

QUARANTINE ORDERS, MT BARKER FARMS

10. Hon KIM CHANCE to the minister representing the Minister for Primary Industry:

With regard to question without notice 1307 of 27 June 2000, I ask -

- (1) Will the minister table a list of each farm in the Mt Barker area that has been the subject of a quarantine order or destocking notice for footrot since 22 December 1999; and, if not, why not?
- (2) On what date was the order placed on each of those farms?
- (3) What conditions apply to each of those orders or notices?
- (4) What was the status of each of those orders or notices at 28 June 2000?
- (5) Which office either placed the order or notice, or had some further involvement with it?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1)-(2) I seek leave to table a list of nine farms in the Mt Barker area which have been subject to quarantine orders for footrot since 22 December 1999.

Leave granted. [See paper No 14.]

- (3) The main condition for any footrot quarantine order is that the virulent footrot must be eradicated before the release from quarantine is issued. The owner of each property that is quarantined for virulent footrot has two main options: Destocking or summer eradication. To destock, the owner needs to destock all sheep from the infested property. A release is generally issued after inspections by stock inspectors have verified that all sheep have been removed for a minimum of 14 days. The summer eradication option requires the owner to undertake only the necessary inspections and culling procedures of sheep. All sheep need to be assessed as free of virulent footrot after the next spring expression period for footrot before a release is issued. For both options, sheep from a quarantined property can be sold only with a permit to move.
- (4) As at 28 June 2000, all of the above quarantine orders were still in place and none of the nine quarantined properties had been released from quarantine.
- (5) All nine quarantine orders specified were issued by stock inspectors based at the Albany regional office of Agriculture Western Australia.