24 September 2002

Senator the Hon Judith Troeth
Parliamentary Secretary
to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister

On behalf of the National Registration Authority for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals, I am pleased to provide the Annual Report, for the year ending 30 June 2002 for your approval and tabling in Parliament.

I believe the annual report fulfils the provisions of the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992 and the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997 (CAC Act). The report highlights positively the work of an organisation that is clearly focused on meeting its responsibilities in a cost-effective, timely and responsible manner.

Yours sincerely

John S Keniry
Chairperson
Contents

iii Letter of transmission
viii Glossary
ix Compliance index

1 Chairperson’s Report

5 Introduction to the NRA
6 Role and background
8 NRA Board of Directors
10 Structure
12 Executive officers

15 Overview
16 Highlights
17 Finance
18 Outlook

19 Performance Reports
20 Outcome Output Structure

21 Output 1.1.1
Registration of agvet chemical products that are effective for their intended purpose and satisfy requirements for safety to people, animals, the environment and trade

21 Improved industry compliance with registration requirements due to better information and feedback
23 Decisions about active constituents and chemical products are made within statutory timeframes
25 Registered products in the marketplace meet legislative requirements for performance and safety due to sound decision making
27 Other major achievements

29 Output 1.1.2
Compliance with the law through product review, quality assurance and enforcement programs

29 Chemical manufacturers and retailers comply with their responsibilities under the Code
30 Reports of non-compliance and suspected adverse experiences linked to veterinary chemical products are recorded, investigated and responded to according to risk management principles
32 Review existing chemical products on a risk basis to ensure they meet current requirements for performance and safety
34 Other major achievements
Output 1.1.3
Effective business management through appropriate corporate structures and services

The NRA’s industry customers, chemical users and other stakeholders are aware of NRA’s role and its programs

NRA’s operations are consistent with government and legislative requirements

Within the NRA’s quality system, team performance and productivity are improved

Fraud Control

Other major achievements

Output 1.1.4
Valued and highly trained people who deliver quality services

Negotiate, agree and implement the NRA’s third certified agreement

Management practices define key corporate processes

Upgrade performance, training and selection processes

Other major achievements

Social Justice, Equity and External Scrutiny

Social justice and equity

External scrutiny

Financial Statements

Appendices

Appendix A: NRA Board

Declared interests

Indemnities and Insurance

Audit Committee

Appendix B: Overview of the National Registration Scheme

Specialist advice from agencies

Regulation and monitoring

Chemical review

Compliance

Reporting of adverse experiences

Manufacturers’ Licensing Scheme

Consultation

Improving the systems
82 Appendix C: Legislation
82 Background to the legislation establishing the National Registration Scheme and the NRA
83 Current legislation

95 Appendix D: Committees
95 Community Consultative Committee
96 Industry Liaison Committee
97 Industry Technical Committee
100 Registration Liaison Committee
102 Manufacturers' Licensing Scheme Liaison Committee
103 Residues Advisory Committee
103 Meat Consultative Committee
103 National Chemical Registration Information System External Users Group

104 Appendix E: Freedom of information
104 Organisation and structure
104 NRA’s functions and powers
105 Ministerial powers
105 Access to information
105 Web site
105 Public registers
106 Files and records
106 NRA publications
106 Confidential information
106 Public consultation
106 Requests for information under the FOI Act in 2001–02

107 Appendix F: NRA staffing overview
108 Workplace diversity
109 Occupational health and safety (OHS)
109 Commonwealth Disability Strategy

110 Appendix G: Consultancies

111 Index
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Abbreviation</strong></th>
<th><strong>Definition</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AERP Vet</td>
<td>Adverse Experience Reporting Program for Veterinary Chemicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFFA</td>
<td>Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry – Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>agchem</td>
<td>agricultural chemicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>agvet</td>
<td>agricultural and veterinary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>agvet Code</td>
<td>Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AQIS</td>
<td>Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEO</td>
<td>Chief Executive Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Codex</td>
<td>Codex Alimentarius Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPA</td>
<td>Crop Protection Approvals Pty Ltd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPI</td>
<td>Consumer Price Index</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIRKS</td>
<td>Designing and Implementing a Record Keeping System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPIs</td>
<td>(State/Territory) Departments of Primary Industry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EAGAR</td>
<td>Expert Advisory Group on Antimicrobial Resistance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU</td>
<td>European Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EEO</td>
<td>Equal Employment Opportunity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOI</td>
<td>Freedom of Information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FSANZ</td>
<td>Food Standards Australia New Zealand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GM</td>
<td>genetically modified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GMP</td>
<td>good manufacturing practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GTR</td>
<td>Gene Technology Regulator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HGP</td>
<td>hormonal growth promotant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRA</td>
<td>National Registration Authority for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>off-label</td>
<td>A term used to describe the different use patterns allowed under a permit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OGTR</td>
<td>Office of the Gene Technology Regulator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OHS</td>
<td>occupational health and safety</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>permit</td>
<td>Allows the legal use of a chemical in ways different to those specified on the product label or the limited use of an unregistered chemical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBCRIS</td>
<td>Public Chemicals Registration Information System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>registration</td>
<td>Process of assessment and evaluation to determine a chemical's safety and efficacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SES</td>
<td>Senior Executive Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRIPS agreement</td>
<td>Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights agreement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VICH</td>
<td>International Committee for Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Registration of Veterinary Medicinal Products</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Compliance Index

This annual report has been prepared in accordance with the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997 (CAC Act), and in particular the CAC (Report of Operations) Orders 2002. This index shows where to find the sections of this report that comply with particular requirements of the CAC Orders. This index also includes all other compliance reporting requirements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annual Operational Plan</td>
<td>7, 37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audit Committee</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certification</td>
<td>iii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commonwealth Disability Strategy</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporate Governance Statement</td>
<td>14, 8–13, 74–79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporate Plan</td>
<td>7, 37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developments since end of financial year</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directors</td>
<td>8, 9, 74–77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Effects of ministerial directions</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enabling legislation</td>
<td>6–7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial statements</td>
<td>17, 45–72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General policies of the Government (CAC Act, s.28)</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indemnities and insurance premiums for officers</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judicial decisions and reviews by outside bodies</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislation</td>
<td>6–7, 21, 82–94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environment Protection and Biodiversity</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freedom of Information</td>
<td>43, 104–6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational Health and Safety</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fraud Control</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>6, 104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operational and financial results</td>
<td>7, 17–18, 45–72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organisational structure</td>
<td>1, 10–11, 104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performance assessment – Outcome Output Structure</td>
<td>19–40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Responsible Minister</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review of Operations</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Charter</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Significant changes in state of affairs and/or principal activities</td>
<td>1–3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Significant events (as referred to in s.15 of CAC Act)</td>
<td>16–18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Significant purchases or disposals of real property – particulars of borrowing</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stakeholders</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subsidiaries</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The NRA now has a new organisational structure in place. Although, to be precise, this was actually formally adopted outside the reporting period, its development involved a major concentration of effort throughout the year. The new structure of the NRA is flatter, with one layer of management removed and with a greater focus of resources on quality and efficiency.

Much of our core activity is focused in two new divisions, the Pesticides Division and the Veterinary Medicines Division. This approach is in line with that of many other countries around the world with whom we work closely.

An important feature of the reorganisation of the NRA is the creation of three Principal Scientist positions to concentrate on the areas of agricultural chemicals, veterinary medicines and chemistry and residues. It is my hope that the Principal Scientists will provide high calibre scientific leadership for the NRA and help ensure that our standards for scientific excellence are enhanced.

A number of other projects were either completed or significantly advanced over the year that involved the analysis of the many processes the NRA employs in its work. As a result I am sure that the NRA’s stakeholders can look forward to more efficient and effective operations in the years ahead.

The NRA Board has held the view for some time that for Australia to maintain an agricultural and veterinary chemical regulatory system of the highest calibre it was vital for all those involved in the system to gain an insight to the likely pressures for change that will emerge in the operating environment over the next decade and beyond. This knowledge would enable the regulatory framework to be modified to meet these emerging influences.

Accordingly, in 2001–02 the NRA commissioned an independent consulting firm to analyse those factors that are likely to influence the availability, supply and use of agricultural and veterinary chemicals in Australia in the coming years. The project also called for a detailed analysis of the objectives, role and key elements of a future regulatory framework that would successfully cope with these factors.
The project is now nearing completion. I believe that the final report will provide crucial intelligence that will help equip policy makers to shape the regulatory system for the future. The project has been a major undertaking in which the NRA and the Board in particular takes considerable pride.

I am pleased to say that over the year the NRA has been able to maintain its high standards in the processing of registration applications. The NRA finalised 2529 applications over the course of the year, with 96.2 per cent approved within our statutory timeframes. It is noteworthy that 27 of the applications concerned totally new products based on new active constituents.

The NRA Permit Scheme continued to be a significant area of our work. Some 953 permit applications were finalised over the year, a significant increase of around 14 per cent on the previous year. Of particular importance was the processing of 81 emergency use permit applications. A proportion of these concerned insecticides for the control of fire ants in south-east Queensland.

Following on from a revision to its legislation, the NRA is now required to consult with the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator before making key regulatory decisions on products involving gene technology. The NRA has been consulting closely with the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator to develop processes for the two organisations to work effectively together where interests overlap. A memorandum of understanding between the two organisations is being developed.

The NRA continues to seek ongoing improvement in the efficiency of its registration processes. A project on elapsed time has helped identify a number of initiatives to reduce the average elapsed time to process applications. At the same time, a review of our key business processes involved in the screening, evaluation and finalisation of applications found opportunities for improvements that will be implemented later in the year.

A fundamental component of the NRA’s successful operation is its compliance and quality assurance effort. The intensity of this effort was maintained over the year and a number of measures introduced to improve its effectiveness.

The industry coverage of the veterinary chemical quality assurance program, the Manufacturers’ Licensing Scheme, has continued to grow. The proportion of veterinary chemical manufacturers that are fully licensed under the scheme has risen to 77 per cent from 71 per cent in the previous year. The number of manufacturers operating under the original provisional licences has been reduced to only six per cent while some 17 per cent are in the process of applying for a licence or gaining a new licence as a result of changing site or ownership.

In 2001–02 the NRA received 309 reports from industry or the general public concerning alleged advertising and supply of unregistered and unapproved chemicals or the promotion of products that is inconsistent with their approved label. The vast majority of the reports, 282, were addressed effectively by warnings and negotiated compliance. Ten investigations were completed during the year and two prosecutions were completed successfully.

As the line often used by the NRA goes, ‘No chemical is registered forever’. This is a significant point that serves to underline the importance of the NRA’s work in reviewing the registration status of existing chemical products as a crucial part of its regulatory role. This is done to ensure that registered products continue to meet current standards.

Major changes were made to improve the NRA’s chemical review efforts following an evaluation of the operations and processes of the Existing Chemical Review Program and the Special Review Program. These have now been combined into one Chemical Review Program.

The details of the revised program are discussed in the body of this report. Key points include the fact that a selection and prioritisation process is now carried out for all new candidate chemicals and, the level of risk identified in the process is used to determine if, and when, a review is initiated.
By the end of 2001–02 there were 24 reviews under way in the Chemical Review Program that covered 37 active constituents. Two reviews, concerning pindone and hormonal growth promotants, were completed to the final stage while one, atrazine, was completed to the draft report stage and made available for public comment.

Effective communication with its range of stakeholders is an essential ingredient in the NRA’s continued successful operation. The communication tools that it uses have continued to expand and improve. Over the past year the NRA gave special focus to participating in some of the major rural field days and other events held in Australia to disseminate information on its operations. The NRA presence at field days was well received by local farmers and provided NRA staff with important insight into many of the current concerns that farmers have.

Public communication efforts were used extensively to support aspects of the NRA compliance work. Especially tailored information sheets on issues such as veterinary chemicals, the adverse experience reporting program and the responsibilities of publishers and advertisers were prepared and disseminated through magazine inserts, direct distribution and the NRA web site. The NRA also continues to improve and expand its use of the internet as a communications tool.

The Board places considerable importance on its own efforts to communicate directly with stakeholders. Accordingly, it continued its practice of holding alternate meetings outside Canberra so that it could meet with stakeholders and in particular, inspect various chemical user operations. Over the year the Board travelled to Melbourne to visit horse and greyhound industries, to the Riverina in NSW to inspect aspects of the rice production industry and to Port Lincoln in South Australia to see the aquaculture industry first hand.

The NRA Board focused on its corporate governance arrangements during the year and adopted a formal code of conduct as well as a Board charter.

The NRA’s achievements over the year are, of course, only made possible through the dedicated efforts of its skilled and committed management and staff. On behalf of the members of the Board I extend our congratulations and appreciation to the NRA management and staff for another outstanding year. In my time as Chair of the NRA Board I have never failed to be impressed with the professionalism of the NRA’s people and their enthusiastic attitude to the continued improvement of their performance.

The NRA places great importance on the ongoing training of its people. There is no better example of this than the carefully developed extensive training program that was conducted throughout the year for the organisation’s middle managers (the Band 6 group). The training program proved successful and will be reshaped and run in the new financial year for other NRA staff.

The year 2001–02 has been one with which the NRA can be well satisfied. However as a result of considerable good work over the year, I am confident that the foundations have now been laid for even greater achievement in the years ahead.

John S Keniry
Introduction to the NRA
Role and background

The Commonwealth, states and territories established the National Registration Scheme for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals in 1991. The National Registration Authority (NRA) is responsible for administering and managing legislation established under the National Registration Scheme on behalf of the Commonwealth, states and territories. A detailed description of the legislation is at Appendix C.

The legislation seeks to centralise the regulation of agricultural and veterinary (agvet) chemicals in Australia. In this role the NRA assesses, registers and regulates agvet chemical products up to, and including at, the point of retail sale. Responsibility for control-of-use of agvet chemicals, such as licensing of pest control operators and aerial spraying, continues to reside with the states and territories.

Through the National Registration Scheme, the NRA delivers registration, quality assurance and compliance. In particular, the NRA:

> assesses the safety and performance of products;
> determines whether their use is likely to jeopardise trade; and
> regulates the supply of agvet chemicals to the Australian market by approving product labels and specifying conditions of use.

The work of the NRA safeguards the health of people, animals and the environment, and international trade.

Appendix B provides an overview of the National Registration Scheme. It explains the registration process and the NRA's role in the scheme.

The main offices of the NRA are located at:
John Curtin House
22 Brisbane Avenue
Barton ACT 2600

Customers and stakeholders

The NRA's main customers are people and companies who must:

> register products and obtain approval of product labels;
> obtain approval of active constituents;
> obtain permits to use chemicals in emergency, research and off-label situations; or
> obtain licences to manufacture veterinary chemical products.

The NRA has a large number of stakeholders. They include the agvet chemicals industry; farmers; rural sector organisations; environmental, consumer and community groups; and other Commonwealth and state/territory government agencies that help operate the National Registration Scheme. It also works closely with international regulatory authorities.

Service charter

The NRA aims to provide high quality service to all its customers and is committed to the continuous improvement of its service delivery.

The NRA service charter was developed in consultation with its stakeholders and is freely available to all customers and interested parties.

Governing legislation

The NRA operates under two key pieces of legislation:

> Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992; and

The Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992 established the National Registration Scheme in 1993. It also sets out the NRA's role as an independent statutory authority undertaking the Commonwealth's responsibilities under the scheme and provides the NRA with its full range of powers.

The Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994 scheduled to the Act details the operational provisions for registering chemical products and approving active constituents.
Various other statutes and delegated legislation are also administered by the NRA. These are described in detail at Appendix C.

Performance information
The outputs and related performance indicators identified in the NRA component of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry – Australia Portfolio Budget Statements for 2001–02 provide the basic framework for the presentation of the NRA’s performance information for this year.

Through the development of a world-class registration scheme for agricultural and veterinary chemical products, the NRA is working toward the outcome of protecting the health and safety of people, animals and the environment and supporting Australian agricultural and livestock industries.

The specific outputs that the NRA sought to achieve over the course of the year were:

> registration of agvet chemical products that are effective for their intended purpose and satisfy requirements for safety of people, animals, the environment and trade;
> compliance with the law through product review, quality assurance and enforcement programs;
> effective business management through appropriate corporate structures and services; and
> valued and highly trained people who deliver quality services.

These outputs and the related performance indicators are central to the NRA’s key planning tools, its Corporate Plan and Operational Plan.

The Corporate Plan outlining the broad vision for the organisation for the period 2001–02 to 2002–03 was approved by Senator Troeth in June 2001. The Operational Plan was also approved by the Senator at that time.

Funding arrangements
The NRA’s total revenue for 2001–02 was $19.76 million. This revenue was collected mainly from the agvet chemicals industry.

Fees are paid to apply for, and annually renew, product registrations. Levies are paid annually according to the level of disposals of registered agvet chemical products. In 2001–02 industry contributions were 95 per cent of total revenue.

As an agency operating on full cost recovery, business efficiency and customer service are key priorities for the NRA.

NRA revenue for 2001–02

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Levies</td>
<td>$10,358,281</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appropriation</td>
<td>$114,000</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application Fees</td>
<td>$2,877,992</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renewal Fees</td>
<td>$4,346,400</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Revenue</td>
<td>$2,067,378</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>$19,764,051</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ministerial responsibilities
The NRA is within the portfolio of the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, the Hon Warren Truss MP.

Senator the Hon Judith Troeth, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, has direct portfolio responsibility for the NRA. The NRA Chairperson reports regularly to Senator Troeth on NRA activities. The Minister continues to have overall policy responsibility for agvet chemicals.
The NRA’s focus and strategic direction is determined by a Board of Directors, as provided for under the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992 (the Administration Act). The Board comprises a Chairperson and eight other Directors. All are non-executive directors and all appointments are on a part-time basis. Directors are selected for their experience in a number of areas including the regulation of chemical products at state or territory level, the agricultural and veterinary chemicals industry, primary production, occupational health and safety, consumer issues, and the development or administration of Commonwealth Government policy or in the operation or management of a Commonwealth statutory authority. The current Board was appointed by the Minister on 16 March 2000 for a term expiring on 15 October 2002.

It should be noted that directors of the NRA, notwithstanding the experience they have as described above, are not representatives of organisations or particular interest groups. The Board of Directors acts in the corporate interest of the NRA by overseeing its operations and defining key policies for the regulation of agricultural and veterinary chemicals up to and including at the point of retail sale consistent with its functions, powers and responsibilities as specified by the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act and related Commonwealth legislation. In so doing, the Board can accept the advice and recommendations of its consultative committees and NRA staff.

The Board is responsible for ensuring that adequate resources and expertise are available to the NRA so that it can fulfil its functions and exercise the powers set out in the Act. Responsibility for implementing those policies and managing day-to-day operations rests with the Chief Executive Officer.

Details of the Board meetings held, attendance and declared interests are at Appendix A.

John Keniry (Chairperson)
BSc (Hons), PhD, FTSE, FRACI, FAICD
Chairperson of Ridley Corporation Limited, Unisearch Limited and Sugar Australia Limited. Immediate past president, and Director of the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Board member, NSW Environment Protection Authority. Member Gene Technology Community Consultative Committee. Chair of Regional Business Development Analysis Panel.

Peter Bailey (Deputy Chairperson)
MAgrSc, B AgrSc
Director, Quality Assurance, Victorian Department of Natural Resources and Environment. Experienced in the regulation of chemical products under the law of a state or territory. Chairperson of the Victorian Advisory Committee on Agricultural Chemicals. Deputy Chairperson of the Victorian Meat Authority. Chairperson of the NRA Board’s Audit Committee.

Lyn Fragar
AO, Dip Agr Ec, MBBS, DTM&H, MPH, FAFPHM
Public health and occupational health physician. Director of the Australian Centre for Agricultural Health and Safety (University of Sydney). Director of Farmsafe Australia Inc. Member of the Farm Health and Safety Industry Research and Development Advisory Committee of the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation; the Pesticide Implementation Committee of the NSW Environment Protection Authority; the Occupational Health and Safety Committee of Standards Australia; the International Commission of Occupational Health; and the International Association of Agricultural Medicine and Rural Health.
John McLean  
BVSc, PhD, HDA (Hons)  
Veterinary surgeon and Professor Emeritus, Swinburne University of Technology, Deputy Chairperson, Racing Analytical Services Limited. Member of the Commonwealth Advisory Committee on Pesticides and Health and the Joint Food and Agriculture Organization/World Health Organization Expert Committee on Food Additives (Veterinary Drugs). Experienced in the regulation of chemical products under the law of a state or territory.

Mark Allison  
BAgricSc, BEc, GradDip Mgt  
Managing Director of Wesfarmers Landmark Limited, Chairperson of Avcare Limited, Agsafe Limited and Director of a number of Wesfarmers subsidiaries. Experienced in a range of senior roles in the agricultural and veterinary chemicals industry.

Ian Champion  
Consultant to the animal health industry. Managing Director of Medical Research Trust. Member of Avcare. Experienced in the agricultural and veterinary chemicals industry. Member of the NRA Board’s Audit Committee.

Peter Dingle  
BSc (Hons), BEd, PhD  
Lecturer, Environmental Science, Murdoch University. Experience in the protection of consumer interests. Dr Dingle has a particular interest in researching the effects of chemicals on human health and the environment. He is serving his second term as an NRA Director and was a member of the NRA Community Consultative Committee between 1996–1997.

Michael Nicholls  
BE, MIEA, MAICD  

Merrilyn McPherson  
Dip Elec Eng, FIEA, FAICD  
First Assistant Secretary, Major Industry Projects, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry – Australia (AFFA). Experienced in the development and administration of Commonwealth government policy. Member of the Dairy Adjustment Authority Board.
Structure

The NRA is managed by a Chief Executive Officer (CEO), who reports to the Board of Directors.

The work of the NRA is divided into four programs:

**Registration Program**, which comprises:
- Agricultural Chemicals Evaluation
- Registration and Customer Service
- Veterinary Chemicals Evaluation

**Review and Compliance Program**, which comprises:
- Chemical Review
- Quality Assurance
- Compliance
- Chemistry and Residues Evaluation

**Corporate Services Program**, which comprises:
- Finance and Administration
- Employee Services Team
- Information Services
- Information Technology
- Strategic Development Projects

**Policy and Public Affairs Program**, which comprises:
- Communication and Secretariat
- Board Projects

The CEO oversees the NRA’s legal program and quality system.

The NRA’s structure in place for the majority of the year is illustrated in Figure 1.

The structure of the NRA was altered slightly in November 2001. Dr Joe Smith joined the executive team and took responsibility for the Registration Program. Mr Peter Raphael then became the Executive Manager, Review and Compliance, taking responsibility for chemical review and compliance. Mr Greg Hooper took on additional responsibilities for specialised projects, examining external issues that may impact on the work of the NRA.

