the recent UN report *Agro-ecology and the right to food* which shows that small-scale farmers can double food production in a decade by using simple ecological methods?
- (5) How much funding has the Government allocated to researching ecological methods of increasing productivity?

ANSWER

I thank the Hon. Member for some notice of this question.

- (1) \$0.
- (2) \$0.8 million in 2009/10 and \$1.0 million in 2010/11.
- (3) Not applicable.
- (4) Yes.
- (5) The Department of Agriculture and Food's Grains Industries Program Practice and Systems Innovation has a \$6.5 million budget in 2010/11.

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