

HIGH OIL CONTENT MALLEE SEEDS

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

- (1) Now that the Department of Conservation and Land Management has had time to make further investigations regarding the availability of high oil content mallee seeds that were held by CALM, can the Minister for the Environment confirm that the figure of 13.5 million seeds that was given earlier is correct?
- (2) Can the minister now inform the House whether CALM has intellectual property rights over high oil content mallee seeds?
- (3) Does either CALM or the Government have a policy regarding the distribution and use of high oil content mallee seeds?
- (4) Does the policy give priority to the use of the seeds in this State over the use of seeds in other States?
- (5) Will the minister confirm that the Oil Mallee Corporation and/or the Oil Mallee Association will be planting high oil content mallee seeds in another State?

Hon TOM STEPHENS replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of his question. I apologise to him because the response I have been given is that it is not possible to provide the information required.

Hon Jim Scott: I asked for an answer two week ago.

Hon TOM STEPHENS: Apparently it requires longer than two weeks.

Hon Jim Scott: How much time is needed?

Hon TOM STEPHENS: I am not sure. I apologise if that is the case. I request that the member place the question on notice.