Additional changes to the structure were announced in May 2002 although the majority of these changes did not take effect until after the reporting period.
Figure 1: NRA organisational and program structure

CEO

DR ALISON TURNER

Executive Manager Registration
Dr JOE SMITH
- Agricultural Chemicals Evaluation
  MAX DARVILL
- Veterinary Chemicals Evaluation
  RON HOGG
- Registration & Customer Service
  TESS McDonalD

Executive Manager Policy & Public Affairs
GREG HOOPER
- Communication & Secretariat
  DENNIS O’LEARY

Executive Manager Corporate Services
TONY DE LA FOSSE
- Finance & Administration
  CATE SAUNDERS

Executive Manager Review & Compliance
PETER RAPHAEL
- Chemical Review
  Dr EVA BENNET-JENKINS

General Counsel
JAMES SUTER

Quality System
MAX STEWART

Quality Assurance
BRUCE JOHNSON
Compliance
STEVE McDonald

Executive Manager Policy & Public Affairs
GREG HOOPER
- Communication & Secretariat
  DENNIS O’LEARY

Executive Manager Corporate Services
TONY DE LA FOSSE
- Finance & Administration
  CATE SAUNDERS

Executive Manager Review & Compliance
PETER RAPHAEL
- Chemical Review
  Dr EVA BENNET-JENKINS

General Counsel
JAMES SUTER

Quality System
MAX STEWART

Quality Assurance
BRUCE JOHNSON
Compliance
STEVE McDonald

Information Services
JUDITH WOOD
- Chemistry & Residue Evaluation
  Dr TREVOR DOUST

Information Technology
JOHN AUSTEN

Strategic Development Projects
RON HOGG
The NRA’s Executive comprises the CEO and four executive managers. The Executive team and their areas of responsibility, as at 30 June 2002, are described below.

**Chief Executive Officer**

**Dr Alison Turner**

BVSc, MSc, Dip Vet Cl Stud, FAICD

The CEO consults with the NRA’s Board and main stakeholders to set the organisation’s vision, strategy and objectives to meet its legislative responsibilities. The CEO’s principal responsibilities are oversight of the preparation of strategic, financial and operational plans and budgets for Board approval; monitoring of financial and operational performance; and program oversight to ensure the NRA meets its objectives.

A large part of the CEO’s time involves communicating with stakeholders, including state and Commonwealth government agencies, community groups, farming organisations and the chemical industry.

The CEO takes a leadership role for the organisation, particularly in ensuring that a quality service is provided to clients and customers.
Executive Manager, Registration
Dr Joe Smith
BSc (Hons), MSc, PhD, FRACI

The Executive Manager, Registration, provides strategic and operational management of NRA programs for the assessment and registration of agricultural and veterinary chemical products; maintenance of the National Chemicals Registration Information System database; and oversight of technical services provided to the NRA by external agencies.

The position is responsible for process improvement projects such as accreditation to international standard AS/NZS ISO 9002, continuous improvement, performance and productivity measurement, pre-screening and timeframe management.

Executive Manager, Review and Compliance
Peter Raphael
BSc (Ind Chem), MSc (Elec Eng)

The Executive Manager, Review and Compliance, is responsible for NRA programs aimed at ensuring product quality and conformance with regulatory standards. These include the chemical review, chemistry and residues evaluation and compliance programs and the licensing scheme for veterinary chemical manufacturers.

Executive Manager, Policy and Public Affairs
Greg Hooper
BSc (Ind Chem)

The Executive Manager, Policy and Public Affairs, is responsible for managing external issues that may impact on the work of the NRA and has responsibility for the NRA's communication activities. The NRA places considerable emphasis on communicating and consulting with the community, stakeholders and the media, as well as cooperating with other agencies, both Australian and overseas, on technical and policy issues.

Executive Manager, Corporate Services
Tony de la Fosse
BA, MBA, Grad Dip HRM, GAICD

The Executive Manager, Corporate Services, manages and provides strategic advice to the NRA Executive and Board on finance and administration, human resources, industrial relations, information services, information technology and strategic projects.

Key responsibilities include provision of timely and accurate financial data, and preparation of financial plans, budgets and strategies that maximise the organisation's ability to deliver quality services within the constraints of its funding.
Corporate Governance Practices

The NRA has a formal induction process in place for the benefit of all newly appointed Directors. The process provides information on all aspects of the organisation’s structure, operations and formal responsibilities.

As part of their induction process Directors are informed of their ability to obtain independent professional advice, at the NRA’s expense, on all matters to do with the discharge of their responsibilities.

The performance of Directors is subject to review by the portfolio as part of its routine processes of assessment of candidates for Board membership. The Board employs a regular program of closed sessions, independent of Executive Management, to discuss matters such as the effectiveness of Board operations and performance.

The NRA Audit Committee, a sub-committee of the Board, is the central mechanism that the NRA uses to identify likely areas of business risk and to develop appropriate responses. The Committee oversees the development of a Business Risk Plan by management.

The NRA has a number of mechanisms in place to manage the maintenance of a high level of ethical performance. A Board Charter outlines the responsibilities of Directors in the effective discharge of their duties. The NRA Service Charter clearly outlines the standards that the NRA will meet in dealing with all external audiences. There is a Code of Conduct for the performance of staff as well as a Code of Conduct for Directors.

The Code of Conduct is underpinned by a number of formal Management Practices that provide clear guidelines for such things as internet and telephone use by staff.
Overview
Highlights

The year 2001–02 produced a number of important developments and achievements as the NRA continued to provide a world-class registration scheme for agricultural and veterinary chemical products. Highlights from the year follow:

Registration

There were 2529 applications for registration, variation of registration or label approval finalised in 2001–02. Of these, 96.2 per cent were completed within the NRA’s statutory timeframes. In the previous year 2979 applications were finalised. A total of 953 permit applications were processed, of which 81 were emergency use applications. A total of 836 permit applications were finalised in the previous year.

The Elapsed Time Pilot Project identified ways of improving liaison between the NRA and applicants to reduce the average elapsed time to process applications. A major review of key registration processes also identified opportunities for efficiency improvements.

A review of the Agricultural and Veterinary Labelling Codes commenced. The objective of the review is to make labels more consistent and more easily understood by users and to help facilitate compliance with state control-of-use law.

A series of five information seminars to help registrants and prospective registrants understand the NRA’s requirements and processes were well received by over 300 attendees in Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne and Canberra.

Chemical review

A new process for work under the Chemical Review Program was introduced following an evaluation of the operations of the Existing Chemical Review and Special Review programs. The two have been combined into one, more targeted, Chemical Review Program.

A feature of the revised program is the preparation of a Review Scope Document for each major new review. The document details the background to the review, specific matters to be examined, use patterns and data requirements. On the first occasion that a Review Scope Document was prepared, for the review of sodium monofluoroacetate (1080), over 250 submissions were received.

Fifteen new chemicals were selected for review and nine reviews commenced. Four reviews were completed or released for public comment.

Chemistry and residues evaluation

New guidelines were developed for milk maximum residues limits and withholding periods, poultry residue data requirements, residues at injection sites, stability data for veterinary chemicals, complementary medicinal products for companion animals, and teat dips and teat sanitizers.

A total of 413 chemistry evaluations were conducted consisting of 159 active constituents and 254 active product applications.

The NRA published 582 minimal compositional standards for veterinary active constituents.

Fifteen stockfeed guidelines were prepared, and six placed on the NRA web site. The guidelines advise on acceptable feeding levels for animals consuming foods treated with chemicals.
Quality assurance and compliance

The industry coverage of the Manufacturers’ Licensing Scheme, a quality assurance program for veterinary chemical products, has now extended to 77 per cent of Australian manufacturers.

There were 309 reports of alleged non-compliance related to advertising or supply of unregistered or unapproved chemical products over the year. Action on 282 reports was finalised through warnings and negotiated compliance. Sixteen were referred for processing as a product recall and 11 were considered for investigation with a view to possible prosecution. In the previous year 287 new reports were received.

A public education strategy was pursued to promote increased compliance. New information materials were developed and distributed widely to potential ‘at risk’ audiences.

Corporate

An intensive development program for middle managers (EL 2 equivalent) was conducted.

A draft, more cost-reflective fees structure was developed in line with Government recommendations. This involved the design of a modular-based fee structure and development of an activity-based costing model enabling the NRA to more accurately cost each of its processes and activities.

Information technology

The NRA’s electronic commerce capacity was further developed with clients now able to make levy payments electronically, order and pay for certificates of export, and order and pay for selected information reports.

The services available through the NRA web site continued to be upgraded, including a major enhancement of the NRA’s publicly available database of all registered products (PUBCRIS). Electronic images of approved product labels can now be accessed as can information on off-label permits that have been issued.

Finance

Detailed financial statements are provided at page 45.

The NRA recorded a deficit of $859,815 for the year ended 30 June 2002.

The NRA’s revenue for the year was $19.76 million, an increase of 5 per cent over 2000-01. The main reason for this increase was a 7 per cent increase in industry contributions which was largely due to a change in the accounting treatment of Good Manufacturing Practice licence fees. In addition, registration renewals were up by 4 per cent and application fees were up by 11 per cent due to an increase in the number of applications received.

Operating expenses totalled $20.62 million, up 16 per cent on 2000-01. This result is primarily due to higher employee expenses, in turn reflecting a significant increase in employee provisions due to a change in the methodology used to calculate long-service leave. It also reflects an increase in training and development expenses, recruitment expenses and salary increases associated with the NRA’s Certified Agreement. In addition, depreciation and amortisation expense increased by 26 per cent, primarily as a result of the commencement of depreciation of the NRAs database and associated applications.

Asset additions for the year totalled $794,730 and were primarily associated with the implementation of the NRA’s Information Technology Strategic Plan, database development and the implementation of the NRAs business intelligence tool.

As set out in Note 2 to the financial statements, there is a variation between the actual and budgeted net cost to outcome. The principal reasons for this variation are:

> higher levels of industry contributions due to increased registration of agvet chemical products and a change in the accounting treatment of Good Manufacturing Practice licence fees; and

> deferral of some new initiatives from 2001-02 to 2002-03.
Funding arrangements
The NRA’s total revenue for 2001–02 was $19.76 million. This revenue is collected mainly from the agvet chemicals industry. Fees are paid to apply for, and annually renew, product registrations. Levies are paid annually according to the level of disposals of registered agvet chemical products. In 2001–02 industry contributions were 95 per cent of total revenue.

As an agency operating on full cost recovery, business efficiency and customer service are key priorities for the NRA.

Outlook
The year ahead for the NRA is likely to be largely shaped by developments and initiatives either already completed or nearing finalisation. These involve particular projects and policy changes and include the following:

> Reorganisation of the NRA took effect from 1 August 2002. The reorganisation involved a flatter management structure, the grouping of registration, permits and chemical review activities in the Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Divisions and the creation of three Principal Scientist positions to provide scientific leadership and enhanced focus on quality for the organisation.

> Revised business processes, based on a review of current approaches to registration, will be introduced in the first half of 2002–03.

> Further modifications to the permits system, including updating information on the NRA website, revising application forms and clarifying data requirements, will be progressively introduced over 2002–03.

> The Adverse Experience Reporting Program for Veterinary Chemical Products has been significantly modified and is expected to result in a significant increase in the number of adverse experience reports assessed, classified and acted on.

> The NRA’s e-commerce capabilities will continue to expand.

> Public relations campaigns will be conducted, targeting current and potential product registrants with information on NRA requirements and processes, while a separate campaign will encourage users to use registered products and to follow the label instructions.

Changes after 30 June 2002
The NRA adopted a new organisational structure from 1 August 2002. The management structure is now flatter, with one layer of management removed. The organisation operates through six separate program areas. The agricultural and veterinary aspects of the NRAs work are managed through two major divisions, the Pesticides Division and the Veterinary Medicines Division.

NRA expenditure for 2001–02

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employees</td>
<td>$11 346,686</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$3,278,882</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation &amp; amortisation</td>
<td>$724,912</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State compliance services</td>
<td>$206,673</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent</td>
<td>$596,657</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientific assessment services</td>
<td>$4,470,056</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$20,623,866</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NRA ANNUAL REPORT 2001–2002
### Outcome Output Structure

The NRA’s output-outcome structure for 2001–02 is set out in the table below. The performance information contained in this report is presented in line with the output/performance measure structure. Progress in the realisation of each output is reported on in terms of the nominated measures of performance as well as other major achievements. The total funding employed in pursuit of Outcome 1 was $20.62 million. Staffing over the year (including contractors) averaged 127.

#### OUTCOME 1

Given the need to use agvet chemicals for pest and disease control, the work of the NRA protects the health and safety of people, animals and the environment. In respect of food and fibre production, NRA’s activities support Australian agricultural and livestock industries.

#### OUTPUT GROUP 1.1

A world-class registration scheme for agricultural and veterinary chemicals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Output 1.1.1</th>
<th>Output 1.1.2</th>
<th>Output 1.1.3</th>
<th>Output 1.1.4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registration of agvet chemical products that are effective for their intended purpose and satisfy requirements for safety to people, animals, the environment and trade</td>
<td>Compliance with the law through product review, quality assurance and enforcement programs</td>
<td>Effective business management through appropriate corporate structures and services</td>
<td>Valued and highly trained people who deliver quality services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved industry compliance with registration requirements due to better information and feedback. Decisions about active constituents and chemical products are made within statutory timeframes. Registered products in the market place meet legislative requirements for performance and safety due to sound decision-making.</td>
<td>Chemical manufacturers and retailers comply with their responsibilities under the Code. Reports of non-compliance and suspected adverse experiences linked to veterinary chemical products are recorded, investigated and responded to according to risk management principles. Review existing chemical products on a risk basis to ensure they meet current requirements for performance and safety.</td>
<td>The NRA’s industry customers, chemical users and other stakeholders are aware of NRA’s role and programs. NRA’s operations are consistent with government and legislative requirements. Within the NRA’s Quality System, team performance and productivity are improved.</td>
<td>Management Practices define key corporate processes. Staff performance, training and selection processes are of a high standard.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Output 1.1.2

Compliance with the law through product review, quality assurance and enforcement programs

Chemical manufacturers and retailers comply with their responsibilities under the Code. Reports of non-compliance and suspected adverse experiences linked to veterinary chemical products are recorded, investigated and responded to according to risk management principles.

#### Output 1.1.3

Effective business management through appropriate corporate structures and services

The NRA’s industry customers, chemical users and other stakeholders are aware of NRA’s role and programs. NRA’s operations are consistent with government and legislative requirements. Within the NRA’s Quality System, team performance and productivity are improved.

#### Output 1.1.4

Valued and highly trained people who deliver quality services

Management Practices define key corporate processes. Staff performance, training and selection processes are of a high standard.
Improved industry compliance with registration requirements due to better information and feedback.

The NRA continued to review and update the advisory documentation it provides to industry, with the aim of helping industry to satisfy legislative requirements relating to the registration of new products, variations to the registration of previously registered products and the approval of product labels. These reviews are done in close consultation with industry (via the Industry Liaison Committee and the Industry Technical Committee) and with the states (via the Registration Liaison Committee). All guidelines are published on the NRA website.

A substantial review of the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Labelling Codes was commenced, considering the impact of state control-of-use legislation as well as input from stakeholder groups, with the objectives of facilitating compliance with state law and making labels more consistent and less confusing to users.

Major new guidelines were published:

- Requirements for the Application / Assessment / Approval of Extension of Shelf-Life for a Particular Batch of a Registered Veterinary Chemical Product;
- Guidelines for Determining Minor Use;
- Interim Guidelines for Data to Support Efficacy and Safety of Teat Sanitisers.

The NRA adopted the International Committee for Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Registration of Veterinary Medical Products (VICH) Guidelines 6, 9 and 18. Their adoption is consistent with NRA commitment to international harmonisation of requirements for the registration of veterinary chemical products. Australia and New Zealand have observer status on VICH and continued to make inputs in relation to good clinical practice, food safety, ecotoxicity, veterinary biologicals and anthelmintics, antibiotic resistance, target animal safety and pharmacovigilance. All currently agreed VICH guidelines are available on the NRA website.

The consultative approach to the development of the NRA–VICH guidelines and their ready availability have led to further improvements in the quality of applications received, with consequent reductions in the time taken for applications to achieve registration. During the past year, 96.2 per cent of applications for registration of agvet products were approved within legislative timeframes.

The Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992 was revised to incorporate gene technology legislation. By virtue of the revision, the NRA must consult with the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator before making key regulatory decisions on agvet chemical products that include or are derived from genetically modified products.

The NRA continued its active involvement with the Australian Government Delegation to the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development Working Group on Pesticides with an aim of developing common international approaches to pesticide regulation and facilitating work sharing arrangements with other countries.

---

**Output 1.1.1**

Registration of agvet chemical products that are effective for their intended purpose and satisfy requirements for safety to people, animals, the environment and trade.
Chemistry and residues evaluation

The Chemistry and Residues Evaluation Program published 582 minimum compositional standards for veterinary active constituents and developed guidelines for both agricultural and veterinary chemical products.

Guidelines for Stability Data of Agricultural Chemicals were finalised and the following guidelines were developed for consultation with stakeholders:

- Milk Maximum Residues Limits and Withholding Periods;
- Poultry Residue Data Requirements;
- Residues at Injection Sites;
- Stability Data for Veterinary Chemicals;
- Complementary Medicinal Products for Companion Animals;
- Teat Dips and Teat Sanitizers; and
- Part 5B Requirement Series – Overseas Trade Aspects of Residues in Food Commodities.

The NRA visited rice, wine grape, citrus, dried fruit and almond growers. The visits gave the NRA a better understanding of these industries and their needs, and the growers an understanding of what NRA does and how it can assist them. As a result of the visits and articles published, there was an increased ability of grower groups to utilise the NRA's Minor Use Permit process and to understand residues-in-trade issues. The NRA worked with Horticulture Australia in relation to Minor Use permits and to register uses for minor use horticultural products. The NRA contributed to a workshop on acute dietary risk organised by Horticulture Australia. This workshop helped stakeholders understand that assessment of dietary risk now includes consideration of short-term exposure as well as lifetime (chronic) exposure.

The NRA issued a gazette notice reminding applicants that the mandatory residues Good Laboratory Practice data requirements would take effect on 1 January 2003. The NRA also gazetted the requirement for residue submissions to include data to the Limit of Quantitation to allow Export Slaughter Intervals to be recommended.

Consultation with the dairy industry continued over issues of concern, such as the need to submit starter culture data when applying for the registration of new antimicrobial agents used on dairy cows; the Delvo test and its relation to residues in milk and milk products; and the strategic use of antibiotics in the dairy industry.

The NRA met with delegations from Brazil and Vietnam to discuss residues-in-trade matters; the NSW Farmers Federation on the availability of products to control paralysis tick in calves; and the UK Veterinary Medicines Directorate and the European Medicines Evaluation Authority regarding an approach to setting Maximum Residue Limits and Withholding Periods for veterinary chemicals.

NRA permit scheme

The NRA continued its policy of developing strong links with primary industry groups via field trips, attendance at conferences, conduct of seminars and meetings. These links assisted industries in refining their minor-use chemical needs, setting priorities and organising the appropriate off-label permit applications. The NRA met with numerous associations including the Australian Olive Association, Australian Passionfruit Industry Association, Australian Onion Industry Association, representatives for Asian leafy vegetable growers, Pulse Australia, Queensland Fruit and Vegetable Growers, Australian Almond Industry, Chestnut Growers of Australia and representatives of forest industries. The NRA continued to liaise with Crop Protection Approvals Pty Ltd (CPA) in regard to achieving efficiencies with the numerous applications that CPA submit on behalf of the vegetable industry.

The NRA received $114 000 from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry – Australia to assist funding permit scheme activities. The majority of this funding was used to support an additional staff member to assist with residue evaluations of permit applications. This, in turn, contributed to an increase in the number of permit applications finalised during the reporting period.
**Permit statistics**

NRA commenced the year with 472 applications for permits in process. During 2001–02, 885 permit applications were received. Of these, 696 (79 per cent) were for agricultural chemicals while 189 (21 per cent) involved veterinary chemicals.

The NRA finalised 953 applications, of which 769 (81 per cent) resulted in the issue of a permit, 134 (14 per cent) were withdrawn and 11 (1 per cent) were rejected because they did not satisfy the legislative criteria. The number of unfinalised applications at 30 June 2002 was 355.

A total of 81 Emergency Use applications were also finalised, including 11 permits for the use of various insecticides to control the spread of red imported fire ants (*Solenopsis invicta*) in south-east Queensland.

Approximately 81 per cent of applications (excluding emergencies) were finalised within the statutory timeframes. The average time taken to complete 90-day applications (which comprised 68 per cent of the total finalised) was 56 days. For 240-day applications (25 per cent of total finalised), the average time taken was 149 days.

**Decisions about active constituents and chemical products are made within statutory timeframes.**

The NRA began the year with 1048 applications in process for registration, variation of registration, or label approval. An additional 2660 applications were received during the year. These applications represented a small increase in numbers (19 additional applications or a 0.7 per cent increase) from the previous year.

The NRA finalised 2529 applications for registration, with 1212 applications in process at 30 June 2002. Of the applications finalised, 96.2 per cent were approved within statutory timeframes. This compared to 2979 finalisations, with 97.1 per cent finalised within timeframes, during the previous year.

Of the 2529 applications finalised, 27 represented totally new products based on new active constituents not previously registered as agvet chemical products in Australia. In addition, there were 20 major variations to previously registered products (including new registrations involving extensions to new food crops or animals). Each of these 47 applications required extensive public consultation before final approval.

**Finalisation of agricultural and veterinary applications 2001–02**

(The tables overleaf include only those applications for which a statutory timeframe can be determined.)

The NRA completed the Elapsed Time Pilot Project. Nine companies from a cross-section of product registrants participated in the project. Participants agreed that more predictable and timely outcomes were now being achieved. The project identified initiatives to reduce the average elapsed time for all categories of application. These included improved communication on clock status and progress of applications.

A major review of all key business processes associated with screening, evaluation and finalisation of product and permits applications was also undertaken. Revised processes, which will offer enhanced effectiveness and efficiency, will be implemented in the second half of 2002.
Chemistry and residues evaluation statistics

Applications for active constituents increased 12 per cent from the previous year and finalisations of active constituents applications increased 25 per cent. The NRA conducted chemistry evaluations of 159 active constituents and 254 agvet product applications during 2001–02. Of these, over 95 per cent were finalised within statutory timeframes.

Totals of 80 residues applications and 137 permit applications for agricultural and veterinary residues evaluations were conducted. Over 95 per cent of these were finalised within statutory timeframes. The dietary exposure assessment, a component of residues evaluations, was amended in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between NRA and Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ).
An agreed protocol was followed in the evaluation of the dietary risk associated with the use of an agvet chemical on food crops or food animals. This means that, before the NRA registers a chemical product, all associated food safety issues will have been satisfied within FSANZ.

**Office of the Gene Technology Regulator**

The implementation of the new Commonwealth legislation creating the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) has impacted on the NRA and its stakeholders. The NRA will continue to regulate agricultural and veterinary chemicals as currently defined in the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code. However, where a product includes or is derived from a genetically modified product, the NRA is required to advise and consult with the OGTR. Conversely, the OTGR will seek NRA input on some applications made to it. The NRA has undertaken consultation with the OGTR to ensure process overlaps are introduced effectively and efficiently and that new requirements are clearly defined and published to assist applicants. The implementation of these processes in the NRA is well advanced and a Memorandum of Understanding is currently being developed with the OGTR.

