

HIGH OIL CONTENT MALLEE SEED, PLANTING

73. Hon JIM SCOTT to the minister representing the Minister for the Environment:

- (1) Is it correct that the total amount of high oil content mallee seed that was available for planting in 2003-04 was approximately 13.5 million seeds?
- (2) What percentage of these seeds have, or will be, planted this planting season?
- (3) Will all these seeds be planted in Western Australia?

Hon TOM STEPHENS replied:

The minister provides the following reply -

- (1) Yes, this is the amount available from the Department of Conservation and Land Management. However, the department is not the only supplier of oil mallee seed and has no information on the seed available from other sources.
- (2)-(3) About 90 percent of mallee seeds offered by CALM were purchased by the Oil Mallee Association of Western Australia or by nurseries nominated by the association. The association had sought to purchase all available seed. In response to a query regarding seed supply and seedling production, CALM has recently sought information from the association on the number of seedlings that have or will be produced for planting in the current planting season. It has also sought information to respond to a suggestion that seed may be being utilised outside of Western Australia. The minister has advised that when the association's response is to hand, the member will be provided with the information sought.