

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE
Question Taken on Notice

Question Number: 7-4

Date: 19/06/2018

From: Mr Gerry Wood

To: Hon. Lauren Moss

Portfolio: Environment & Natural Resources

Agency: Environment & Natural Resources

Subject: Mimosa die back on Melaleuca Station

QUESTION

Minister, could you investigate as to whether there was any investigation in to die back of mimosa on Melaleuca Station some years ago?

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Answer to Question Taken on Notice

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Answer

A PhD student studied mimosa dieback on Melaleuca station in the Mary River catchment between 2012–15. The results of that study were inconclusive but indicated that native fungus was present in the plants and were likely to contribute to plants coming to dieback. So, salinity is not the cause.

Stresses include seasonal drought and flooding, biocontrol agents, native insects, fire et cetera, and further spread of biocontrol agents are likely to increase the prevalence of the dieback.