**Trade assessments**

The National Registration Scheme legislation requires that the NRA be satisfied about a range of criteria relating to the use of registered agvet products. The legislation also requires that such use will not cause undue prejudice to Australia’s trade. This criterion requires an evaluation of scientific, political and economic factors as they impact on trade. Accordingly, the NRA has enhanced its formal evaluation procedure for trade considerations. This has led to the development of an internal risk-assessment process. Comments on this procedure from within Government have been received and consultation with the chemical and user industries will be conducted during 2002–03.

Registered products in the marketplace meet legislative requirements for performance and safety due to sound decision making.

The extent of each type of application was determined in accordance with published guidelines. NRA evaluators conducted the greatest proportion of these evaluations and are responsible for overall registration decisions. Where necessary, external assistance was provided to the NRA on issues of toxicology, public health, occupational health and safety, and the environment, by the following specialist government agencies:

> The Department of Health and Ageing – (Chemicals and Non-Prescription Medicines Branch of the Therapeutic Goods Administration);

> The National Occupational Health and Safety Commission; and

> Environment Australia.

Advice was also obtained from the states in relation to efficacy, and crop and animal safety, where new chemicals or major new uses were to be registered.

Where relevant – as with totally new chemical products based on new active constituents or major variations to the usage of currently registered products – broad public consultation was undertaken through the publication of Public Release Summaries and Trade Advice Notices. These documents were freely available to interested organisations and persons (including peak industry bodies in relation to possible impacts on trade) who were invited to comment on applications before the NRA made its final determination.

All internal processes – including the relationships with Commonwealth agencies and the states – are fully documented and subject to constant monitoring by external and internal auditors. These audits form the basis of continuing NRA accreditation to AS/NZ ISO-9002 (1994) standards.
**Chemistry and residue evaluation**

The NRA performs assessments on new and generic chemicals before their approval for sale. In particular, the manufacturing process, and the purity and content of chemicals, are assessed to ensure compliance with the relevant standards. In this way, consistent profiles relating to efficacy, public health and environmental issues can be ensured for chemicals from different sources, and between batches from the one source.

Residues and trade assessments must demonstrate that products can be used safely and properly in the market place, including the safety of potential residues in food. Assessment of the latter involves toxicological evaluation (conducted by the Therapeutic Goods Administration), maximum residue limit evaluation, and a dietary exposure evaluation. Monitoring of residues in agricultural commodities occurs post-registration for compliance with maximum residue limits.

During 2001–02, the National Residue Survey reported that the rates of compliance with Australian maximum residue limits applying to agvet chemicals were 99.97 per cent (for meat products), 99.9 per cent (grain products), 99.9 per cent (horticultural products), and 100 per cent (fisheries products, eggs and honey).

A key objective of trade assessments is to ensure that Australian trade with other countries will not be prejudiced unduly as a result of product registration. During 2001–02 NRA consulted with the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry – Australia (AFFA) and the states on a range of options for assessing risks related to residues in trade. Feedback from this process resulted in the drafting of amendments to Part 5B of the Requirements Document (Overseas Trade Aspects of Residues in Food Commodities), for adoption following consultation with the chemical and producer industries.

In addition, officers from the NRA were active in the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex). In 2001–02, NRA officers chaired the Priorities Working Group meetings at the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues and the Codex Committee on Veterinary Drug Residues in Foods, and completed technical evaluations for the Joint Food and Agriculture Organization and World Health Organization Expert Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants.

**Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999**

In evaluating applications for registration of chemical products, one of the key areas the NRA examines is the effect on the environment. To this end the NRA utilises the independent expertise of Environment Australia when undertaking environmental assessments, through an interagency administrative arrangement between the NRA and Environment Australia. Use of the product is appropriately controlled or restricted where there is a need to manage environmental risks.

Environment Australia’s advice is not in derogation of any obligations on users under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999. Under this Act, users must not take any action that may have a significant impact on matters of national environmental significance such as nationally threatened species and ecological communities. Particular use of a chemical could therefore require separate assessment and approval under the Act.
Other major achievements

**Data protection**

In 1999, the Government proposed the introduction of a new data protection scheme to enhance the current data protection provisions. Currently, data submitted to the NRA by primary registrants can, in some cases, be cross-referenced in the registration of image products (generic formulations) at no cost to the generic registrant. In these cases, the cost of generating the original data is borne solely by the primary registrant, placing it at a commercial disadvantage compared to generic registrants.

The intention of the proposed data protection scheme is to strike a balance between protecting the commercial interests of data owners and ensuring an appropriate level of competition in the market. To achieve this, primary registrants will either be granted exclusivity for their data, or will be able to seek compensation for access to their data by generic registrants.

In order to be able to administer the new scheme once legislation is enacted, the NRA undertook a major project to develop the necessary processes and documentation. In addition, staff, contracted agencies and other external assessors received training and information to make them aware of the new requirements. NRA processes are currently on hold pending further consultation with government and industry.

**Permits review**

The NRA continued to implement recommendations arising from its review of the permit system. The NRA gazetted information in relation to new permit types as well as guidelines for determining minor uses. Changes were made to internal processes to align the permit processes to those of registration and criteria for determining the suitability of permit holders was prepared.

Other recommendations of the review in relation to updating permit information on the NRA’s web site, updating application forms, and detailed data requirements continued to be developed and will be implemented during 2002–03.

**Trade Advice Notices**

The NRA issues Trade Advice Notices where a proposed registration or a change in registration conditions has the potential to impact on Australia’s trade. The advice note is distributed to farm and commodity organisations, seeking comment. Nineteen Trade Advice Notices were released for public consideration in 2001–02.

**Public Release Summaries**

The NRA prepares a Public Release Summary outlining new products with new active constituents. These are freely available as the basis for comment and constitute the primary medium for public consultation. The summaries include the outcome of all assessments undertaken and any conditions the NRA proposes to apply to the use of the product. During the year, 19 Public Release Summaries were prepared and published for public consultation.

**Dietary risk**

The evaluation of acute dietary risk is becoming increasingly important both in Australia and internationally. The NRA undertakes an acute dietary risk evaluation on all commodities associated with the use of a chemical, where an Acute Reference Dose has been established by Codex or by the Therapeutic Goods Administration. During 2001–02, the interagency protocol with FSANZ was amended to include the assessment of acute dietary risk. The NRA contributed to a workshop coordinated by Horticulture Australia on the Acute Dietary Risk Assessment to assist stakeholders to understand the assessment of short-term dietary exposure associated with the determination of maximum residue limits.
Stockfeed guidelines

The NRA continued work on a four-year project to prepare a series of stockfeed guidelines. Fifteen guidelines (Animal Residue Data Sheets) were prepared in 2001–02 and six of these have been posted to the NRA web site. The guidelines determine acceptable feeding levels for animals consuming a commodity treated with chemicals, and this information will be available for farmers and stockfeed manufacturers to use when formulating animal diets. Appropriate use of the guidelines will facilitate the risk management of diets containing chemical-treated commodities, and the reduction in the risk of unacceptable residues in animal produce.

Industry registration seminars

The NRA conducted a series of seminars for registrants and prospective registrants. These seminars were held in Sydney (twice), Melbourne, Brisbane and Canberra, and were designed to assist industry to understand NRA requirements and processes. Over 300 participants attended the seminars, which were universally well received.

Scientific assessment services

The NRA negotiated and signed new service agreements with agencies providing specialist technical advice (the Therapeutic Goods Administration, National Occupational Health and Safety Commission and Environment Australia). These agreements specify clear performance and quality criteria, and place services firmly on a fee-for-service basis. The NRA is also currently negotiating an agreement with the Export Advisory Group on Antimicrobial Resistance and a memorandum of understanding with the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator to cover interactions with these agencies.

Agricultural chemical active constituents and products quality assurance

The NRA completed a comprehensive study of the agricultural chemical (agchem) industry’s current quality assurance practice for active constituents and formulated products.

The study was the NRA’s contribution to a working party established by AFFA to consider a recommendation by the National Competition Policy Review of Agvet Legislation, which proposed that, since the licensing provision for agricultural product manufacturers was not being used, it should be removed from the legislation.

After AFFA advise that there was no justification for a licensing scheme for agricultural chemicals the NRA made recommendations to AFFA as a means of strengthening quality assurance arrangements for active constituents and formulated products. The Board identified three priorities as essential for future improvement in the regulation of the agchem industry, namely:

- creation of an offence provision for the supply of active constituents;
- development of regulations for quality assurance requirements and documentation; and
- development of an enforcement mechanism based on licensing or compliance.

Fees review implementation

A major project to develop a framework for implementing the recommendations of the NRA Fees Review was conducted. More detail is provided on page 38.
Chemical manufacturers and retailers comply with their responsibilities under the Code.

Manufacturers’ Licensing Scheme – promoting good manufacturing practice

The Manufacturers’ Licensing Scheme is a quality assurance program that was established in 1996 in response to concerns over the quality of veterinary chemical products. Industry and government recognised that quality needs to be ‘built into’ rather than ‘tested into’ products. The primary objective of the scheme is to assure (give confidence in) the quality of veterinary chemical products manufactured and supplied in Australia. To obtain and maintain a licence under the scheme, manufacturers must demonstrate compliance with the NRA’s Manufacturing Principles and the relevant Australian Code of Good Manufacturing Practice. Compliance is confirmed by regular audits by NRA-authorised auditors or specified authorities recognised by the NRA.

For veterinary chemical products manufactured overseas, the registrant must demonstrate that the product is manufactured to quality standards comparable to those applying to veterinary chemical products manufactured in Australia.

At 30 June 2002, the number of Australian-based manufacturers (including new applications) was 234. Table 1 shows manufacturers distributed according to category.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category of manufacturer</th>
<th>No. of manufacturers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Sterile and immunological products</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Non-sterile (other than Categories 3 and 4)</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Ectoparasiticides</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Feed supplements and premixes</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. One step manufacturers (labelling, packaging, analysis and testing etc)</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>234</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The management of the Manufacturers’ Licensing Scheme was closely integrated with the NRA’s Recall, Adverse Experience and Compliance programs and a generally tougher approach is now being taken with manufacturers who fail to comply with required standards. NRA procedures have been revised and more stringent conditions imposed on licences to improve compliance and overcome excessive delays. As a consequence of these and other initiatives, the proportion of fully licensed manufacturers has continued to increase and at 30 June 2002 stood at 77 per cent (up from 71 per cent at 1 July 2001). Less than 6 per cent of manufacturers still hold conditional licences, issued at commencement of the scheme. At 30 June 2002, 17 per cent of licensed manufacturers were in the process of either applying for a new licence, changing site or changing ownership as a result of significant corporate activity within the veterinary chemical manufacturing industry.

Output 1.1.2

Compliance with the law through product review, quality assurance and enforcement programs.
The NRA continued to provide assistance to industry, primarily through feedback to inquiries and in follow-up to audits.

**Monitoring and control of hormonal growth promotant products**

The European Union requires continued assurance from Australia that beef and beef products imported into its member states have not been treated with hormonal growth promotant (HGP) products. To provide this assurance, the Commonwealth and state governments have put in place a National HGP Monitoring and Control System.

The system enables Australian authorities to account for the importation, supply and use of HGPs. The NRA plays a significant role in the operation and management of the system by authorising importers and resellers, and requiring that accurate records of supply be kept. At 30 June 2002, there were 172 NRA-authorised suppliers.

The NRA continued to operate a compliance audit program of authorised HGP suppliers. The frequency of audit is determined on a risk basis and includes verification or a follow-up audit to confirm implementation of major corrective actions identified during the first visit. During the year, the NRA audited 70 HGP authorised suppliers (both retailers and wholesalers). Ninety per cent of the suppliers were found to be compliant (either on the first or follow-up visit). One non-compliant supplier was investigated with a view to prosecution.

**Monitoring and control of imported agricultural and veterinary chemicals**

Under the *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992* it is an offence to import an unregistered chemical product or an unapproved active constituent into Australia. The NRA has been focusing its efforts on the import barrier in limiting the distribution of unregistered and unapproved chemicals in the Australian marketplace. To that end the NRA has continued to strengthen its links with the Australian Customs Service and is now listed in Schedule 2 (‘Permitted Entities’) of the Customs Administration Regulations 2000, which specifies the Commonwealth agencies to whom certain classes of information can be passed. Where a legitimate reason exists for a person or company to have possession of unregistered and unapproved chemical products in Australia, the NRA issues a Consent to Import. In 2001–02, the NRA assessed 195 applications, of which 154 were issued Consents to Import. The primary reason for importation was for use in research trials.

**Reports of non-compliance and suspected adverse experiences linked to veterinary chemical products are recorded, investigated and responded to according to risk management principles.**

**Reports of non-compliance**

The NRA encourages industry and the public to report the advertising and supply of unregistered and unapproved chemicals or any promotion of products that is inconsistent with their approved label. All reports received are acknowledged and assessed for action on the basis of the risk posed by the chemicals involved.

The reports assessed as representing a potential or actual high risk are dealt with by an inquiry that may escalate to an investigation, with a view to prosecution or product recall. Those assessed as representing a low to medium or continuing risk are dealt with mainly by warnings and negotiation to achieve compliance. During the year, 309 new reports were received. Of these 54 per cent were assessed as low risk; 36 per cent as medium or continuing risk; and 6 per cent as high risk.

A total of 282 reports were finalised during the year through warnings and negotiated compliance. Sixteen were referred for processing as a product recall and 11 were considered for investigation.
Investigations and recalls

During the year, the NRA initiated 12 investigations with a view to prosecution. Nine investigations were completed, with three being dealt with by a warning letter, and three by negotiated compliance or by being closed due to insufficient evidence to support any further action. Three investigations were referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Two prosecutions were completed with the following outcomes:

> Acting on intelligence about the use of unregistered products in the fishing industry, the NRA conducted a joint investigation with the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service and the Queensland Department of Primary Industry into the activities of Pioneer Seafoods Pty Ltd. Evidence collected demonstrated that the company had imported an unregistered veterinary chemical containing sodium nifurstyrenate. The company was prosecuted, convicted and fined $6500.

> After several warnings, the NRA investigated a Sydney-based veterinarian found to be supplying unregistered products for use on pigeons and caged birds. Charges against the veterinarian were found proven but no charge was recorded or penalty given.

The NRA provided assistance to industry and monitored conduct of 14 voluntary recalls that were completed during the year.

Adverse Experience Reporting Program for Veterinary Chemicals

The NRA’s Adverse Experience Reporting Program for Veterinary Chemicals (AERP Vet) is a quality assurance program established by the NRA to facilitate responsible management of veterinary chemical products throughout their lifecycle. The aim of the AERP Vet is to ensure that products on the market remain safe and effective, are of acceptable quality and are used in the best possible way, and that instructions and warnings on labels are appropriate.

The AERP Vet underwent a number of significant changes in 2001–02 to increase its efficiency and effectiveness. These changes were needed to ensure that the NRA’s pharmacovigilance program met international best practice standards and that the NRA could adequately and effectively deal with all the adverse experience reports received.

Changes included:

> implementing risk management strategies for dealing with adverse experience reports;

> introducing an improved method of evaluating adverse experience reports to enable larger numbers of reports to be assessed, analysed and regulatory action determined where necessary;

> upgrading the database used to manage adverse experience information to facilitate trend analysis of reports for each product and active constituent; and

> improving the system for management of adverse experience reports, which allows quicker access to information.

These improvements were made in early 2002 and the result has been a significant increase in the number of adverse experience reports assessed, classified and acted on compared to previous years. This has resulted in more targeted outcomes of the program relating to:

> product label changes;

> improvements to first aid instructions and safety directions;

> improvements in the quality of promotional material for products;

> nomination of chemicals for review by the NRA review program;

> product recalls; and

> compliance action.
During 2002–03 the emphasis will be on monitoring the new procedures to ensure that they provide a more effective and efficient method of handling and processing adverse experience reports. It is vital that veterinarians, farmers and other chemical users continue to support the Adverse Experience Reporting Program for Veterinary Chemicals by providing the NRA with the details of any adverse experiences that occur during the normal course of using chemicals. This is necessary to ensure that the NRA continues to provide an effective post-market quality assurance program that meets the needs of the community.

**Review existing chemical products on a risk basis to ensure they meet current requirements for performance and safety.**

Since the inception of the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act in 1994 the NRA has completed 30 reviews involving 39 different active constituents. Twelve of these reviews were part of the Existing Chemical Review Program and were comprehensive reviews covering active constituents, products and labels. Eighteen of these reviews were part of the Special Review Program and focused on specific aspects of user safety, some covering groups of active constituents.

The period 2001–02 saw the implementation of a new structure to the Chemical Review Program in line with recommendations resulting from a comprehensive evaluation and review of operations and processes of the Existing Chemical Review Program and the Special Review Program. The following initiatives were implemented and are now in operation:

- The Existing Chemical Review Program and the Special Review Program were combined into one Chemical Review Program.
- The priority candidate list of chemicals nominated for review was re-assessed.
- A selection and prioritisation process is now carried out for all new candidate chemicals.
- Reviews are initiated individually based on the level of risk determined during the selection process, available resources and/or overseas activities.
- Reviews are scheduled based on the level of urgency. Reviews requiring immediate action are initiated within 28 days.
- A scoping process is carried out once the decision to review has been made. This process clearly defines the risk areas which require immediate attention, how encompassing the review needs to be and what type of data the NRA would require to conduct a comprehensive scientific assessment.
- Once the review has commenced the NRA commissions a study to determine the actual use pattern for the review chemical. The study includes submissions and validation from state registrants and grower groups.
- Implementation teams are created for each review and are drawn, as required, from the concerned states, the Legal, Registration and Compliance sections of the NRA and other relevant parties.

The implementation of the new chemical review structure has increased the flexibility and responsiveness of the NRA to address risk-based issues as they arise. Fifteen new chemicals were selected for review during 2001–02. Nine reviews commenced (see Table 2) and the remaining six reviews are scheduled to commence between June and December 2002. The publication of a comprehensive Review Scope Document for major new reviews has been particularly well received by stakeholders. The document details the background to a review, aspects of active approval/product registration to be examined and data requirements.
At 30 June 2002, the Chemical Review Program had 24 ongoing reviews covering 37 active constituents. During the year two reviews were completed to the final stage and one review was completed to the draft report stage and released for public consultation (see Table 3). One review resulted in voluntary withdrawal of registration and product recall.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chemical review</th>
<th>Stage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flumethrin (pour-on tickicide only)</td>
<td>Voluntary cancellation and product recall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hormonal growth promotant labels</td>
<td>Complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dimetridazole*</td>
<td>Assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methamidaphos*</td>
<td>Assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methadithione*</td>
<td>Assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macrolides (tylosin/kitasomycin/ oleandomycin)</td>
<td>Assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temephos (sheep dip product only)</td>
<td>Assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1080*</td>
<td>Data call-in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bioresthmethrin</td>
<td>Data call-in</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Review Scope Document available on NRA web site.

### Table 3:

Chemical reviews completed or released for public comment in 2001–02

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chemical review</th>
<th>Stage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atrazine (supplementary)</td>
<td>Draft for public release</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pindone</td>
<td>Complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hormonal growth promolants</td>
<td>Complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flumethrin (pour-on tickicide only)</td>
<td>Voluntary cancellation and product recall</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Atrazine review

The review of the herbicide atrazine, one of the most widely used herbicides in Australia, was announced in December 1995 as part of the NRA’s first cycle of Existing Chemical Review Program reviews. The review fully reconsidered all the active constituent approvals of atrazine, the registration of all products containing atrazine and the approval of the associated product labels.

An interim report of the NRA’s findings from its review of existing data for atrazine was released in November 1997. The report found that there were no major toxicological concerns relating to the use of atrazine and that atrazine poses no undue hazard to most users. The major concern with atrazine related to the potential risk its use poses to the environment and also to a concern over the validity of a number of maximum residue limits. At that time, the NRA required a substantial amount of new data to address these issues. That data was received and assessed early in 2002 and a draft final report was circulated for public comment during April and May 2002.

Coincidentally, a number of new studies were published or foreshadowed that raised additional concerns that atrazine might cause developmental and reproductive problems in frogs. The NRA is assessing this new information before finalising the draft report.

### Pindone review

The NRA finalised the review of pindone in May 2002. Pindone is an anticoagulant vertebrate poison used to control rabbits. Two main types of product exist in the Australian market: concentrate products that require mixing with carriers such as oats and carrots to form a bait, and ready-to-use baits that are pre-mixed with these carriers. The key issue for review was whether the use of products containing pindone has an unintended effect that is harmful to non-target fauna.
The review found that special skill or training is required to mix pindone concentrate products correctly to prepare baits. Accordingly, pindone concentrate products are to be declared by the agvet Code Regulations as restricted chemical products. The restricted chemical product provisions stipulate that these products are only to be supplied to, and used by, trained persons.

Pindone ready-to-use products have not been restricted and the existing arrangements for their availability over-the-counter will continue, given the review finding that such unrestricted availability does not pose an undue hazard to non-target fauna.

The review also found that the existing labels for pindone do not provide adequate instructions for the safe conduct of baiting programs. Further precautionary controls have been placed on the use of pindone through the requirement for clear and detailed label instructions for the conduct of a baiting program, for both concentrate products and ready-to-use bait products, in order to limit potential damage to non-target fauna. The review cancelled existing labels for pindone and required the phased introduction of new improved labels by 31 December 2002.

**Hormonal growth promotant review**

The NRA review of hormonal growth promotants (HGP) focused on the adequacy of label instructions. The current HGP labels were identified as not meeting the needs of the NRA in regard to enforceability of the HGP control scheme. These inadequate labels had the potential to impact severely on trade relations with respect to HGP-free meat export and undermine confidence in Australia’s National HGP Monitoring and Control Scheme.

Revised label instructions were developed that restrict the use of the product precisely as intended. Previously approved labels were cancelled and registrants may only sell products with the cancelled labels until 30 April 2003.

**Other major achievements**

**Export facilitation – Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP)**

Australian-based manufacturers exporting agricultural or veterinary chemicals must comply with requirements imposed by the country into which the goods are being imported. The extent to which the importing country recognises the National Registration Scheme and the Manufacturers’ Licensing Scheme varies considerably from one country to another.

To facilitate the export of Australian manufactured veterinary products, the NRA issued 56 certificates during 2001–02. Certificates of Export and Manufacture (Approved GMP) and Certificates of Manufacture (GMP Approved) confirm that the manufacturer of the exported veterinary product is licensed by the NRA and is inspected regularly for compliance with the relevant Australian Code of GMP. The certificates are recognised by a number of South-East Asian, Middle Eastern and South American countries, including Taiwan, Korea, Singapore, Malaysia, the Philippines, Indonesia, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Columbia, Costa Rica, Venezuela and Argentina.

