



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Standing Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry  
Inquiry into rural skills training and research

**MEDIA ALERT**

Issued: 7 April 2006

Chair: Alby Schultz MP  
Deputy Chair: Hon Dick Adams MP

# Rural skills issues in Queensland under investigation

**Committee Public Hearings in  
Brisbane – 10 April 2006  
Toowoomba – 11 April 2006**

The House of Representatives Agriculture Committee travels to Queensland next week to investigate a diverse range of rural skills issues from the challenges faced by the amalgamation of four agricultural colleges to the difficulties confronting the honeybee industry.

The committee will be holding public hearings in **Brisbane (10 April)** and **Toowoomba (11 April)** in relation to its inquiry into rural skills training and research.

The Brisbane hearings will take place **from 10.00 am** in the **Queen's Ballroom, Brisbane Hilton, 190 Elizabeth Street**.

In Brisbane the committee will hear from witnesses such as Rangelands Australia, the Queensland Rural Industry Training Council, honeybee expert Dr Max Whitten, the CSIRO, and the Queensland Government.

The Toowoomba hearings will take place **from 9.00 am** in the **Comfort Inn Grammar View, 39 Margaret Street**.

In Toowoomba the committee will hear from witnesses including AgForce Queensland, the Australasia–Pacific Extension Network, the Australian Agricultural Colleges Corporation – Dalby, Horizon Rural Management, and Conservation Farmers.

The committee chair, Alby Schultz (Member for Hume, NSW), said “the committee has received numerous submissions from Queensland and we see this as an opportunity to hear about some of the interesting developments in Queensland regarding rural training, skills and research”.

Further details about the inquiry, including terms of reference and submissions, can be obtained from the committee's website at:

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/primind/reports.htm>

or by contacting the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4500 or emailing [aff.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:aff.reps@aph.gov.au).

**For media comment:** please contact the committee chair, Alby Schultz MP, on (02) 6277 4386 or email [Alby.Schultz.MP@aph.gov.au](mailto:Alby.Schultz.MP@aph.gov.au).

**For more information:** please contact the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4500.