

Question No: 10

Question: Kenaf Crop Research

Date: 30/04/91

Member: Mr CARTWRIGHT

To: MINISTER for PRIMARY INDUSTRY and FISHERIES

1. How much has actually been spent and budgeted to be spent on kenaf and other fibre crop research and development (excluding research station overheads) between 1986-87 and the end of the 1990-91 financial year.
2. How much has actually been spent and budgeted to be spent on other broadacre crop research and development (excluding research station overheads) between 1986-87 and the end of 1990-91 financial year.

ANSWER

1. Administrative and operational expenditure from 1987-88 to 1989-90 and budgeted expenditure in 1990-91 for kenaf research and development (excluding salaries and capital costs) totals \$1 128 282. This expenditure covers one of the most comprehensive, thorough and professional investigations ever undertaken by the Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries and includes pulp and paper testing and production technology studies, market intelligence and development, environment studies, the development of computer models for mill location analysis and crop growth and farm and mill economic viability studies. Of this total a sum of \$108 317 only has been spent directly on field crop research mainly at Douglas-Daly Research Farm and on-farm development trials at Douglas-Daly and Katherine.
2. During the same period (1987-88 to 1990-91) actual and budgeted expenditure of all crops research and development in Darwin and Katherine (also excluding salaries and capital costs) has totalled \$1 431 868.

There was no identifiable expenditure on kenaf crop research and development in 1986-87.