The NRA is recognised as a Competent Authority under the Mutual Recognition Agreement on Conformity Assessment between Australia and the European Community and as such issued five Certificates of GMP Compliance of a Manufacturer for eligible manufacturers exporting to the European Community. It should be noted that the terms of the Mutual Recognition Agreement were negotiated at a time when the Manufacturers’ Licensing Scheme was in its infancy. As a consequence, the Mutual Recognition Agreement requires that audits be conducted by the Therapeutic Goods Administration against its Code of GMP for Human Medicinal Products or the relevant GMP code of the importing country (where the former does not cover the particular product).
The NRA supports international harmonisation and hosted visits in 2001–02 by officers from the European Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products and the US Department of Agriculture's Centre for Veterinary Biologics. It also contributed to development of the maintenance program as a part of the Mutual Recognition Agreement with the European Union. This sets out the intentions of the parties for the continued maintenance and development of confidence in each other's regulatory systems for the manufacture of veterinary chemical products and human therapeutic goods.

**Education and awareness**

A significant factor in achieving compliance by the community is an understanding of the requirements of legislative provisions impacting on chemical product manufacturers, importers, suppliers and users. The NRA substantially increased its efforts during the year to provide further sources of information to chemical industry stakeholders.

The NRA pursued a vigorous education and awareness program with a substantial upgrade of the NRA web site. Additions to the web site included the Compliance Operating Principles, the Recall Guidelines and forms for reporting non-compliance and adverse experiences with veterinary medicines. Two Information Sheets were prepared and published: *Veterinarians and Veterinary Chemicals*, inserted in the Australian Veterinary Association Annual Report and *Adverse Experience Reporting Program for Veterinary Chemicals*, for distribution at NRA field days. The NRA also prepared an article on chemical products containing Neem which was published in *Rural Business*; a quarterly Adverse Experience Report on topical issues for veterinarians, which was published in the November 2001 edition of the *Australian Veterinary Association Journal*; and an industry guide on implementation of the European Union Mutual Recognition Agreement.

**Advertising and promotion**

A high proportion of complaints to the NRA relate to promotion of unregistered products and advertising containing claims that are inconsistent with the claims on approved labels. The majority of this advertising impacts on commercial competitiveness. The NRA considers that it would not serve the public interest in many cases to pursue these minor contraventions through the courts. The NRA has embarked on a campaign to raise industry awareness and NRA Compliance officers attended Equitana 2001 – The National Equine Show to provide advice on compliant promotion of equine products. The NRA also prepared an Information Sheet, *Responsibilities of Publishers and Advertisers*, which was distributed through 170 media outlets and the NRA list servers.
The NRA’s industry customers, chemical users and other stakeholders are aware of NRA’s role and its programs.

Communication activities

The NRA continued to deliver a range of effective communication activities to support the work of major program areas and contribute to the realisation of NRA goals.

This was facilitated through the NRA’s communication strategy which seeks to:

> increase public awareness of and confidence in the NRA through effective issues management;
>
> raise awareness in the broader community, and with those involved in primary industries, of the NRA’s role and activities; and
>
> encourage applicants, registrants, retailers and users to understand and comply with the agvet Code.

Rural awareness program

A feature of communication activities for 2001–02 was the NRA’s participation in a number of rural field days, in order to:

> raise community and farmers’ awareness of how NRA programs impact on them;
>
> inform farmers how they can influence NRA programs, for example by applying for minor use permits;
>
> encourage the community and farmers to use chemical products correctly, complying with the appropriate legislation; and
>
> build confidence in the work of the NRA.

The NRA attended field days at locations across Australia: Elmore and District Machinery Field Days, Elmore Victoria; Australian National Field Days, Orange, New South Wales; Equitana, Melbourne, Victoria; Farm World, Warrigul, Victoria; Agfest, Launceston, Tasmania; North Queensland Field Days, Townsville, Queensland; Fred Pass Show, Darwin, Northern Territory; and Farmfest, Toowoomba, Queensland.

Issues raised included the permits scheme (types of permits and how to obtain a minor use permit), training and accreditation, timeframes for registering chemicals, cost and effectiveness of chemicals, and adverse experiences.

Responding to enquiries

The NRA responds to the needs of stakeholders by providing information and services in a prompt and efficient manner. The NRA received and responded to a steady stream of requests for information on a variety of chemical issues from stakeholders, including industry and members of the public.

The NRA also responded to media enquiries. These ranged from simple requests for information on products registered through to in-depth questions on specific chemicals. The majority of media enquiries centred on the findings and recommendations of the Chemical Review Program.
NRA’s operations are consistent with government and legislative requirements.

**Corporate planning and reporting documents**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

The 2001–02 annual report details NRA performance against each of the key outputs and performance indicators contained in the 2001–02 Portfolio Budget Statements. In brief, the four key outputs in the Portfolio Budget Statements were registration, compliance, business management and our people.

The Minister received the 2000–01 Annual Report on 24 September 2001 and the report was tabled out of session in October 2001. It was prepared according to the *Requirements for Annual Reports* issued by the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies (Report of Operations) Orders 2002* and the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*.

**CORPORATE PLANNING DOCUMENTS**

To align the due dates of the NRA’s corporate, operational, and human resource development plans, the NRA sought a one-month extension for the presentation of its corporate plan. This extension was granted and all plans were presented by 1 June 2001.

During 2001–02, the NRA made only minor amendments to its three-year corporate plan, for the year 2002–03. The human resource development plan was revised, the new plan seeking to enhance the people management and development structures put in place by the previous plan.

An operational plan for 2001–02 was developed to put in place actions that align with the Portfolio Budget Statements outputs and performance indicators.

**NRA Gazette**

The publication of the *NRA Gazette* continued on a monthly basis. The gazette is a significant vehicle for regulatory notifications such as NRA notices, decisions, reviews and changes to registration status required by the *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1992*. It is available free of charge to registrants and from the NRA web site. Copies are also available from AusInfo shops.

**NRA Board of Directors**

The NRA Board met six times in 2001–02. In keeping with its policy of meeting the NRA’s stakeholders in the field, three of those meetings were held outside Canberra – at Melbourne (August 2001), Griffith, NSW (October 2001) and Port Lincoln, SA (May 2002).

The three regional meetings focused on the horse and greyhound racing industries, intensive horticulture, grains and aquaculture. The meetings enabled the exchange of information about regulatory issues between the NRA and peak industry bodies, rural producers, veterinarians, research institutes and the chemical industry.

The Board considered a wide range of issues including the following:

**Chemical registration, quality assurance and compliance**

> management reviews of the Manufacturers’ Licensing Scheme and Adverse Experience Reporting Programs;
> active constituent and agricultural chemical product quality assurance;
> standards for trade risk assessment and export slaughter intervals;
> procedures for setting consistent maximum residue limits;
> preparations for the introduction of data protection;
> progressing the establishment of the User Accreditation and Health Monitoring Program;
> the NRA’s role in national biosecurity arrangements;
> progress toward implementation of recommendations by the Joint Expert Technical Advisory Committee on Antibiotic Resistance.
Chemical review

> initiation of chemical reviews involving flumethrin, ethylene oxide, sodium fluoroacetate, dimetridazole and neomycin;
> release for public comment of the Atrazine Draft Final Chemical Review Report;
> regulatory action pursuant to the chemical reviews of bioresmethrin, mevinphos, endosulfan, pindone and chlorpyrifos.

Corporate management and public relations

> annual budget, corporate and operational plans;
> program activity and performance monitoring;
> enhanced corporate governance arrangements;
> progress of the NRA fee structure review;
> strategic outlook, label improvement and performance measurement projects;
> the impact of developments flowing from national competition policy and other regulatory reform initiatives;
> draft changes to the agvet chemicals legislation;
> NRA involvement in international forums such as Codex;
> the restructure of internal NRA management arrangements;
> implementation of internet facilities for database access and electronic commerce;
> enhanced employee development programs
> initiatives to enhance public awareness and corporate ‘branding’;
> the membership and terms of reference of the NRA Community Consultative Committee.

Further information about the NRA Board is provided at Appendix A.

Within the NRA’s quality system, team performance and productivity are improved.

The foundation of the NRA Quality System is the Agricultural and Veterinary (agvet) Chemicals Legislation. All of the key processes carried out by the NRA in meeting its statutory obligations are controlled within the system. Whilst the system ensures control of these processes, it also remains compliant with the requirements of the internationally recognised standard AS/NZS ISO 9002 (1994).

Continuing certification to the ISO 9000 series standard is maintained through the external audit program, carried out by SGS International. The most recent audit was in October 2001.

The NRA, operating in a rapidly changing international environment, is conscious of the need to maintain its leading position in the control and continual improvement of its processes. With this in mind the effectiveness of key processes is monitored through the Internal Audit Program, a value-adding process.

To ensure that all staff have access to the latest quality system documentation, all current documents are now available electronically, at every workstation, via the NRA intranet.

NRA management maintains active involvement through the Management Review Committee and Quality Planning Group, both of which meet monthly. Attendance of the NRA Executive team at these meetings provides the Executive with measures that allow decisions to be taken to control progress towards the NRA Strategic Objectives.

Now in its sixth year, the NRA Quality System remains a vital part of the daily functioning of the NRA, with intersectional teamwork and individual ownership the keys to continual improvement.

Fraud Control

In accordance with the Commonwealth Fraud Control Guidelines the NRA has in place a Fraud Control Plan. The plan includes fraud prevention, detection, investigation, reporting and data collection procedures. The plan is based on a comprehensive fraud risk assessment conducted across all NRA core areas.

Other major achievements

Fees review implementation

A major project to develop a framework for implementing the recommendations of the NRA Fees Review has been conducted. This project involved extensive financial modelling and restructuring of application schedules and categories to develop a more modular-based fee structure. Industry has been consulted during
this project, and a draft fees structure will be provided to Government for consideration early in the new financial year.

**NRA website – http://www.nra.gov.au**

The NRA website is a valuable tool for the dissemination of agvet chemical information. Visits to the site continued to increase, particularly visits to the central agvet chemical database (the Public Chemicals Registration Information System – PUBCRIS). The website was enhanced with the addition of a facility that allows off-label permits to be viewed. It is intended to further enhance the site with the addition in July 2002 of a facility that allows the user to see an electronic image of the approved agvet product label.

**NRA records management**

In 2000–01 the NRA, under the guidance of the National Archives of Australia, commenced a review of its record-keeping practices. The review used the National Archives’ modified DIRKS methodology (Designing and Implementing a Record Keeping System) and AS 4390-1996 to identify NRA’s core business functions, activities and the associated requirements to create records of transactions as evidence of business activity. The review continued in 2001–02 with the NRA finalising another two stages of the process. At 30 June 2002 the NRA was awaiting the National Archives’ formal agreement with the submitted recommendations.

This will conclude the elements of the process that all Commonwealth Government agencies were required to undertake. In addition, the NRA worked towards achieving several other of the best practice standards in record keeping endorsed by the National Archives.

In late 2001 the NRA’s record keeping was the subject of an Australian National Audit Office Assurance and Control Assessment Audit, submitted to Parliament as Audit Report No. 45 2001–02. The audit found that the NRA’s practices largely mirrored those of other government agencies, which all face the challenges of maintaining good record keeping practices in the electronic environment.

**Information technology**

Substantial effort was made to continue the redevelopment of the NRA’s information technology systems. This work followed the completion of an Information Technology Strategic Plan in October 2000.

**Major developments included:**

> Electronic commerce – In accordance with the Government’s On-line strategy the NRA commissioned a number of internet based payment modules that allow its clients to pay for a variety of services over the web. Over the reporting period three new modules were introduced that allow clients to make levy payments, order and pay for certificates of export, and order and pay for standard and ad-hoc reports (requests for information). It is hoped to gradually expand the functionality of the e-commerce facility to embrace all revenue streams. Work is well advanced in the development of an on-line levy calculation facility that will allow industry to settle their levy payments electronically.

> List servers – The NRA has introduced list servers that allow the public to subscribe to ‘channels’ according to their particular interest. Relevant channel content is then distributed to subscribers via email. List servers have proven to be an efficient and cost-effective method of disseminating information to both the general public and key client groups.

> Permits on the web – A facility was added that allows off-label permits to be accessed. Visitors to the NRA website can now search for and view off-label permits from the NRA’s extensive permit database.

> Labels on the web – Substantial progress was made in developing a system that will allow an electronic image of the approved label to be viewed free of charge over the internet. It is hoped to commission this new facility in late July 2002.

> NRA intranet – A corporate intranet was introduced, allowing key corporate information to be accessed by staff.

> Electronic media clips – An electronic media clip facility was introduced, allowing staff to view media clips from the desktop.
Negotiate, agree and implement the NRA’s third certified agreement.

The NRA’s current certified agreement was certified in April 2001. The agreement has a duration of three years and accordingly negotiations will not recommence until mid-2003. During 2001–02 implementation of the agreement continued.

Management practices define key corporate processes.

The NRA has a number of management practices in place which define the key corporate processes. To ensure that these management practices are consistent with the current certified agreement, the practices were reviewed and, where appropriate, new practices have been developed.

New management practices have been developed for travel, performance appraisal, workplace diversity, gifts, hospitality and conflicts of interest, maternity leave and mentoring.

Upgrade performance, training and selection processes.

Under the certified agreement, a new Performance Management Scheme was introduced. The aim of the scheme is to provide a framework for managing individual performance with a clear link between individual performance and organisational priorities. One full cycle of the new Performance Management Scheme has now been completed and the results indicate it has been successful.

The NRA continued its strong commitment to training and has further expanded the existing Study Encouragement Scheme. The enhanced Study Encouragement Scheme has been successful in assisting staff to gain relevant tertiary qualifications and to ensure they remain at the peak of their respective professions.

A development program for the NRA’s Band 6 officers (Executive Level (EL) 2 equivalent) was put in place. The aims of the program are to:

> build the strategic capability of the Band 6 group;
> enhance the ability of participants to contribute to the leadership and management of the NRA; and
> prepare participants for possible opportunities to perform at Senior Executive Service (SES) level (either within or outside the NRA).

The program included opportunities for selected officers to participate in exchanges with other organisations or gain experience acting in SES level or equivalent positions.

Given the success of the program, work will commence to allow more junior staff the opportunity to participate in a similar program to be run in 2002–03.

Other major achievements

NRA People Plan

The NRA’s scientific professionals are expected to be leaders in their fields and hold their own with leading international scientists. The NRA’s human resource development program (the NRA People Plan) aims to identify strategies that allow the organisation to attract, retain and develop staff.

During 2001–02 the People Plan was reviewed to ensure that it continues to most appropriately support both the organisation and staff. A number of new initiatives were identified and implemented. These included a targeted rural recruitment campaign, a graduate program and a development program for NRA Band 6 officers, described above.
Social justice and equity

Consultation in NRA processes and decision-making

Communication and consultation with stakeholders is a high priority for the NRA. Involvement by industry, government and community stakeholders in NRA development and decision-making occurs in four ways:

- consultative committees
- public consultation
- publication of decisions
- access to management and staff.

The consultative committees are important conduits used by the NRA to exchange information on issues relating to agvet chemicals. The scope, membership and key issues dealt with by these committees are described at Appendix D.

Public consultation

When the NRA proposes to register a new chemical product with a new active ingredient, or to extend the use of an existing product from a non-food commodity to a food or animal feed, public consultation occurs before final decisions are made.

The NRA prepares a public release summary outlining new products with new active constituents. These are freely available as the basis for comment. The summaries include the outcome of the assessment and the conditions the NRA proposes for the use of the product.

The NRA issues trade advice notes where a proposed registration or a change in registration conditions has the potential to impact on Australia’s trade. The advice note is distributed to farm and commodity organisations seeking comment.

The Chemical Review Program consults widely with stakeholders throughout the review process. A significant amount of time is made available for public and industry consultation. Specific invitations for comment are made at the beginning of a review and when the draft regulatory approach has been developed.

When a review is announced, the NRA invites the public, chemical users or any interested parties to make submissions on any aspect of the chemical, including performance, use practices, and any adverse effects. A public consultation period is also undertaken when the draft review report is released for comment. This takes place before the NRA makes a final regulatory decision. The release of these draft reports is widely advertised, including through media releases, gazette notices, NRA News, the NRA’s web site and by direct mail. Final reports are also available publicly on the NRA’s web site.

Publication of decisions

The NRA Gazette lists all NRA notices and decisions, including registrations, reviews and changes to registration status. It is published monthly and is free of charge to registrants and via download from the NRA web site. Copies are also available from AusInfo shops.

Access to management and staff

NRA executives, managers and staff are accessible to industry customers and other stakeholders. Each operational area of the NRA has a designated contact officer who responds to inquiries. Details of contact officers are published regularly in the NRA News and distributed via consultative committees and industry gatherings.

Workplace diversity at the NRA

The NRA’s staff selection processes emphasise merit and equality of opportunity for all applicants. The NRAs Recruitment Management Practice provides guidelines to all staff on recruitment expectations, and also ensures consistency in the selection process.

The NRA actively seeks participation of Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) groups on all its consultative committees and selection panels. The NRA’s EEO staffing profile is provided at Appendix F.
External scrutiny

Auditor-General’s reports
There were no reports by the Auditor-General on the operations of the NRA during the reporting period.

Ministerial directions
The NRA did not receive any ministerial directions during 2001–02. However, Minister Truss issued a directive on 21 August 2002 (outside the reporting period) that portfolio agencies adopt the Commonwealth Fraud Control Guidelines.

Courts and tribunals
No new proceedings were commenced against the NRA in 2001–02. Two proceedings that carried over from 2000–01 were finalised. The first matter was commenced at the Administrative Appeals Tribunal by an applicant under the Freedom of Information Act 1982 seeking a review of the NRA’s decision not to provide full access to the documents sought. This proceeding was withdrawn by the applicant. The second proceeding concerned a refusal to vary label instructions facilitating a reduced withholding period. This was resolved in the NRA’s favour by the Administrative Appeals Tribunal who decided to the effect that it does not have jurisdiction to set maximum residue limits.

Ombudsman
No formal inquiries were made by the Ombudsman into the operations of the NRA during the reporting period.

Parliamentary committees and other reviews
During 2001–02, the NRA participated in and made submissions to one parliamentary inquiry into matters that concerned the NRA: the Productivity Commission Inquiry into the Citrus Growing and Processing Industry.

Privacy
The NRA adheres to the Information Privacy Principles as set out in the Privacy Act 1998. The NRA’s operations were not subject to any report or determination by the Privacy Commissioner. The NRA has an entry in the current edition of the Privacy Commissioner’s Personal Information Digest.
INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

To the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Scope

I have audited the financial statements of the National Registration Authority for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals for the year ended 30 June 2002. The financial statements comprise:

- Statement by Directors;
- Statements of Financial Performance, Financial Position and Cash Flows;
- Schedules of Commitments and Contingencies; and
- Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements.

The members of the Board are responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial statements and the information they contain. I have conducted an independent audit of the financial statements in order to express an opinion on them to you.

The audit has been conducted in accordance with the Australian National Audit Office Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Australian Auditing Standards, to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. Audit procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial statements and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the financial statements are presented fairly in accordance with Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia and statutory requirements so as to present a view which is consistent with my understanding of the Authority's financial position, its financial performance and its cash flows.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.
Audit Opinion

In my opinion the financial statements:

(i) have been prepared in accordance with Finance Minister’s Orders made under the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997; and

(ii) give a true and fair view, in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia and the Finance Minister’s Orders, of the financial position of the National Registration Authority for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals as at 30 June 2002, and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended.

Australian National Audit Office

Mashelle Parrett
Executive Director
Delegate of the Auditor-General

Canberra

23 August 2002
National Registration Authority
For Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals

Statement by Directors

In our opinion, the attached financial statements give a true and fair view of the matters required by the Finance Minister’s Orders made under the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997 for the year ended 30 June 2002.

