

GENETICALLY MODIFIED CANOLA — CONTAMINATION TO ORGANIC CROPS

4681. Mr M.P. Murray to the Minister for Agriculture and Food

I refer to the contamination of Mr Steve Marsh's Kojonup organic farm with genetically modified (GM) canola, and I ask:

- (a) what is the nature of the assistance that the Minister has offered to Mr Marsh;
- (b) has the Minister offered any financial assistance to Mr Marsh;
- (c) has the Minister offered to provide assistance (in the form of physical labour) to clean up the GM canola seeds from his property; and
- (d) does the Minister have any evidence available to him to indicate the length of time it will take to restore the organic certification to Mr Marsh's property?

Mr D.T. REDMAN replied:

- (a) The Department of Agriculture and Food WA (DAFWA) has offered to provide Mr Marsh with technical advice to help him regain his certification as soon as possible.
- (b) No
- (c) No
- (d) It is not possible to answer this question as the National Association for Sustainable Agriculture Australia requirements for recertification of Mr Marsh's property have not been forwarded to DAFWA.