Signed
Dr John S. Keniry
Chairperson
23 August 2002

Signed
Mr Peter Bailey
Director
23 August 2002
National Registration Authority
for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals

Statement of Financial Performance
for the year ended 30 June 2002

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Revenues from Ordinary Activities

Revenue from Government 3(a) 114,000 108,000
Sales of Goods and Services 3(b) 50,448 5,571
Interest Received 3(c) 746,988 896,166
Industry Contributions 3(d) 18,720,787 17,478,418
Other Revenue 131,828 222,895

Total Revenues from Ordinary Activities 19,764,051 18,711,050

Expenses from Ordinary Activities

Employees 4(a) 11,346,686 9,382,479
Suppliers 4(b) 8,542,912 7,442,494
Depreciation and Amortisation 4(c) 724,912 573,089
Loss on Disposal of Assets 4(d) - 42,506
Write-down of Assets 9,356 227,731

Total Expenses from Ordinary Activities 20,623,866 17,668,299

Net (Deficit)/Surplus attributable to Commonwealth (859,815) 1,042,751

Total changes in equity other than those resulting from transactions with owners as owners (859,815) 1,042,751

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.
Statement of Financial Position
as at 30 June 2002

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>5(a) 5,414,553</td>
<td>6,088,283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>5(a) 10,000,000</td>
<td>10,447,868</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receivables</td>
<td>5(b) 1,243,255</td>
<td>505,953</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Financial Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>16,657,808</strong></td>
<td><strong>17,042,104</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-financial Assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infrastructure, Plant and Equipment</td>
<td>6(a) 1,423,332</td>
<td>1,431,222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intangibles</td>
<td>6(c) 664,743</td>
<td>596,391</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>6(d) 666,907</td>
<td>54,157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Non-financial Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,754,982</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,081,770</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>19,412,790</strong></td>
<td><strong>19,123,874</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest Bearing Liabilities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lease</td>
<td>7(a) 24,360</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Interest Bearing Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>24,360</strong></td>
<td><strong>-</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payables</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suppliers</td>
<td>2,636,019</td>
<td>2,730,667</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unearned Income</td>
<td>4,623,851</td>
<td>4,458,445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>620,936</td>
<td>521,808</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Payables</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,880,806</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,710,920</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provisions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leave</td>
<td>2,687,133</td>
<td>1,874,648</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Separation and Redundancy</td>
<td>172,467</td>
<td>30,467</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Provisions</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,859,600</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,905,115</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>10,764,766</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,616,035</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET ASSETS</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,648,024</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,507,839</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EQUITY</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reserves</td>
<td>8 5,616,000</td>
<td>4,900,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accumulated Surplus</td>
<td>8 3,032,024</td>
<td>4,607,839</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Equity</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,648,024</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,507,839</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.
National Registration Authority  
for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals  

**Statement of Cash Flows**  
for the year ended 30 June 2002

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### OPERATING ACTIVITIES

**Cash Received**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Appropriations</td>
<td>222,000</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales of Goods and Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Government</td>
<td>47,268</td>
<td>6,128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest Received</td>
<td>716,674</td>
<td>931,437</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industry Contributions</td>
<td>18,116,726</td>
<td>18,253,225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GST Received from ATO</td>
<td>961,919</td>
<td>471,954</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>92,119</td>
<td>230,278</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Cash Received  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2002</th>
<th>19,893,022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Cash Used**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employees</td>
<td>(10,313,562)</td>
<td>(9,104,124)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suppliers</td>
<td>(10,205,859)</td>
<td>(6,832,457)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Cash Used  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(20,519,421)</th>
<th>(15,936,581)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Net Cash (Used) from Operating Activities  

| 9 | (362,715) | 3,956,441 |

### INVESTING ACTIVITIES

**Cash Received**

| Proceeds from Sales of Property, Plant and Equipment | - | 49,072 |
| Proceeds from Floating Rate Note                   | 447,868 | - |

Total Cash Received  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>447,868</th>
<th>49,072</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Cash Used**

| Purchase of Commercial Bills | - | (10,447,868) |
| Payments for Property, Plant and Equipment | (758,883) | (810,990) |

Total Cash Used  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(758,883)</th>
<th>(11,258,858)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Net Cash (Used) from Investing Activities  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(311,015)</th>
<th>(11,209,786)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Net Decrease in Cash Held  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(673,730)</th>
<th>(7,253,345)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Cash at Beginning of Reporting Period  

| 6,088,283 | 13,341,628 |

Cash at End of Reporting Period  

| 5,414,553 | 6,088,283 |

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.
National Registration Authority
for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals

Schedule of Commitments
for the year ended 30 June 2002

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BY TYPE</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Commitments</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plant and Equipment</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Capital Commitments</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other commitments</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating leases</td>
<td>2,934,069</td>
<td>3,757,722</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other commitments</td>
<td>441,703</td>
<td>119,055</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Other Commitments</strong></td>
<td>3,375,772</td>
<td>3,876,777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commitments receivable</td>
<td>(306,888)</td>
<td>(352,434)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Commitments</strong></td>
<td>3,068,884</td>
<td>3,524,343</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BY MATURITY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One year or less</td>
<td>1,252,455</td>
<td>949,313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From one to five years</td>
<td>1,816,428</td>
<td>2,575,030</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over five years</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Commitments</strong></td>
<td>3,068,884</td>
<td>3,524,343</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Operating Lease Commitments**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One year or less</td>
<td>935,998</td>
<td>925,189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From one to five years</td>
<td>1,998,071</td>
<td>2,832,533</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over five years</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Operating Commitments</strong></td>
<td>2,934,069</td>
<td>3,757,722</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Leases are effectively non-cancellable and comprise:
- leases for office accommodation
- lease for a motor vehicle used for general business activities
- leases in relation to computer equipment
### Schedule of Commitments (continued)
for the year ended 30 June 2002

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nature of the Lease</th>
<th>General description of the leasing arrangement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Leases for office accommodation</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lease 1: Salvation Army House, Brisbane Avenue, Barton</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Lease payments are subject to an annual increase in accordance with upwards movements in the CPI. However a market review will be performed at the end of the third year if the option to renew is exercised.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lease 2: John Curtin House, Brisbane Avenue, Barton</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• In September 2002 a market rent review will be performed (capped at 5%). In addition, in 2004 &amp; 2005 there will be an increase of 4% each year. If the option to renew is exercised the rent is to be calculated at $317 per square metre.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lease in relation to computer equipment</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• The lessor provides all computer equipment as designated in the supply contract for 3 years. The Authority may vary the originally designated requirement subject to incurring a penalty.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Motor Vehicle</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• The lease period is 24 months or 40,000 kms.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Subject to 30 days prior written notice, the Authority may return the leased vehicles to the lessor at any time during the term of the lease, however an early return fee will apply.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• The Authority may request an extension of the lease term for a period of up to 3 months from its originally specified expiry date.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above schedule should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.
National Registration Authority
for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals

Schedule of Contingencies
as at 30 June 2002

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONTINGENT LOSSES</td>
<td>NIL</td>
<td>NIL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONTINGENT GAINS</td>
<td>NIL</td>
<td>NIL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above schedule should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.
1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

1.1 Basis of Accounting

The financial statements are required by clause 1(b) of Schedule 1 to the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997 and are a general purpose financial report.

The statements have been prepared in accordance with:
- Finance Minister's Orders (being the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies (Financial Statements 2001-2002) Orders);
- Australian Accounting Standards and Accounting Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board;
- Other authoritative pronouncements of the Board; and
- Consensus Views of the Urgent Issues Group.

These statements have been prepared having regard to:
- The Explanatory Notes to Schedule 1 issued by the Department of Finance and Administration; and
- Finance Briefs issued by that Department.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis and are in accordance with the historical cost convention. Except where stated, no allowance is made for the effect of changing prices on the results or the financial position of the Authority.

Assets and liabilities are recognised in the Authority's Statement of Financial Position when and only when it is probable that future economic benefits will flow and the amounts of the assets or liabilities can be reliably measured. Assets and liabilities arising under agreements equally proportionately unperformed are however not recognised unless required by an Accounting Standard. Liabilities and assets that are unrecognised are reported in the Schedule of Commitments and the Schedule of Contingencies.

Revenues and expenses are recognised in the Authority's Statement of Financial Performance when and only when the flow or consumption or loss of economic benefits has occurred and can be reliably measured.

1.2 Reporting by Outcomes

A comparison of Budget and Actual figures by outcome specified in the Appropriation Acts relevant to the Authority is presented in Note 2. Any intra-government costs included in the figure 'net cost to Budget outcomes' are eliminated in calculating the actual budget outcome for the Government overall.

1.3 Appropriations

Revenue Appropriations

Revenues from government are revenues of the core operating activities of the Authority.

Appropriations for outputs are recognised as revenue to the extent that they have been received into the Authority's Bank account or are entitled to be received by the Authority at year end.
Industry contributions are appropriated to the Authority by the Parliament in accordance with s58 (1) of the *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992*.

*Non-Revenue Appropriations*

The Authority did not receive any capital appropriations or equity injections during the year.

1.4 *Other Revenue*

Revenue from the sale of goods and services is recognised upon receipt of money and/or delivery of goods to customers, whichever is the most appropriate.

Interest revenue is recognised on a proportional basis taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

Revenue from the disposal of non-current assets is recognised when control of the asset has passed to the buyer.

Revenue from the fees and charges contributed by industry is recognised during the period to which the fee or charge relates.

*Core Operations*

All material revenues described in this note are revenues relating to the core operating activities of the Authority. Details of revenue amounts are given in Note 3.

1.5 *Employee Entitlements*

*Leave*

The liability for employee entitlements includes provision for annual leave and long service leave. No provision has been made for sick leave as all sick leave is non-vesting and the average sick leave taken in future years by employees of the Authority is estimated to be less than the annual entitlement for sick leave.

The liability for annual leave reflects the value of total annual leave entitlements of all employees at 30 June 2002 and is recognised at its nominal value.

The non-current portion of the liability for long service leave is recognised and measured at the present value of the estimated future cash flows to be made in respect of all employees at 30 June 2002. In determining the present value of the liability, attrition rates and pay increases through promotion and inflation have been taken into account.

In 2001-02 a revised short-form methodology has been applied to determine the value of the long service leave provision. The financial effect of this change is an increase in the provision of $470,000 which has been recognised in the current year.

*Separation and Redundancy*

Provision is also made for separation and redundancy payments in cases where positions have been formally identified as excess to requirements, and a reliable estimate of the amount payable can be determined.
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2002

Superannuation

Employees contribute to the Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme (CSS) and the Public Sector Superannuation Scheme (PSS). Employer contributions by the Authority amounting to $926,473 (2000-01: $884,407) in relation to these schemes have been expensed in the financial statements.

Temporary employees of the Authority contribute to the Australian Government Employees Superannuation Trust (AGEST). Employer contributions by the Authority amounting to $26,126 (2000-01: $18,651) in relation to these schemes have been expensed in the financial statements.

No liability is shown for superannuation in the Statement of Financial Position as the employer contributions fully extinguish the accruing liability, which is assumed by the Commonwealth.

Employer Superannuation Productivity Benefit contributions by the Authority totalled $177,675 (2000-01: $166,389).

1.6 Leases

A distinction is made between finance leases which effectively transfer from the lessor to the lessee substantially all the risks and benefits incidental to ownership of leased non-current assets and operating leases under which the lessor effectively retains substantially all such risks and benefits.

Where a non-current asset is acquired by means of a finance lease the asset is capitalised at the present value of minimum lease payments at the inception of the lease and a liability recognised for the same amount. Leased assets are amortised over the period of the lease. Lease payments are allocated between the principal component and the interest expense.

Operating lease payments are expensed on a basis which is representative of the pattern of benefits derived from the leased assets.

Lease incentives taking the form of ‘free’ leasehold improvements and rent holidays are recognised as liabilities. These liabilities are reduced by allocating lease payments between rental expense and reduction of the liability.

1.7 Cash

Cash means notes and coins held and any deposits held at call with a bank or financial institution.

1.8 Financial Instruments

Accounting policies in relation to Financial Instruments are stated at Note 13.

1.9 Acquisition of Assets

Assets are recorded at cost on acquisition except as stated below. The cost of acquisition includes the fair value of assets transferred in exchange and liabilities undertaken.
Notes to and forming part of the
Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2002

1.10 Infrastructure, Plant and Equipment

Asset Recognition Threshold

Purchases of infrastructure, plant and equipment are recognised at cost in the Statement of Financial Position, except for purchases costing less than $2,000, which are expensed in the year of acquisition (other than when they form part of a group of similar items which are significant in total).

Revaluations

Infrastructure, plant and equipment is revalued progressively in accordance with the ‘deprival’ method of valuation in successive 3-year cycles, so that no asset has a value greater than three years old.

Assets in each class acquired after the commencement of a progressive revaluation cycle are not captured by the progressive valuation then in progress.

Any assets which would not be replaced or are surplus to requirements are valued at net realisable value.

Recoverable Amount Test

The carrying amount of each item of non-current infrastructure, plant and equipment assets is reviewed to determine whether it is in excess of the asset’s recoverable amount. In assessing recoverable amounts, the relevant cash flows have been discounted to their present value.

Depreciation and Amortisation

Depreciable infrastructure, plant and equipment assets are written-off to their estimated residual values over their useful lives to the Authority using, in all cases, the straight-line method of depreciation. Leasehold improvements are amortised on a straight-line basis over the lesser of the estimated useful life of the improvements or the unexpired period of the lease.

Depreciation/amortisation rates (useful lives) and methods are reviewed at each balance date and necessary adjustments are recognised in the current, or current and future reporting periods, as appropriate. Residual values are re-estimated for a change in prices only when assets are revalued.

The Authority’s depreciation/amortisation rates are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Infrastructure, Plant and Equipment</td>
<td>5% - 33%</td>
<td>5% - 33%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1.11 Intangibles

The carrying amount of intangible assets is reviewed to determine whether it is in excess of each asset’s recoverable amount. In assessing recoverable amounts, the relevant cash flows have been discounted to their present value.

The Authority’s amortisation rate for intangible assets is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intangibles</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1.12 Taxation

The Authority is exempt from all forms of taxation except fringe benefits tax and the goods and services tax.

1.13 Comparative Figures

Comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation in these financial statements where required.

1.14 Rounding

Amounts are presented in whole dollars except in Note 13, Financial Instruments, where amounts are rounded to the nearest $1,000.

1.15 Changes in Accounting Policy

The accounting policies used in the preparation of these financial statements are consistent with those used in 2000-01.
National Registration Authority
for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals

Notes to and forming part of the
Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2002

2. Reporting by Segments and Outcomes

Reporting by Segments

The Authority operates primarily in a single industry and geographical segment being the regulation of agricultural and veterinary chemicals in Australia.

The Authority is structured to meet a single outcome and output. In addition the Authority has no Administered revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities.

Given the need to use agricultural and veterinary chemicals for pest and disease control, the work of the Authority protects the health and safety of people, animals and the environment. In respect to food and fibre production, the Authority’s activities support Australian agricultural and livestock industries.

Reporting by Outcomes for 2001-2002

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net Cost to Budget Outcome</td>
<td>1,468,000</td>
<td>973,815</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Outcome Specific Assets</td>
<td>17,394,000</td>
<td>19,412,790</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
National Registration Authority  
for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals  

Notes to and forming part of the  
Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2002

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Operating Revenues</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(a) - Revenue from Government Appropriation</td>
<td>114,000</td>
<td>108,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) - Sales of Goods and Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goods</td>
<td>5,454</td>
<td>3,571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services</td>
<td>44,994</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>50,448</td>
<td>5,571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goods and Services were sold to:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>5,179</td>
<td>3,312</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Government</td>
<td>45,269</td>
<td>2,259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>50,448</td>
<td>5,571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c) - Interest</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank Deposits &amp; Floating Rate Note</td>
<td>746,988</td>
<td>896,166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(d) - Industry Contributions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Levies</td>
<td>10,358,281</td>
<td>10,313,122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration Renewals</td>
<td>4,346,400</td>
<td>4,192,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application Fees</td>
<td>2,877,992</td>
<td>2,603,167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good Manufacturing Practice</td>
<td>909,902</td>
<td>116,289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permits and Other Fees</td>
<td>228,212</td>
<td>252,940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>18,720,787</td>
<td>17,478,418</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 4. Operating Expenses

#### (a) - Employee Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Remuneration (for services provided)</td>
<td>10,412,518</td>
<td>8,952,902</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Separation &amp; Redundancies</td>
<td>194,168</td>
<td>30,467</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Remuneration</td>
<td>10,606,686</td>
<td>9,283,369</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Employee Expenses</td>
<td>740,000</td>
<td>399,110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>11,346,686</td>
<td>9,382,479</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### (b) - Suppliers Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Supply Of Goods &amp; Services</td>
<td>7,791,697</td>
<td>6,852,720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating Lease Rentals</td>
<td>751,215</td>
<td>589,774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>8,542,912</td>
<td>7,442,494</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Operating lease payments comprise minimum lease payments only.

#### (c) - Depreciation and Amortisation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation of Infrastructure, Plant &amp; Equipment</td>
<td>449,756</td>
<td>482,548</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amortisation of Intangibles</td>
<td>275,156</td>
<td>90,541</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>724,912</td>
<td>573,089</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### (d) - Net Loss on Disposal of Property, Plant & Equipment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proceeds on disposal</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>49,072</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expense on disposal</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(91,578)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Loss on Disposal of Property, Plant and Equipment</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(42,506)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5. Financial Assets

(a) - Cash

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash at bank and on hand</td>
<td>5,325,900</td>
<td>6,088,283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deposits at call</td>
<td>88,653</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>10,000,000</td>
<td>10,447,868</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance of cash as at 30 June</td>
<td>15,414,553</td>
<td>16,536,151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shown in the Statement of</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash Flows</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(b) - Receivables

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Goods &amp; Services</td>
<td>813,021</td>
<td>145,243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less: Provision for</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doubtful Debts</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>813,021</td>
<td>145,243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GST Receivable</td>
<td>306,591</td>
<td>339,486</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Debtors</td>
<td>123,643</td>
<td>21,224</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Receivables</td>
<td>1,243,255</td>
<td>505,953</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Receivables (gross) which are overdue are aged as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not Overdue</td>
<td>1,210,976</td>
<td>494,143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overdue by:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- less than 30 days</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 30 to 60 days</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 60 to 90 days</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- more than 90 days</td>
<td>32,279</td>
<td>11,810</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,243,255</td>
<td>505,953</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6. Non-financial Assets

(a) - Infrastructure, Plant & Equipment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Plant &amp; Equipment at cost</td>
<td>2,969,188</td>
<td>2,675,210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accumulated Depreciation</td>
<td>(1,545,856)</td>
<td>(1,243,988)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Infrastructure, Plant &amp; Equipment</td>
<td>1,423,332</td>
<td>1,431,222</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(b) - Analysis of Infrastructure, Plant, Equipment and Intangibles

**TABLE A: Movement summary 2001-02 for all assets irrespective of valuation basis**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Infrastructure, Plant and Equipment</th>
<th>Computer Software - Total Intangibles</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gross Value as at 1 July 2001</td>
<td>2,675,210</td>
<td>878,254</td>
<td>3,553,464</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additions</td>
<td>451,222</td>
<td>343,508</td>
<td>794,730</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Write-offs</td>
<td>(157,244)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(157,244)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disposals</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross Value as at 30 June 2002</td>
<td>2,969,188</td>
<td>1,221,762</td>
<td>4,190,950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accumulated Depreciation as at 1 July 2001</td>
<td>1,243,988</td>
<td>281,863</td>
<td>1,525,851</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation/amortisation charge for the year</td>
<td>449,756</td>
<td>275,156</td>
<td>724,912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Write-offs</td>
<td>(147,888)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(147,888)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disposals</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accumulated Depreciation / Amortisation as at 30 June 2002</td>
<td>1,545,856</td>
<td>557,019</td>
<td>2,102,875</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Book Value as at 30 June 2002</td>
<td>1,423,332</td>
<td>664,743</td>
<td>2,088,075</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Book Value as at 1 July 2001</td>
<td>1,431,222</td>
<td>596,391</td>
<td>2,027,613</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Valuations**

The last independent valuation of infrastructure, plant and equipment was carried out as at 1 July 1999 by Simon B O’Leary, API MSAA and Bryan Hurrell, FAPI of the Australian Valuation Office and was on the basis of the deprivational value of the assets concerned in their existing use.

In 1999-00 the adjustment to written down values was not considered to be material. Accordingly, no adjustment was made to the value of non-current assets shown in the balance sheet.

This valuation is in accordance with the Authority’s policy of obtaining an independent valuation of non-current assets every three years.
# Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2002

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c) - Intangible Assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Externally Acquired Computer Software - at cost</td>
<td>764,957</td>
<td>478,606</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amortisation</td>
<td>(490,653)</td>
<td>(246,088)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>274,304</td>
<td>232,518</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internally Developed Software - at cost</td>
<td>456,805</td>
<td>399,648</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amortisation</td>
<td>(66,366)</td>
<td>(35,775)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>390,439</td>
<td>363,873</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Computer Software and Intangibles</td>
<td>664,743</td>
<td>596,391</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(d) - Other Non-financial Assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepayments</td>
<td>666,907</td>
<td>54,157</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## 7. Liabilities

**Interest Bearing Liabilities**

(a) - Lease

**Finance Lease Commitments**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Payable:**

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Within one year</td>
<td>18,336</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In one to five years</td>
<td>8,425</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In more than five years</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Minimum lease payments</strong></td>
<td>26,761</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Deduct:** Future finance charges

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(2,401)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lease Liability</strong></td>
<td>24,360</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Lease liability is categorised as follows:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

|                         |        |        |
| Current                 | 16,143 | -      |
| Non-current             | 8,217  | -      |
| **Total Interest Bearing Liabilities** | 24,360 | -      |
National Registration Authority  
for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals

Notes to and forming part of the  
Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2002

Payables
(b) - Other

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Accumulated Results</th>
<th>General Reserve</th>
<th>TOTAL EQUITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance 1 July 2001</td>
<td>4,607,839</td>
<td>4,900,000</td>
<td>9,507,839</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer</td>
<td>(716,000)</td>
<td>716,000</td>
<td>(50,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus</td>
<td>(859,815)</td>
<td></td>
<td>(859,815)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance 30 June 2002</td>
<td>3,032,024</td>
<td>5,616,000</td>
<td>8,648,024</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9. Cash Flow Reconciliation

Reconciliation of operating surplus to net cash provided by operating activities:

- Operating (Deficit)/Surplus: (859,815)
- Depreciation and Amortisation of Plant and Equipment: 449,756
- Amortisation of Intangibles: 275,156
- Loss on Disposal of Assets: -
- Write-down of Assets: 9,356
- Other Employee Contribution: (11,487)
- Changes in Assets and Liabilities:
  - (Increase) in Receivables: (737,302)
  - (Increase) in Other Assets: (612,750)
  - Increase in Unearned Income: 165,406
  - Increase in Payables: 4,480
  - Increase in Provisions: 954,485
- Net cash (used) from operating activities: (362,715)
10. Remuneration of Directors

Directors of the Authority during the year were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Date Appointed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr John S Keniry</td>
<td>Chairperson</td>
<td>16 March 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Peter Bailey</td>
<td>Deputy Chairperson</td>
<td>16 March 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Ian Champion</td>
<td></td>
<td>16 March 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Peter Dingle</td>
<td></td>
<td>16 March 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professor John McLean</td>
<td></td>
<td>16 March 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Mark Allison</td>
<td></td>
<td>16 March 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Michael Nicholls</td>
<td></td>
<td>16 March 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Lynette Fragar</td>
<td></td>
<td>16 March 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Merrilyn McPherson</td>
<td></td>
<td>16 March 2000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aggregate amount of superannuation payments in connection with the retirement of directors</td>
<td>Nil</td>
<td>9,775</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other remuneration received or due and receivable by directors of the Authority</td>
<td>152,974</td>
<td>136,648</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total remuneration received or due and receivable by directors of the Authority</td>
<td>152,974</td>
<td>146,423</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The number of directors of the Authority included in these figures are shown below in the relevant remuneration bands.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Remuneration Range</th>
<th>2002 Number</th>
<th>2001 Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nil</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1 - $9,999</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10,000 - $19,999</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$20,000 - $29,999</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$30,000 - $39,999</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No director has received, or become entitled to receive, a material benefit by way of contract made by the Authority with a director or with an organisation in which he or she is a member, takes part in the management of its affairs or has a substantial interest.
11. Remuneration of Officers

The number of officers who received or were due to receive total remuneration of $100,000 or more:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Remuneration Range</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$100,001 - $110,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$110,001 - $120,000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$120,001 - $130,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$130,001 - $140,000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$140,001 - $150,000</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$150,001 - $160,000</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$160,001 - $170,000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$170,001 - $180,000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$180,001 - $190,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$190,001 - $200,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$210,001 - $220,000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The aggregate amount of total remuneration of officers shown above.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Remuneration</td>
<td>1,411,947</td>
<td>1,302,503</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The officer remuneration includes all officers concerned with or taking part in the management of the Authority during 2001-02 except the Board Chairperson. Details in relation to the Chairperson have been incorporated into Note 10 – Remuneration of Directors.

The NRA included the expense associated with annual leave and long service leave in the calculation of officer’s remuneration for the first time in 2000-01. This resulted in a major variation in the categorisation of remuneration in that year. In some cases the band categorisation is heavily influenced by long service leave taken and liabilities transferred from other Agencies and Authorities resulting in a significant distortion of the remuneration disclosed.

In addition, since 2000-01 performance bonuses paid to officers have been included in officer’s remuneration where they are attributable to work performed in the financial year.

12. Auditors Remuneration

The audit of the Authority is carried out by the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO). The amount payable for audit services in auditing the financial statements for the reporting period was $21,000 (2000-01: $21,000). No other services have been provided by the ANAO during the reporting period.
### Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2002

#### 13. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

(a) Terms, conditions and accounting policies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial Instrument</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Accounting Policies and Methods (including recognition criteria and measurement basis)</th>
<th>Nature of underlying instrument (including significant terms and conditions affecting the amount, timing and certainty of cash flows)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Financial Assets</td>
<td></td>
<td>Financial assets are recognised when control over future economic benefits is established and the amount of the benefit can be reliably measured.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deposits at Call</td>
<td>5(a)</td>
<td>Deposits at call are recognised at cost. Interest is accrued as it is earned.</td>
<td>The deposit at call is with the Commonwealth Bank of Australia, and at 30 June 2002 earn an effective rate of interest of 4.55%.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floating Rate Note</td>
<td>5(a)</td>
<td>The floating rate note is recognised at cost. Interest is accrued as it is earned.</td>
<td>The floating rate note is with the Commonwealth Bank of Australia, and at 30 June 2002 earn an effective rate of interest of 5.38%.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance Lease</td>
<td>7(b)</td>
<td>Liabilities are recognised at the present value of the minimum lease payments at the beginning of the lease.</td>
<td>At reporting date, the Authority had a finance lease with an unexpired term of 1 year and 7 months. The interest implicit in the lease is averaged at 14.58%. The lease liability is secured by the lease assets.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade Creditors</td>
<td>7(b)</td>
<td>Creditors, accruals and unearned income are recognised at their nominal amounts, being the amounts at which the liabilities will be settled. Liabilities are recognised to the extent that the goods or services have been received (and irrespective of having been invoiced).</td>
<td>Settlement is usually made net 30 days.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
13. **FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)**

(b) **Interest Rate Risk**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial Instrument</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Floating Interest Rate</th>
<th>Fixed Interest Rate</th>
<th>Non-Interest Bearing</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Weighted Average Effective Interest Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 year or less</td>
<td>1 to 2 years</td>
<td>2 to 5 years</td>
<td>&gt; 5 years</td>
<td>01-02 00-01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Assets (Recognised)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$'000</td>
<td>$'000</td>
<td>$'000</td>
<td>$'000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash at Bank</td>
<td>5(a)</td>
<td>5,324</td>
<td>6,086</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash on Hand</td>
<td>5(a)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial Bill</td>
<td>5(a)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>10,448</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deposits at Call</td>
<td>5(a)</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floating rate note</td>
<td>5(a)</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receivables for Goods &amp; Services</td>
<td>5(b)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Financial Assets (Recognised)</td>
<td></td>
<td>15,413</td>
<td>16,534</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Assets</td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Liabilities (Recognised)</td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance lease</td>
<td>7(a)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payables</td>
<td>7(b)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Financial Liabilities (Recognised)</td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Liabilities</td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
13. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)

(c) Net Fair Value of Financial Assets and Liabilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note</th>
<th>Total Carrying Amount</th>
<th>Aggregate net fair value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$'000</td>
<td>$'000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Assets (Recognised)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash at Bank</td>
<td>5(a)</td>
<td>5,324</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash on Hand</td>
<td>5(a)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial Bill</td>
<td>5(a)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deposits at call</td>
<td>5(a)</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floating rate note</td>
<td>5(a)</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receivables for Goods and Services</td>
<td>5(b)</td>
<td>1,243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Financial Assets (Recognised)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16,658</td>
<td>16,658</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Liabilities (Recognised)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance lease liabilities</td>
<td>7(a)</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payables</td>
<td>7(b)</td>
<td>7,636</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Financial Liabilities (Recognised)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7,660</td>
<td>7,660</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
13. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)

Financial Assets

The net fair values of cash, investments and non-interest-bearing monetary financial assets approximate their carrying amounts.

The net fair values of receivables for goods and services and other assets, all of which are short term in nature, are approximated by their carrying amounts.

Financial Liabilities

The net fair value for trade creditors, all of which are short term in nature, are approximated by their carrying amounts.

(d) Credit Risk Exposure

The Authority’s maximum exposure to credit risk at reporting date in relation to each class of recognised financial assets is the carrying amount of those assets as indicated in the Balance Sheet.

The Authority has no significant exposure to any concentrations of credit risk.

14. AVERAGE STAFFING LEVELS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The average staffing levels of the Authority during the year were:</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX A:

NRA Board

The current Board was appointed on 16 March 2000 and will serve until 15 October 2002 so as to separate the appointment cycle for future Boards from corporate planning and budgeting, normally considered by the Board in the first half of the calendar year. The Board met six times in 2001–02 and attendance by Directors is detailed in Table A1. Three meetings were held in Canberra and three at interstate locations to promote interaction with stakeholders in the field. Secretariat support for the Board is provided by the NRA Communications and Secretariat Section.

Contact: Mr Alan Hill, Executive Officer, NRA Board, telephone (02) 6272 5238.

Table A1:
Attendance at NRA Board meetings in 2001–02

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Meetings attended</th>
<th>Meetings eligible</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr J Keniry (Chairperson)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr P Bailey</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr I Champion</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr P Dingle</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr M Nicholls</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prof J McLean</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs M McPherson</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr L Fragar AO</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr M Allison</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Declared interests**

Directors are required to declare material personal interests in relation to any matters before the Board for deliberation. Declarations by Directors are detailed in Table A2.

**Table A2: Declared interests**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Board meeting</th>
<th>Declaration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NRA60 June 2002</td>
<td><strong>Diazinon – proposal to release Draft Review Report</strong>&lt;br&gt;Dr Fragar declared her interest in this matter. The Board noted that Dr Fragar’s interest relates to her position as Director of the Australian Centre for Agricultural Health and Safety, which is providing technical advice to the National Farmers’ Federation and Australian Wool Innovations on methodology for a generic study of workers’ exposure to ectoparasiticide. Acting on advice from the General Counsel, the Board considered that Dr Fragar’s interest should not disqualify her from taking part in deliberations or voting on the matter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRA58 March 2002</td>
<td><strong>Special review of pindone</strong>&lt;br&gt;The Deputy Chairperson, Mr Bailey, declared his interest in this matter. The Board noted that Mr Bailey’s interest is as an officer of the Victorian Department of Natural Resources and Environment, which is the registrant of products containing pindone, the active constituent subject to review. Pursuant to s. 27J of the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997 (the CAC Act), the remaining Directors were not satisfied that Mr Bailey’s interest should allow him to consider and vote on the matter but were satisfied that he may offer comment and be present only for the discussion.&lt;br&gt;The Deputy Chairperson also abstained from considering or voting on a subsequent out-of-session matter in relation to the review of pindone.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRA58 March 2002</td>
<td><strong>Neomycin – proposal to initiate review</strong>&lt;br&gt;The Chairperson, Dr Keniry, declared his interest in this matter and, pursuant to s. 27F of the CAC Act, absented himself from the meeting. The Board noted that Dr Keniry’s interest is as Chairperson of Ridley Corporation Ltd, a subsidiary of which (Ridley Agriproducts Ltd) is the registrant of products containing neomycin, the active constituent proposed for review. Pursuant to s. 27J of the CAC Act, the remaining Directors were not satisfied that Dr Keniry’s interest should allow him to be present or consider and vote on the matter.&lt;br&gt;The Chairperson also abstained from considering or voting on a subsequent out-of-session matter in relation to the proposed review of neomycin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRA57 December 2001</td>
<td><strong>Dimetridazole – proposal to initiate review</strong>&lt;br&gt;The Chairperson, Dr Keniry, declared his interest in this matter and, pursuant to s. 27F of the CAC Act, absented himself from the meeting. The Board noted that Dr Keniry’s interest is as Chairperson of Ridley Corporation Ltd, a subsidiary of which (Ridley Agriproducts Ltd), is the registrant of products containing dimetridazole, the active constituent proposed for review. Pursuant to s. 27J of the CAC Act, the remaining Directors were not satisfied that Dr Keniry’s interest should allow him to consider and vote on the matter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRA55 August 2001</td>
<td><strong>ChemCert – funding proposal</strong>&lt;br&gt;The Chief Executive Officer of the NRA, Dr Turner, declared her interest in this matter as a Director of ChemCert and abstained herself from the meeting. The Board was satisfied that Dr Turner’s interest should disqualify her from being present during the Board’s deliberations on the matter and therefore determined that Dr Turner may not partake in, or be present for, those deliberations.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Indemnities and Insurance

The NRA has provided indemnity to each Director and several NRA officers. The NRA maintains directors’ and officers’ liability insurance as set out in Table A3. The nature of the liabilities covered and the amount of premium payable under the contract of insurance are confidential under the terms of the policy.

Table A3: Indemnities and insurance for NRA directors and officers 2001–02

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Officers</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Indemnity agreement</th>
<th>Director and officer liability insurance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr John Keniry</td>
<td>Director (Chairperson)</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Peter Bailey</td>
<td>Director (Deputy Chairperson)</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Ian Champion</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Peter Dingle</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Michael Nicholls</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prof John McLean</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Merrilyn McPherson</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Lyn Fragar AO</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Mark Allison</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Alison Turner</td>
<td>Chief Executive Officer</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Greg Hooper</td>
<td>Executive Manager Policy &amp; Public Affairs</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Peter Raphael</td>
<td>Executive Manager Review &amp; Compliance</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Tony de la Fosse</td>
<td>Executive Manager Corporate Services</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Joe Smith</td>
<td>Executive Manager Registration</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr James Suter</td>
<td>General Counsel</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Fatima Beattie</td>
<td>Manager Quality Assurance &amp; Compliance</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Ron Eichner*</td>
<td>Manager Chemical Review</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Eva Bennet-Jenkins</td>
<td>A/g Manager Chemical Review</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Trevor Doust</td>
<td>Manager Chemistry &amp; Residue Evaluation</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Max Darvill</td>
<td>Manager Agricultural Chemicals Evaluation</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Ron Hogg</td>
<td>A/g Manager Veterinary Chemicals Evaluation</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Mr Ron Eichner resigned from the NRA on 12 October 2001.
Audit Committee

The primary objective of the Audit Committee is to assist with the Board’s responsibilities relating to the NRA’s financial accounting and reporting practices. The current membership is Mr Peter Bailey (Chairperson), Mr Ian Champion and Mr Michael Nicholls. The Audit Committee met in August and November 2001 and in March 2002. Meetings coincided with key financial year milestones for provision of advice and reports to the Board. Attendance is detailed in Table A4.

Secretariat support is provided by the Corporate Services Program.

Contact: Ms Cate Saunders, Manager Finance, telephone (02) 6272 3779.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Meetings eligible</th>
<th>Meetings attended</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr Peter Bailey (Chairperson)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Ian Champion</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Michael Nicholls</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX B:  
Overview of the National Registration Scheme

The NRA administers legislation established under the National Registration Scheme on behalf of the Commonwealth, states and territories and is responsible for the assessment, registration and regulation of agvet chemical products up to, and including, the point of retail sale.

Before an agricultural or veterinary chemical product can be sold in Australia, it must be assessed and registered by the NRA.

Chemical companies are required to provide extensive data to demonstrate that a product will be effective for the uses described on the label, will be safe for humans and non-target species, and will not pose unacceptable risks to the environment or trade with other nations.

When products are evaluated, the NRA takes full account of the nature of the product, the amount and completeness of data for consideration, and the extent of consultation required between the NRA, manufacturers, advisory agencies, and the states or territories.

Residues studies on crops and animals are evaluated to establish a maximum residue limit and withholding period. Recommendations for using the product are checked to see that they are consistent with the data provided, and labelling is examined to ensure it is accurate and meets Commonwealth and state legislative requirements.

Specialist advice from agencies

For specialist advice during the assessment process, the NRA receives input from a number of Commonwealth agencies:

> The Therapeutic Goods Administration within the Department of Health and Aging evaluates toxicology data submitted by applicants to determine if any health risk may be posed to the community.

> Environment Australia evaluates the environmental implications of products submitted for registration and recommends measures to avoid or minimise adverse environmental effects.

> The National Occupational Health and Safety Commission conducts occupational health and safety assessments to ensure that any risks arising out of workers’ exposure to agricultural and veterinary (agvet) chemical products are minimised.

> Food Standards Australia and New Zealand assesses the dietary intake implications of residues in food and in cooperation with the NRA sets maximum residue limits.

> The Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) provides expert advice on products of gene technology.

> The Expert Advisory Group on Antimicrobial Resistance (EAGAR) addresses the implications of the use of antibiotics in agriculture.

> The Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) advises on quarantine safety matters associated with imported biological products.

Evaluations may take several months to complete in the case of new products. Evaluations of variations to products already on the market may be completed more quickly.

At some stages of the evaluation process, consultation may occur with the states and territories, other Commonwealth agencies, and a range of expert panels or committees that provide advice to the NRA. This process ensures that appropriate knowledge and experience is incorporated into the assessment process. Figure B1 shows the registration process.
The NRA also seeks the input of the OGTR on gene technology matters, AQIS on the import of biologicals and EAGAR on antibiotics.
Applicants are consulted during the evaluation process, particularly on technical issues or areas of concern.

Before registering a product containing a new active constituent, or amending a registration to allow a major change of use, the NRA publishes a summary of an evaluation as a basis for public comment.

These public release summaries are advertised in the *NRA Gazette* to notify the community that the product is under assessment, to offer further information and to invite comment, which is taken into account before final decisions are made. The NRA also sends a copy to interested stakeholders who have requested copies.

When an assessment is complete, the product is either registered or rejected. In many cases, the NRA proposes amendments to the draft label as a requirement of approval.

### Regulation and monitoring

Agvet chemical products are not registered forever.

The NRA operates programs that monitor agvet chemicals after registration. These programs have the capacity to bring about regulatory action if registration standards are not maintained or if new information dictates the need to reconsider the conditions of registration.

### Chemical review

The Chemical Review Program reconsiders the registration of agricultural and veterinary chemicals in the marketplace where potential risks to safety and performance have been identified. A review may be initiated when new research or evidence has raised concerns about the use or safety of a particular chemical or product.

Under the program, reviews may be based on one or more areas of registration, such as environmental safety, or may be comprehensive covering all aspects of the chemical's registration.

### Compliance

The standards set at registration are enforced in the marketplace using a range of compliance strategies applied at the relevant point in the supply chain, which extends from the import barrier to retail premises.

Compliance involves the assessment of risk and application of appropriate enforcement responses to alleged breaches of the agvet Codes reported by a range of stakeholders, including industry, other government agencies, the general public or identified via the NRA’s intelligence function. The reports investigated can relate to unregistered products, supply of restricted products to unauthorised users, unapproved labels, claims in advertising, or formulations and active constituents.

The NRA liaises regularly with state and territory government departments to ensure effective communication and coordination of effort.

### Reporting of adverse experiences

The Adverse Experience Reporting Program, introduced in January 1995, requires registrants of veterinary chemical products to report any adverse effects resulting from use of a product. Members of the public are also invited to report adverse experiences that may be linked to the use of a veterinary chemical product. Reports are investigated and, where required, regulatory action can be taken.
Manufacturers’ Licensing Scheme

The NRA’s Manufacturers’ Licensing Scheme, introduced in March 1996, requires all Australian based manufacturers of veterinary chemical products to be licensed and to meet standards described in a Code of Good Manufacturing Practice. The scheme includes audits of manufacturing premises. It aims to ensure (give confidence in) the quality of veterinary chemical products manufactured and supplied in Australia.

Consultation

The NRA places a high priority on communication with the various stakeholders involved in the National Registration Scheme. It operates or participates in a number of consultative forums on issues relating to agvet chemicals and products. These consultative mechanisms have been instrumental in developing key programs and priorities. Further information on consultation undertaken in 2001–02 is provided at Appendix D.

Improving the systems

The NRA is committed to the continuous improvement of the systems and processes it uses to register and regulate agvet chemicals.
Background to the legislation establishing the National Registration Scheme and the NRA

Prior to March 1995, the Commonwealth held responsibility for the evaluation and assessment of selected agvet chemical products and their clearance for registration. The states and territories were responsible for the registration and control of use of all agvet chemical products.

Initially the Commonwealth’s involvement in the clearance process was informal but from 1 July 1989 the arrangements were put on a legislative basis with the enactment of the *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Act 1988* which established the Australian Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Council to undertake clearance activities.

In July 1991, the Commonwealth, states and territories agreed to establish the National Registration Scheme for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals. The aim of the scheme was to place under one national umbrella the assessment and registration of all agvet chemical products previously undertaken independently by the Commonwealth and each of the states and territories.

The National Registration Scheme is a partnership between the Commonwealth and the states/territories. Under the scheme, the NRA was established as a Commonwealth statutory authority, with responsibility for the evaluation, registration and review of agricultural and veterinary chemicals, and their control up to the point of retail sale. The states and territories retain responsibility for control-of-use activities, such as licensing of pest control operators and aerial spraying.

The first major step in establishing the National Registration Scheme was the establishment by the Commonwealth of the NRA on 15 June 1993 under the *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992*. The NRA is an independent statutory authority. It implements the legislative powers and functions provided to it under the legislation on behalf of all jurisdictions. It has responsibility, in particular, for the implementation of the agvet Codes (see below).

The *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Act 1988*, which provided the legislative basis for the former arrangements, was initially amended at the same time to transfer the powers and functions of the outgoing Australian Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Council to the NRA.

However, on 15 March 1995, following the commencement of a suite of Commonwealth and state/territory legislation, the National Registration Scheme came into full operation. The package of legislation (referred to as the National Registration legislation) repealed the 1988 Act and established a new legislative regime for the NRA’s operations.

The National Registration legislation consists of seven Acts: three dealing with registration activities and four relating to registration fees and charges. The centrepiece of this suite of legislation is the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code (the ‘agvet Code’) scheduled to the *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994*, which contains the detailed operational provisions for registering chemical products and provides the NRA with its full range of powers, including the evaluation, registration and review of agricultural and veterinary chemical products (including the approval of active constituents and product labels); the issuing of permits; the control of the manufacture of chemical products; controls regulating the supply of chemical products; and provisions ensuring compliance with, and for the enforcement of, the agvet Code. The last four Acts in the package contain the cost recovery mechanisms – in particular, the imposition, assessment and collection of a levy on sales of chemical products – which establish the NRA as an independent, self-funding, regulatory body. A list of the laws comprising the National Registration legislation appears below.
The agvet Code is a law of the Commonwealth that only applies in the Australian Capital Territory. To enable the agvet Code to have national coverage, each of the states and the Northern Territory enacted complementary legislation that has the effect that the agvet Code of the Australian Capital Territory is applied as a law of each state and the Northern Territory. Taken together they are referred to as the agvet Codes.

While the agvet Codes apply in the states and the Northern Territory as the law of those jurisdictions, the applied laws are partly ‘federalised’ – that is, for most practical purposes they have the general characteristics of Commonwealth rather than state laws. In particular, this ‘federalisation’ allows the Commonwealth’s Acts Interpretation Act 1901 to apply for the purposes of interpreting the agvet Codes so there is a uniform interpretative regime. Also, the Commonwealth’s administrative law package applies, that allows exclusive rights of review of NRA decisions taken under the agvet Codes as though the decisions were made under Commonwealth laws. Additionally, the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions is empowered to prosecute for any offences against the legislation even though such offences are offences against the laws of the states or territories concerned.

The National Registration legislation comprises the following seven Acts:

> the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Act 1994 [No. 36 of 1994]
> the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994 [No. 47 of 1994]
> the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Consequential Amendments) Act 1994 [No. 37 of 1994]
> the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products (Collection of Levy) Act 1994 [No. 41 of 1994]
> the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products Levy Imposition (Customs) Act 1994 [No. 39 of 1994]
> the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products Levy Imposition (Excise) Act 1994 [No. 38 of 1994]
> the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products Levy Imposition (General) Act 1994 [No. 40 of 1994].

A description of these Acts and other laws relating to agvet chemicals appears in the next section.

**Current legislation**

The complex legislative arrangements governing the NRA and its regulation of agvet chemicals may be best understood from the following description of the principal Acts (in blue type) together with a brief summary of relevant amendments.

**Statutes**


This Act, which came into effect on 15 June 1993, establishes the NRA as a statutory authority. The National Registration Scheme is a partnership between the Commonwealth and the states/territories under which the NRA was established as a Commonwealth statutory authority, with responsibility for the evaluation, registration and review of agricultural and veterinary chemicals, and their control up to the point of retail sale. The states and territories retain responsibility for control-of-use activities, such as licensing of pest control operators and aerial spraying.

Primary Industries and Energy Legislation Amendment Act 1993 [No. 94 of 1993]

This Act, which commenced on 16 December 1993, makes minor amendments to the 1992 Administration Act relating to financial and staffing matters.

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Consequential Amendments) Act 1994 [No. 37 of 1994]

This Act, which was part of the National Registration legislation and thus commenced on 15 March 1995, makes amendments to the Administration Act and to the Copyright Act 1968 which were necessary as a consequence of the introduction of the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994 and the repealing of the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Act 1988.
In particular, the functions of the NRA, which were mostly taken over from the outgoing Australian Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Council and contained in the repealed *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Act 1988*, were, by this amendment, incorporated into the Administration Act.

The Administration Act was also amended to include certain controls over the importation, manufacture and exportation of agvet chemicals by making it an offence to import unapproved active constituents or unregistered chemical products. The amendments also enabled the NRA to monitor the import, manufacture and export of unapproved active constituents and unregistered chemical products. Because these are functions for which the Commonwealth can constitutionally enact laws, they were included as amendments to the Administration Act rather than being included in the agvet Codes.

The Consequential Amendments Act also makes some consequential amendments to the *Copyright Act 1968* to confirm that the reproduction of a label for an agvet chemical product is not an infringement of any copyright subsisting under Part III or section 92 of the Copyright Act.

### Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Amendment Act 1994 [No. 76 of 1994]

This Act, which commenced on 1 July 1994, is one of a package of six Acts which gave effect to the interim cost-recovery arrangements for the operation of the National Registration Scheme (see also the Interim Cost Recovery legislation below). The Act amended section 58 of the Administration Act 1992 to provide that relevant levy or late payment penalties are payable to the NRA via the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

### Primary Industries and Energy Legislation Amendment Act 1994 [No. 94 of 1994]

This Act makes amendments to the *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration)* Act 1992, and to the agvet Code scheduled to the *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994*. The amendments to the Administration Act commenced on 20 November 1996.

The amendments to the Administration Act:

- require the NRA to comply with the policies of the Commonwealth, state and territory governments;
- require the NRA to give information to the Commonwealth department now known as the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry--Australia about active constituents that are imported into, manufactured in, or exported from Australia on an annual basis, which will allow the department to fulfil its international obligations to provide information about chemical products that have been restricted by the NRA to overseas regulatory authorities; and
- enable the NRA to charge fees for certificates of export of agricultural and veterinary chemicals.

### Customs, Excise and Bounty Legislation Amendment Act 1995 [No. 85 of 1995]

This Act, which commenced on 1 July 1995, makes a minor amendment to subsection 69B(4) of the *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992*. The subsection sets out particular circumstances in which imported chemical products or active constituents are, for the purposes of the *Customs Act 1901*, taken to be prohibited imports. The amendment has the effect as if products or constituents included in an importation in the circumstances set out in the subsection were goods described as forfeited to the Crown under section 229 of the *Customs Act 1901* because they were prohibited imports within the meaning of that Act.

### Primary Industries and Energy Legislation Amendment Act (No. 2) 1996 [No. 59 of 1996]

This Act makes amendments to the *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration)* Act 1992, and to the agvet Code scheduled to the *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994*. The amendments to the Administration Act commenced on 20 November 1996.

The amendments to the Administration Act:

- require the NRA to comply with the policies of the Commonwealth, state and territory governments;
- require the NRA to give information to the Commonwealth department now known as the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry--Australia about active constituents that are imported into, manufactured in, or exported from Australia on an annual basis, which will allow the department to fulfil its international obligations to provide information about chemical products that have been restricted by the NRA to overseas regulatory authorities; and
- enable the NRA to charge fees for certificates of export of agricultural and veterinary chemicals.

### Audit (Transitional and Miscellaneous) Amendment Act 1997 [No. 152 of 1997]

On 1 January 1998, the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997* (the CAC Act) commenced. The Act deals with matters relating to Commonwealth authorities, including reporting and accountability, banking and investment,
and conduct of officers. The CAC Act was part of a package of legislation which also included the Auditor-General Act 1997 and the Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997.

A number of transitional and consequential matters arose from the enactment of this legislative package and from the repeal of the Audit Act 1901, which were dealt with in the Audit (Transitional and Miscellaneous) Amendment Act 1997. The CAC Act applies to the NRA, and included in these consequential matters were minor changes to the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992.

Some prior provisions in the 1992 Administration Act relating to the NRA’s procedures for reporting and accountability, banking and investment, and conduct of officers were amended so as to closely align with the general provisions covering these matters in the CAC Act.

Primary Industries and Energy Legislation Amendment Act (No. 1) 1998 [No.102 of 1998]

This Act commenced on 30 July 1998 and amends the 1992 Administration Act by increasing the constitution of the Board. The Board now consists of a chairperson and eight directors, including an additional director with experience in development or administration of Commonwealth Government policy or the management of a Commonwealth statutory authority.

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Legislation Amendment Act (No. 1) 1999 [No.4 of 1999]

This Act commenced on 31 March 1999. The Act makes an amendment to the 1992 Administration Act that modifies the agvet Codes for the purposes of giving effect to Article 39(3) of the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (the TRIPS Agreement). These amendments provide five years’ protection for undisclosed texts and/or other data submitted to the NRA for evaluation of a new active constituent for an agricultural or veterinary chemical product. Such data will not be available for reference by a commercial competitor without the agreement of the originator of the data. These amendments remove any doubt about whether Australia is fulfilling its obligations under Article 39(3) of the TRIPS Agreement.

Public Employment (Consequential and Transitional) Amendment Act 1999 [No. 146 of 1999]

This Act, the relevant parts of which commenced on 5 December 1999, makes minor amendments to the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992 and the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products (Collection of Interim Levy) Act 1994. The Administration Act and the Collection of Interim Levy Act made several references to the Public Service Act 1922 and the Amendment Act changed these to the Public Service Act 1999.

Corporate Law Economic Reform Program Act 1999 [No. 156 of 1999]

This Act commenced on 24 November 1999 and makes minor changes to the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992 by amending references in section 24(2)(b) to section 21 of the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997 to read section 27F or 27J of the CAC Act.


This Act, which was enacted on 24 November 2000 (although the relevant parts did not commence until 24 May 2001), repeals the reference in subsection 69F(3) of the Administration Act to sections 71, 72, 73, 74, 75 and 76 of the Crimes Act 1914. Section 69F of the Administration Act relates to the appointment of inspectors and subsection (3) provides that an inspector is a Commonwealth officer for the purposes of certain sections of the Crimes Act 1914. These amendments are consequential to other amendments in the Criminal Code Amendment Act (Item 154 in Schedule 2) which repeal sections 71, 72, 73, 74, 75 and 76 in the Crimes Act 1914. The repealed sections are replaced by Criminal Code offences: 131.1 (Theft), 145.4 (Falsification of documents etc.), 141.1 (Bribery of a Commonwealth public official), 145.4 (Falsification of documents etc.), 148.1 (Impersonation of an official by a non-official), and 149.1 (Obstruction of Commonwealth public officials). The specified offences in the Criminal Code apply to acts by or in relation to ‘Commonwealth public officials’ (which includes NRA inspectors) or in relation to documents or property of the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth public official.

Appendices
**Gene Technology (Consequential Amendments) Act 2000** [No. 170 of 2000]

This Act, which commenced on 22 June 2001, inserts a new section (section 8A) which requires the NRA to consult the Gene Technology Regulator for the purposes of making certain decisions under the Administration Act. The relevant decisions occur when the NRA decides to grant an application, make a variation or reconsider any of the following:

- approval of an active constituent that is, or contains, a genetically modified (GM) product;
- registration of a chemical product that is, or contains, a GM product;
- approval of a label for containers for a chemical product that is, or contains, a GM product.

The new terms ‘Gene Technology Regulator’ and ‘GM product’ in the Administration Act have the same meaning as in the **Gene Technology Act 2001**.

The NRA must also consult the Gene Technology Regulator (GTR) before deciding whether to issue a permit in respect of an active constituent or a chemical product where either the active constituent or the chemical product is, or contains, a GM product.

The formal consultative process of subsections 8A(3) to (6) requires the NRA to give written notice to the GTR stating that the application has been made, a reconsideration is to be undertaken, or a permit is being considered and requesting the GTR to provide written advice to the NRA about the application, reconsideration or issue of a permit. The GTR’s advice must be given in the time period specified by the NRA. If the GTR provides such advice to the NRA, the NRA must take the advice into account in making a decision on the application, reconsideration, or issue of a permit. The NRA must also inform the GTR of its decision so as to enable the GTR to enter information relating to the decision on the Record of Genetically Modified Organisms and Genetically Modified Products established under the **Gene Technology Act 2001**.

**Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Legislation Amendment (Application of Criminal Code) Act 2001** [No. 115 of 2001]

This Act, which took effect on 16 October 2001, makes consequential amendments to offence provisions in the agvet chemicals legislation including the **Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992**. The **Criminal Code** contains a standard approach to the formulation of criminal offences. The **Criminal Code** applied to all Commonwealth offences from 31 December 2001. The application of the **Criminal Code** to all offences improves Commonwealth criminal law by clarifying important elements of offences, in particular, the fault elements.

The Amendment Act amends the agvet chemicals legislation (and other Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry portfolio legislation) to harmonise offence-creating and related provisions with the general principles of criminal responsibility as codified in Chapter 2 of the **Criminal Code**. The amendments ensure that the relevant offences continue to have much the same meaning and operate in much the same way as they did previously.

The major kinds of amendments made by the Amendment Act:

- apply the **Criminal Code** to all offence-creating and related provisions in the **Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992**;
- delete references in the **Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992** to some **Crimes Act 1914** general offence provisions (sections 7, 7A and 86) which duplicate provisions of the **Criminal Code** and replace them with references to equivalent **Criminal Code** provisions where appropriate;
- apply strict liability to individual offences or specified physical elements of offences where appropriate;
- reconstruct provisions in order to clarify physical elements of conduct;
- remove or replace inappropriate fault elements; and
- repeal some offence-creating provisions, which duplicate general offence provisions in the **Criminal Code**.
Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Act 1994
[No. 36 of 1994]
This Act, which was part of the National Registration legislation and thus commenced on 15 March 1995, contains the constitutional and other legal provisions that enable the agvet Code to have effect. The essence of the legislative arrangements which give effect to the National Registration Scheme is, by means of complementary adoptive legislation, for the Commonwealth Parliament to pass a law establishing the agvet Code in the Australian Capital Territory. This Act does this. The agvet Code then is applied by the legislatures of the states and the Northern Territory as a law of those jurisdictions by state/territory complementary Acts: the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals [State/Northern Territory] Acts 1994. This federal Act also contains the Commonwealth provisions which partly ‘federalised’ the applied agvet Codes. This ‘federalisation’ of the applied laws was explained in the earlier part of this Appendix. This Act also repealed the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Act 1988.

National Food Authority Amendment Act 1995
[No. 152 of 1995]
This Act, which commenced on 1 July 1996, amends the reference in subsection 7(2) of the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Act 1994 from the National Food Authority Act 1991 to the Australia New Zealand Food Authority Act 1991.

Jurisdiction of Courts Legislation Amendment Act 2000
[No. 57 of 2000]
This Act, which commenced on 1 July 2000, makes changes to the definition of ‘authority’ in section 4 and to subsection 20(4) as a result of the High Court’s decision in Re Wakim to invalidate the Commonwealth’s cross-vesting laws.

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Legislation Amendment Act 2001
[No. 83 of 2001]
This amending Act, most of which commenced on 11 July 2001, redrafts section 18 of the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Act 1994 so as to clarify the powers, functions and duties of Commonwealth officials and authorities within the National Registration Scheme for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals following the decision of the High Court in R v. Hughes (2000) 171 ALR 155. The Amendment Act also inserts a new section 18A into the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Act 1994 which addresses certain gaps in the National Registration Scheme’s legislative scheme, arising independently of the Hughes decision but also concerning the conferral of duties, powers and functions on Commonwealth authorities and officials, relating to the Commonwealth Administrative Appeals Tribunal and inspectors and analysts appointed under Commonwealth law.

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994
[No. 47 of 1994]
This Act, which was part of the National Registration legislation and thus commenced on 15 March 1995, contains as a schedule to the Act the ‘agvet Code’, which has the detailed provisions allowing the NRA to evaluate, approve or register, and review active constituents and agricultural and veterinary chemical products (and their associated labels); to licence the manufacture of chemical products; and to issue permits. The agvet Code also contains detailed offence provisions allowing the NRA to regulate the control of agvet chemicals and has other provisions for ensuring compliance with, and enforcement of, the agvet Code. As well, the Code contains provisions for data protection compensation for review data.

Primary Industries and Energy Legislation Amendment Act (No. 2) 1994
[No. 129 of 1994]
This Act, the relevant parts of which were taken to have commenced on 15 March 1995, makes a minor amendment to the agvet Code scheduled to the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994 in relation to section 159 requests for further information by the NRA.
Competition Policy Reform Act 1995
[No. 88 of 1995]
This Act, the relevant parts of which commenced on 6 November 1995, amends the reference in section 100 of the agvet Code (concerning the recall of unregistered products) from ‘the Trade Practices Commission’ to ‘the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission’.

Primary Industries and Energy Legislation Amendment Act (No. 2) 1996 [No. 59 of 1996]
The Act makes amendments to the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992, and the agvet Code scheduled to the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994. The amendments to the agvet Code commenced on 15 March 1995. The amendments to the Administration Act are described above. The major amendment to the agvet Code amends section 32(2) to allow the NRA to make tailored requests for review information. The information given to the NRA in response to its requests will be eligible for data protection. The amendment also makes some minor amendments to other sections of the agvet Code.

Primary Industries and Energy Legislation Amendment Act (No. 1) 1997 [No. 22 of 1997]
This Act commenced on 7 April 1997 and amended the agvet Code to extend the compensation provisions to active constituents of a chemical product. The amendments to the agvet Code provide for a primary applicant who has given the NRA protected information about a protected active constituent to be given compensation in the event that a secondary applicant is given permission to use that information in connection with an application to approve another active constituent.

This Act, which commenced on 22 June 2001, follows on from related amendments to the 1992 Administration Act (see above), by adding new paragraphs to subsections 14(3), 29(1), 34(1) and 114(1) of the agvet Code relating to decisions by the NRA in respect of granting an application or permit, making a variation or reconsidering any of the following:

- the approval of an active constituent that is, or contains, a GM product;
- the registration of a chemical product that is, or contains, a GM product;
- approval of a label for containers for a chemical product that is, or contains, a GM product.

The new paragraphs require the NRA to be satisfied for each of these decisions that the Gene Technology Regulator has been properly consulted in accordance with section 8A of the Administration Act.

Corporations (Repeals, Consequentials and Transitionals) Act 2001 [No. 55 of 2001]
This Act, the relevant part of which commenced on 15 July 2001, omits the reference in subsection 69(5) of the agvet Code to ‘Corporations Law’ and substitutes the ‘Corporations Act 2001’. Section 69 of the agvet Code sets out what is a reasonable proposal for protected data compensation and subsection 69(4) provides that such a proposal includes an appropriate portion of any related costs incurred by another body corporate that is related to the primary applicant. Subsection 69(5) further provides that the question as to whether two bodies corporate are related to each other is to be determined in the same way as for the purposes of the Corporations Act 2001.

The Levy Legislation

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products (Collection of Levy) Act 1994 [No. 41 of 1994]

This Act, which was part of the National Registration legislation and thus commenced on 15 March 1995, contains measures that allow for the assessment and collection of levies in regard to agricultural and veterinary products registered for use in Australia. Together with the other levy legislation (see the next three Acts below), this Act provides for the collection of levy imposed by the other three levy Acts. The Act also makes provision for certain powers of entry, inspection and seizure to determine the amount of levy, if any, that is payable. It also contains provisions for an appeal and review process where a person is dissatisfied with an assessment made under the Act.

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products Levy Imposition (Customs) Act 1994 [No. 39 of 1994]

This Act, which also commenced on 15 March 1995, imposes levy on chemical products imported and sold wholesale.

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products Levy Imposition (Excise) Act 1994 [No. 38 of 1994]

This Act, which also commenced on 15 March 1995, imposes levy on Australian manufactured products.

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products Levy Imposition (General) Act 1994 [No. 40 of 1994]

This Act, which also commenced on 15 March 1995, imposes levy on imported chemical products sold directly as retail.

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products (Collection of Levy) Amendment Act 1994 [No. 72 of 1994]

This Act, which also commenced on 15 March 1995, was part of the interim levy legislation (see below). The Act amended the Collection of Levy Act to provide that when that Act commenced the 1993 levy was not collected twice as it was collected by the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products (Collection of Interim Levy) Act 1994.

Primary Industries and Energy Legislation Amendment Act 1994 [No. 94 of 1994]

As noted above this Act, the relevant parts of which commenced on 15 March 1995, principally amends the functions and powers of the NRA set out in the 1992 Administration Act. However, it also makes a minor alteration to the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products (Collection of Levy) Act 1994 by inserting a definition of ‘relevant particulars’ into section 3.

Primary Industries and Energy Legislation Amendment Act (No. 1) 1995 [No. 36 of 1995]

This Act, which commenced on 12 April 1995, amends the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products (Collection of Levy) Act 1994 by changing the prescribed date for payment of the levy from 1 July to 31 July, and overcoming the need for two annual levy payments in 1994–95 (i.e. September 1994 and June 1995). The Act also allows future levy payments to be paid by instalments.

The amendments in this Act also allow a product to be declared by regulations under the principal Levy Act to be an excluded chemical product at an earlier time than when it was registered by any state or territory. The effect of the declaration is that the excluded product will be taken not to be registered at the relevant time and will not be liable for levy.


This Act, which was enacted on 24 November 2000 (although the relevant parts did not commence until 24 May 2001), repeals section 37 of the Collection of Levy Act which created offences of giving false or misleading information or producing false or misleading documents. The offences are replaced by the Criminal Code offences: 137.1 (False or misleading information) and 137.2 (False or misleading documents). The specified offences in the Criminal Code apply in relation to documents of the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth public official.

In addition to the amendments noted above in the Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Legislation Amendment (Application of Criminal Code) Act 2001 [No. 115 of 2001] applying to the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992 and the agvet Code, other amendments in the Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Legislation Amendment Act similarly amend the Collection of Levy Act also with effect from 16 October 2001.

The Interim Cost Recovery legislation

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products (Collection of Interim Levy) Act 1994 [No. 71 of 1994]

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products Interim Levy Imposition (Customs) Act 1994 [No. 73 of 1994]

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products Interim Levy Imposition (Excise) Act 1994 [No. 75 of 1994]

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products Interim Levy Imposition (General) Act 1994 [No. 74 of 1994]

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products (Collection of Levy) Amendment Act 1994 [No. 72 of 1994]

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Amendment Act 1994 [No. 76 of 1994]

This legislative package of six Acts, which mostly commenced on 1 July 1994, gives effect to interim cost-recovery arrangements for the operation of the National Registration Scheme pending the commencement of the National Registration legislation. The package provides for the imposition, assessment and collection of an interim levy in 1994 on the sales of agricultural and veterinary chemical products made during 1993.

There was a minor amendment made to the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products (Collection of Interim Levy) Act 1994 by the Public Employment (Consequential and Transitional) Amendment Act 1999 [No. 146 of 1999] which commenced on 5 December 1999. The Collection of Interim Levy Act made several references to the Public Service Act 1922 and the Amendment Act changed these to the Public Service Act 1999.

A further amendment to the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products (Collection of Interim Levy) Act 1994 was made by the Criminal Code Amendment (Theft, Fraud, Bribery and Related Offences) Act 2000 [No. 137 of 2000]. This Act, which was enacted on 24 November 2000 (although the relevant parts did not commence until 24 May 2001), repeals the reference in subsection 18(2) of the Collection of Interim Levy Act to sections 71, 72, 73, 74, 75 and 76 of the Crimes Act 1914. Section 18 of the Collection of Interim Levy Act relates to the appointment of inspectors for the purposes of the collection of interim levies and subsection (2) provides that an inspector is a Commonwealth officer for the purposes of certain sections of the Crimes Act 1914. These amendments are consequential to other amendments in the Criminal Code Amendment Act (Item 154 in Schedule 2) which repeal sections 71, 72, 73, 74, 75 and 76 in the Crimes Act 1914. The repealed sections are replaced by Criminal Code offences: 131.1 (Theft), 145.4 (Falsification of documents etc.), 141.1 (Bribery of a Commonwealth public official), 145.4 (Falsification of documents etc.), 148.1 (Impersonation of an official by a non-official), and 149.1 (Obstruction of Commonwealth public officials).

The specified offences in the Criminal Code apply to acts by or in relation to ‘Commonwealth public officials’ (which includes NRA inspectors) or in relation to documents or property of the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth public official.

The Criminal Code Amendment (Theft, Fraud, Bribery and Related Offences) Act 2000 also repeals section 35 of the Collection of Interim Levy Act which created offences of giving false or misleading information or producing false or misleading documents. The offences are replaced by the offences inserted into the Criminal Code: 137.1 (False or misleading information) and 137.2 (False or misleading documents).

Delegated legislation

THE ADMINISTRATION REGULATIONS

The Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Regulations [Statutory Rules 1995, No. 28] were made under the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992, and commenced on 15 March 1995. They prescribe the form of search warrant to be used when there is a suspected offence in relation to the importation, manufacture or exportation of agricultural or veterinary chemicals and specify the quantity of active constituents below which an annual return of the importation, manufacture and exportation of these actives is not required.

The Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Regulations (Amendment) [Statutory Rules 1995, No. 320] commenced on 15 March 1995. The amending Regulations provide for transitional provisions for active constituents. The amendments allow active constituents that were approved under previous arrangements to be adopted as approved by the NRA for 12 months for the purposes of possession and custody.

The Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Regulations (Amendment) [Statutory Rules 1995, No. 137], which commenced on 15 June 1995, vary the fees payable for the renewal of the registration of a chemical product. The amending Regulations also, with effect from 1 July 1995, increase assessment fees for chemical products, including modular assessment fees.

The Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Regulations (Amendment) [Statutory Rules 1995, No. 187], which commenced on 4 July 1995, add the agricultural chemical product Dursban Pre-Construction Termiticide to Schedule 4 of the agvet Code Regulations, thereby declaring the product to be a restricted chemical product.

THE AGVET CHEMICALS REGULATIONS

The Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Regulations 1999 [Statutory Rules 1999, No. 326] commenced on 22 December 1999. For the purposes of section 18 of the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Act 1994, the Regulations prescribe functions in relation to the Director of Public Prosecutions of the Commonwealth which enable the Director to bring prosecutions and proceedings for offences against the agvet Codes or the agvet Regulations.

THE CODE REGULATIONS

The Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Regulations 1995 [Statutory Rules 1995, No. 27] were made under the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994 and came into effect on 15 March 1995. The Regulations prescribe detailed provisions of the Code, including the approval and registration process, control of chemical products, and timeframes and fees for assessment of applications.

The Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Regulations (Amendment) [Statutory Rules 1995, No. 54] commenced on 15 March 1995. The amending Regulations provide for transitional provisions for active constituents. The amendments allow active constituents that were approved under previous arrangements to be adopted as approved by the NRA for 12 months for the purposes of possession and custody.

The Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Regulations (Amendment) [Statutory Rules 1995, No. 137], which commenced on 15 June 1995, vary the fees payable for the renewal of the registration of a chemical product. The amending Regulations also, with effect from 1 July 1995, increase assessment fees for chemical products, including modular assessment fees.

The Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Regulations (Amendment) [Statutory Rules 1995, No. 187], which commenced on 4 July 1995, add the agricultural chemical product Dursban Pre-Construction Termiticide to Schedule 4 of the agvet Code Regulations, thereby declaring the product to be a restricted chemical product.
The Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Regulations (Amendment) [Statutory Rules 1996, No. 83], which commenced on 5 June 1996, vary the fees payable for the renewal of the registration of a chemical product.

The Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Regulations (Amendment) [Statutory Rules 1996, No. 111] commenced on 20 June 1996 to revise the provisions relating to the supply of hormonal growth promotants.

The Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Regulations (Amendment) [Statutory Rules 1996, No. 162] commenced on 24 July 1996 and contain detailed provisions relating to the exemption of certain products and persons from the requirements of Part 8 (Manufacture of Chemical Products) of the agvet Code, and to the obligations on the licence holder concerning licence conditions. The amending Regulations also prescribe the fees payable for the issue of a licence for manufacture.


The Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Regulations (Amendment) [Statutory Rules 1997, No. 264] commenced on 24 September 1997 and add the insecticide dimethoate to the list of ‘date-controlled products’ in Schedule 1 of the agvet Code Regulations. The amendments also correct the terminology used in both schedules 1 and 4 (restricted chemical products) to allow active constituents of a chemical product as well as individual products to be listed in the schedules.

Additionally, the amendments implement changes proposed by the Senate Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances:

> an amendment making decisions of the NRA to withdraw notification numbers of premises selling HGP$s subject to review by the Administrative Appeals Tribunal; and

> a minor amendment to Regulation 59C requiring the NRA to give at least one month’s notice to a legal personal representative or trustee in bankruptcy of a licence holder to provide further information about the legal representation. If the legal personal representative or trustee in bankruptcy fails to provide that information within that time then that person will cease to be an exempt person under the legislation.

The Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Amendment Regulations 1999 (No. 1) [Statutory Rules 1999, No. 215] commenced on 16 September 1999. The amendments delete the chemical product Dursban Pre-Construction Termicide from Item 6 of Schedule 4 of the agvet Code Regulations and substitute the following:

- Item 6: A chemical product that is a pre-construction termicide product containing bifenthrin;
- Item 7: A chemical product that is a pre-construction termicide product containing chlorpyrifos;
- Item 8: A chemical product containing endosulfan.

The effect of the amendments is to declare chemical products that are pre-construction termicides that contain either bifenthrin or chlorpyrifos, together with chemical products that contain endosulfan, to be restricted chemical products under Division 4 of Part 4 of the agvet Codes.

The Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Amendment Regulations 1999 (No. 2) [Statutory Rules 1999, No. 247] commenced on 31 October 1999. The amendments provide for a new category of application (Category 23A) for registration of certain swimming pool and spa chemical products that come within the definition of a ‘pool or spa hypochlorite’. The overall effect of the amendments is to reduce application fees for the registration of certain swimming pool and spa products and to lower their registration renewal fees.
The Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Legislation Amendment (Application of Criminal Code) Regulations 2002 (No.1) [Statutory Rules 2002, No.60] which commenced on 5 April 2002, makes amendments to all criminal offence provisions in Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry portfolio regulations, including the agvet Code Regulations, to bring them into line with the general principles of criminal responsibility codified in Chapter 2 of the Criminal Code as set out in the Criminal Code Act 1995. The Criminal Code contains a standard approach to the formulation of criminal offences. The Criminal Code will apply to all Commonwealth offences created by Commonwealth legislation and regulations. The application of the Criminal Code to all offences improves Commonwealth criminal law by replacing common law notions of a criminal act and a guilty mind with physical and fault elements. The amending Regulations address the following matters in the agvet Code Regulations:

> the inclusion of new subregulations making it clear that all offences in the agvet Code Regulations are offences of strict liability;
> the clarification of the offence regulations to make it clear that reasonable excuse is a defence to the offence; and
> the inclusion of standard notes referring to the fact that under the Criminal Code, a defendant seeking to rely on a reasonable excuse defence carries the evidential burden.

THE CODE ORDERS

The Veterinary Chemical Products (Excluded Stockfood Non-active Constituents) Order [Statutory Rules 1995, No. 59] was made under the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994 and commenced on 15 March 1995. The Order excludes certain stockfood constituents from the definition of veterinary chemical products.


THE LEVY REGULATIONS

The Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products (Collection of Levy) Regulations [Statutory Rules 1995, No. 120] commenced on 6 June 1995 to prescribe the state laws under which an agricultural or veterinary chemical product is registered under the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products (Collection of Levy) Act 1994 and to specify the rate of levy for 1995–96 and subsequent years.

The total levy payable in respect of a particular chemical product for 1995–96 and subsequent years is increased to $25 000. The form of search warrant to be used when there is a suspected offence under the Collection of Levy Act is also prescribed.

The Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products (Collection of Levy) Amendment Regulations 2000 (No. 1) [Statutory Rules 2000, No. 91] commenced on 1 June 2000 and amended the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products (Collection of Levy) Regulations 1995 by reducing the rate of levy from 0.75 per cent to 0.65 per cent in respect of disposable sales after 1 January 1999.

THE INTERIM COST RECOVERY REGULATIONS

The Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Collection of Interim Levy) Regulations [Statutory Rules 1994, No. 215] commenced on 1 July 1994 to prescribe the state laws under which an agricultural or veterinary chemical product is registered under the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products (Collection of Interim Levy) Act 1994 and set the rate of levy for the interim levy imposed for 1994.

While previously approved actives being used in registered products are required to re-apply under the agvet Code, no application fee is required if the application is made within six months (i.e. by 15 September 1995), full technical details of the active have previously been given to the NRA (or its predecessors) and the product in which the active is being used has been previously cleared for registration by the NRA (or was awaiting clearance as at 15 March 1995).
Repealed legislation

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Act 1988 [No. 91 of 1988]
This Act, which commenced on 1 July 1989 and was repealed on 15 March 1995, established procedures for a uniform system of evaluating agricultural and veterinary chemical products to ascertain their suitability for use in Australia. When satisfied that the chemical product would not result in any unacceptable risk to people, the environment or Australia’s agricultural export trade, and that the product was effective for its permitted uses and accurately described, the regulatory authority issued a clearance enabling the product to be registered in the states and territories for particular uses.

The Act was amended on 15 June 1993 by the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Amendment Act 1992 [No. 263 of 1992], which transferred the powers and functions of the NRA’s predecessor – the Australian Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Council – to the NRA.

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Regulations [Statutory Rules 1989, No. 165]
These Regulations commenced on 1 July 1989 and were repealed on 15 March 1995. They declared certain chemical products to be either an agricultural or a veterinary chemical product and set the fees payable for making applications for clearance of chemical products.

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Regulations (Amendment) [Statutory Rules 1992, No. 172]
These Regulations commenced on 1 July 1992 and were repealed on 15 March 1995. They amended SR 1989, No. 165 by deleting the schedules that had declared certain chemical products not to be either an agricultural or a veterinary chemical product.

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Regulations (Amendment) [Statutory Rules 1994, No. 216]
These Regulations took effect from 1 July 1994 and were repealed on 15 March 1995. They amended SR 1989, No. 165 by providing for a new structure of fees payable when applying for clearance of an agricultural or a veterinary chemical product.
Community Consultative Committee

The Community Consultative Committee is the forum for two-way communication between the NRA and the broad Australian community. Committee members are drawn from organisations representing community interest in regulation of agvet chemicals. They provide advice and community views to the NRA and recommend ways to address areas of concern.

The committee informs the community of matters relating to agvet chemicals and reports to the NRA on the effects on the community of the use or misuse of agvet chemicals. The committee is asked for input on important issues the NRA is dealing with and makes recommendations to the NRA on any further work that might be undertaken to resolve issues of community concern.

The committee met in July and December 2001 and in April 2002.

Former members

Five members of the Community Consultative Committee ended their terms in December 2001. Details are outlined in Table D2 below.

Table D1:
Membership of and attendance at Community Consultative Committee meetings in 2001–02

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Representative</th>
<th>Member organisation</th>
<th>Meetings eligible to attend</th>
<th>Meetings attended</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Professor Cameron Hazlehurst</td>
<td>Independent Chairperson</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Dorothy Bowes</td>
<td>Allergy, Sensitivity &amp; Environmental Health Association</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Scott Kinear</td>
<td>Organic Federation of Australia</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Ben Cole</td>
<td>Total Environment Centre</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Andrew Duncan</td>
<td>WA Farmers Federation</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Jane Fuller</td>
<td>Women’s Rural Network</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Sam Beechey</td>
<td>Australian Workers’ Union</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Alison Brinson</td>
<td>Chemcert Australia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Secretary: Justin Rolls, telephone (02) 6272 3794.

Table D2:
Committee members who completed their terms in December 2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Representative</th>
<th>Member organisation</th>
<th>Meetings eligible to attend</th>
<th>Meetings attended</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ms Margaret Alexandra</td>
<td>Australian Conservation Foundation</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Wayne Cornish</td>
<td>National Farmers’ Federation</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr James Houlanan</td>
<td>Farmsafe Australia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Jill Macaulay</td>
<td>Country Women’s Association</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Michael O’Reilly</td>
<td>Australian Workers’ Union (Queensland)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Industry Liaison Committee**

The Industry Liaison Committee is the main consultative forum between the NRA and peak chemical industry organisations representing registrants.

**Purpose**

The purpose of the committee is to:

> provide a forum for formal consultation and discussion with peak chemical industry organisations on NRA operating policies and programs; and

> enhance cooperation in the management of the registration process and post-registration programs.

**Objectives**

The objectives of the committee are to:

> progress the development of agreed standards and procedures for the assessment of agvet chemicals;

> obtain the views of industry members on issues of an operational, technical or strategic nature;

> provide industry input to NRA operational planning processes;

> identify opportunities for reform within the existing regulatory framework; and

> provide a forum for reporting by the NRA to industry on its performance.

**Membership**

The committee comprises an NRA chairperson and representatives of the following industry organisations:

> Aerosol Association of Australia;

> Australian Consumer and Specialty Products Association;

> Avcare Ltd;

> Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council of Australia Ltd;

> Plastics and Chemicals Industries Association;

> Swimming Pool and Spa Association of Australia; and

> Veterinary Manufacturers and Distributors Association.

**Meetings**

The committee meets three times a year, each time with a specific purpose:

> April – to consider a detailed work plan on matters to be pursued through the committee in the next financial year;

> August – the NRA’s main opportunity to report to industry on its performance; and

> November – industry’s main opportunity to contribute to NRA planning.

Matters before the committee in 2001–02 included:

> consideration of the operating practices of Free Sale Certificates;

> consideration of the phased submission of data with product applications;

> completion of a study into the reduction of elapsed times for applications;

> quality assurance of active constituents in agricultural chemical products;

> development of standards for low-regulatory requirement products;

> consideration of the means by which the NRA obtains annual returns of active ingredients;

> NRA Strategic Review;

> NRA Protocol on Trade Risk Assessment;

> outcomes of the review of NRA fees;

> clarifying the NRA’s power to require information from applicants;

> approval of active constituents in veterinary chemical products;

> liaison with Food Standards Australia New Zealand over setting maximum residue limits;

> e-commerce with the NRA for some payments and information reports;

> intellectual property and data protection;

> status of the Chemical Review Program;

> reporting of adverse agricultural chemical product incidents;

> setting of microbial Average Daily Intake for veterinary antibiotics;

> new requirements for applicants for genetically modified organisms and products;

> implementation of NRA’s Manufacturers’ Licensing Scheme; and

> mutual recognition agreements in place with the European Union and European Free Trade Association.
### Table D3:
Membership of and attendance at Industry Liaison Committee meetings in 2001–02

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Meetings eligible to attend</th>
<th>Meetings attended</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr Alison Turner, (Chairperson)</td>
<td>NRA</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Peter Holdsworth</td>
<td>Avcare Ltd</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Colin Sharpe</td>
<td>Avcare Ltd</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Faye Stenhouse</td>
<td>Avcare Ltd</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Geoff Harris</td>
<td>Australian Consumer &amp; Specialty Products Association</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Neil McMahon</td>
<td>Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council of Australia Ltd</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Andrew Simons</td>
<td>Swimming Pool &amp; Spa Association of Australia</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Bruce McAllen</td>
<td>Plastics &amp; Chemicals Industries Association</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Stephanie Leach</td>
<td>Plastics &amp; Chemicals Industries Association</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Lindsay Showyin</td>
<td>Aerosol Association of Australia Inc</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Philip Fleming</td>
<td>Aerosol Association of Australia Inc</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Robert Schufft</td>
<td>Veterinary Manufacturers &amp; Distributors Association</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Neil Sammons</td>
<td>Veterinary Manufacturers &amp; Distributors Association</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Mike Craft</td>
<td>Veterinary Manufacturers &amp; Distributors Association</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Secretary: David Hutchison, telephone (02) 6271 6384.

---

**Industry Technical Committee**

The Industry Technical Committee supports the Industry Liaison Committee by addressing technical issues affecting regulatory policy, programs and performance. Membership of the Industry Technical Committee is drawn mainly from the same industry groups represented on the Industry Liaison Committee.

During 2001–02, the Industry Technical Committee met twice in Canberra, in August 2001 and April 2002. The Industry Technical Committee (Vet) subcommittee held two meetings at the same time. The Industry Technical Committee (Ag) subcommittee did not meet.

The Veterinary Chemicals Evaluation Section and Agricultural Chemicals Evaluation Section provided secretariat support for both committees. The contact officer for both committees is Sue Scales, telephone 02 6272 3744. The contact officer for the Industry Technical Committee (Ag) subcommittee is David Hutchison, telephone 02 6271 6384.
Table D4:
Membership of and attendance at Industry Technical Committee meetings in 2001–02

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Representative</th>
<th>Member organisation</th>
<th>Meetings eligible to attend</th>
<th>Meetings attended</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr Peter Raphael (Chairperson)</td>
<td>NRA</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Joe Smith (Chairperson)</td>
<td>NRA</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Laura Lollback</td>
<td>Aerosol Association of Australia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Kathy Nolan</td>
<td>Australian Consumer &amp; Specialty Products Association</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Geoff Harris</td>
<td>Australian Consumer &amp; Specialty Products Association</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Craig Suann</td>
<td>Australian Racing Board</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Norm Blackman</td>
<td>Australian Veterinary Association</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Colin Sharpe</td>
<td>Avcare Ltd</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Peter Holdsworth</td>
<td>Avcare Ltd</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Faye Stenhouse</td>
<td>Avcare Ltd</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Ian Urquhart</td>
<td>Australian Veterinary in Industry</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Tom Grimes</td>
<td>Australian Veterinary Poultry Association</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Bruce McAllen</td>
<td>Plastics &amp; Chemicals Industries Association</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Stephaine Leach</td>
<td>Plastics &amp; Chemicals Industries Association</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Shane Walsh</td>
<td>Pet Food Industry Association of Australia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Neil McMahon</td>
<td>Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council of Australia Ltd</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Greg O’Connell</td>
<td>Swimming Pool &amp; Spa Association of Australia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Andrew Simons</td>
<td>Swimming Pool &amp; Spa Association of Australia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Brian Priestly</td>
<td>Therapeutic Goods Administration</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Les Davies</td>
<td>Therapeutic Goods Administration</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Mike Craft</td>
<td>Veterinary Manufacturers &amp; Distributors Association</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Robert Schufft</td>
<td>Veterinary Manufacturers &amp; Distributors Association</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Neil Sammons</td>
<td>Veterinary Manufacturers &amp; Distributors Association</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table D5:
Resolutions and key outcomes from Industry Technical Committee meetings in 2001–02

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting and location</th>
<th>Number of resolutions</th>
<th>Key outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6th meeting held August 2001 in Canberra</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>NRA notification of registration or variation documentation considered and NRA Guidelines on Post Harvest Treatment drafted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th meeting held April 2002 in Canberra</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Trans-Tasman labelling, Agricultural Minor Formulation Guidelines and NRA Guidelines for Adjuvants considered</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Table D6:
Membership of and attendance at Industry Technical Committee (Vet) subcommittee meetings in 2001–02

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Representative</th>
<th>Member organisation</th>
<th>Meetings eligible to attend</th>
<th>Meetings attended</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr Max Darvill (Chairperson)</td>
<td>NRA</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Ron Hogg (Chairperson)</td>
<td>NRA</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Geoff Harris</td>
<td>Australian Consumer &amp; Specialty Products Association</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Kathy Nolan</td>
<td>Australian Consumer &amp; Specialty Products Association</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Craig Suann</td>
<td>Australian Racing Board</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Norm Blackman</td>
<td>Australian Veterinary Association</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Peter Holdsworth</td>
<td>Avcare Ltd</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Ian Urquhart</td>
<td>Australian Vets in Industry</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Tom Grimes</td>
<td>Australian Veterinary Poultry Association</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Shane Walsh</td>
<td>Pet Food Industry Association of Australia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Neil McMahon</td>
<td>Plastics &amp; Chemicals Industries Association</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Brian Priestly</td>
<td>Therapeutic Goods Administration</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Les Davies</td>
<td>Therapeutic Goods Administration</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Mike Craft</td>
<td>Veterinary Manufacturers &amp; Distributors Association</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Robert Schufft</td>
<td>Veterinary Manufacturers &amp; Distributors Association</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Neil Sammons</td>
<td>Veterinary Manufacturers &amp; Distributors Association</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table D7:
Resolutions and key outcomes from Industry Technical Committee (Vet) subcommittee meetings in 2001–02

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting and location</th>
<th>Number of resolutions</th>
<th>Key outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6th meeting held August 2001 in Canberra</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>NRA Guidelines on Complementary Veterinary Medicines and Teat Dips considered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th meeting held April 2002 in Canberra</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Reporting of veterinary antibiotic use, issues of evaluation of combination products and time taken to evaluate products considered</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Registration Liaison Committee

The Registration Liaison Committee is the main consultative forum between the NRA, the states, territories and Commonwealth agencies relating to operational management of the National Registration Scheme. The committee meets biannually in Canberra. During 2001–02, meetings were held in September 2001 and April 2002.

Purpose

The committee works to ensure an efficient and coordinated approach to the Commonwealth’s responsibilities for the supply of agricultural and veterinary chemicals up to and including the point of retail sale. The states and territories are responsible for control of use. The states and territories are responsible for control of use.

Terms of reference

The committee’s terms of reference are to:

> provide a forum for the ongoing development and operational management of the National Registration Scheme by an exchange of information between the states/territories and the NRA pursuant to each jurisdiction’s responsibilities under the National Registration Scheme;

> secure state/territory and Commonwealth agency input to NRA activities, particularly where they impinge on state/territory responsibilities;

> identify, and provide opportunity for detailed examination of, key issues requiring management by both NRA and the states; and

> secure expert advice as necessary.

Matters before the committee in 2001–02 included performance reports and continuous improvement activities relating to the NRA’s registration, permit, quality assurance and compliance, and chemical review programs together with regulatory activity reports from states, territories, Commonwealth agencies and New Zealand. Information and advice was provided by AFFA about intra- and inter-government policy developments impacting on the National Registration Scheme, including national competition policy, legislative changes, data protection, Australian contributions to international forums and treaties. Among other matters considered by the committee were:

> communication and implementation of chemical review outcomes including user-training requirements;

> the likely regulatory impacts of the proposed Globally Harmonised System for Classification and Labelling of Chemicals;

> draft guidelines for the disposal of dipping solutions;

> harmonisation of state and territory control of use legislation;

> uniform regulation of high-risk (S7) agvet chemicals;

> standards for chemical residue assessment and risk management;

> ongoing enhancement of the National Registration Scheme database, internet access and development of NRA e-commerce facilities;

> active constituents and agricultural chemical products quality assurance;

> labelling code revisions and development of label guidelines; and

> pesticide odour mitigation strategies.

The State and Territory Control of Use Working Group met in conjunction with committee meetings. The NRA provided meeting facilities and attended the working group as an observer.

The NRA’s Communication and Secretariat Section provides secretariat support to the committee. Contact: Alan Hill, telephone (02) 6272 5238.
### Table D8: Membership of and attendance at Registration Liaison Committee meetings in 2001–02

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Representative</th>
<th>Member organisation</th>
<th>Meetings eligible to attend</th>
<th>Meetings attended</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr Greg Hooper (Chairperson)</td>
<td>NRA</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr David Power</td>
<td>ACT Department of Urban Services</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Lee Cook</td>
<td>NSW Agriculture</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Jane Mallen-Cooper</td>
<td>NSW Environment Protection Authority</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Vlad Kawaljenko</td>
<td>NT Department of Business, Industry &amp; Resource Development</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Cassie Wright</td>
<td>Qld Department of Primary Industries</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr John Kassebaum</td>
<td>SA Department of Primary Industries &amp; Resources</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Mike Norman</td>
<td>Tas. Department of Primary Industries, Water &amp; Environment</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Karen Armitage</td>
<td>Vic. Department of Natural Resources &amp; Environment</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Chris Sharpe</td>
<td>WA Department of Agriculture</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Mike Norman</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Andre Mayne</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Chris Lee-Steere</td>
<td>Environment Australia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Geoff Lovell</td>
<td>National Occupational Health &amp; Safety Commission</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Les Davies / Dr Brian Priesty</td>
<td>Department of Health &amp; Ageing</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(vice: Dr Matthew O’Mullane, Sept. 2001)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Bill Roberts</td>
<td>Plant Health Committee</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Brian Pidford</td>
<td>NZ Ministry of Agriculture &amp; Forestry</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Kevin Dunn</td>
<td>Veterinary Committee</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Joan Leary</td>
<td>Standing Committee on Fisheries &amp; Aquaculture</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Observer:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Matthew O’Mullane</td>
<td>Secretary, Advisory Committee on Pesticides &amp; Health</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Manufacturers’ Licensing Scheme Liaison Committee

The Manufacturers’ Licensing Scheme Liaison Committee provides an opportunity for the NRA to discuss strategic and operational issues related to the Manufacturers’ Licensing Scheme with industry representatives. The committee met three times in 2001–02. Issues considered by the committee included:

> progress with auditing and licensing of veterinary chemical manufacturers, in particular conditional licence holders;

> the proposed revision of the Australian Code of Good Manufacturing Practice for Veterinary Chemicals with a view to harmonisation with international codes of good manufacturing practice;

> proposed modifications to the auditing arrangements to better meet industry and NRA requirements;

> outcomes of the survey of Australian veterinary chemicals manufacturers;

> improving communications with industry through the use of various tools including the internet; and

> operation and management of the various existing mutual recognition agreements and potential new ones.

Table D9:
Membership of and attendance at Manufacturers’ Licensing Scheme Liaison Committee meetings in 2001–02

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Representative</th>
<th>Member organisation</th>
<th>Meetings eligible to attend</th>
<th>Meetings attended</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Fatima Beattie (Chairperson)</td>
<td>NRA</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Bruce Johnson</td>
<td>NRA</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Graham Savage</td>
<td>NRA</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Kathy Winterton</td>
<td>NRA</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Peter Holdsworth</td>
<td>Avcare</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Ian Wheatley</td>
<td>Avcare</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Bill Blackhall*</td>
<td>Veterinary Manufacturers &amp; Distributors Association</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Bruce Graham</td>
<td>Auditors’ representative</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Mr Mike Craft is available as an alternate for Mr Blackhall.
Residues Advisory Committee

The committee provides expert technical advice to the NRA on issues and policy associated with chemical residues in food. The committee did not meet in 2001–02 but advice and comment on residue issues was sought out-of-session during the year.

Table D10: Membership of Residues Advisory Committee in 2001–02

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Representative</th>
<th>Member organisation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr Trevor Doust (Chairperson)</td>
<td>NRA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Dennis Hamilton</td>
<td>Queensland Department of Primary Industries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Tom McEwan</td>
<td>Consultant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Robert Belcher</td>
<td>Consultant</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Secretary: Dr Trevor Doust, telephone (02) 6272 3208.

Meat Consultative Committee

The committee is a forum for consultation between the red meat industry and the NRA on product registration and trade issues. It is an important link between growers, exporters and the chemical industry.

NRA liaised with Meat and Livestock Australia, NSW Agriculture, AFFA, AQIS, and the National Residue Survey on the trade implications of product registration and regulation. In 2001–02, the NRA gazetted the requirement for applicants to submit data showing depletion of residues in commodities to the limit of quantitation to allow export slaughter intervals to be recommended. The NRA continued work on the Stockfeed Guideline project. Appropriate use of these guidelines will facilitate risk management of diets containing chemical-treated commodities, and reduction in the risk of violative residues in animal produce.

Table D11: Membership of Meat Consultative Committee in 2001–02

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Representative</th>
<th>Member organisation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr Greg Hooper (Chairperson)</td>
<td>NRA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Tony Britt</td>
<td>Agriculture Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Angelo Valois</td>
<td>Australian Quarantine &amp; Inspection Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Peter Klein</td>
<td>Sheep Meat Council of Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Steve McCutcheon</td>
<td>AFFA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr David Palmer</td>
<td>Meat &amp; Livestock Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Justin Toohey</td>
<td>Cattlecare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Norm Blackman</td>
<td>Meat &amp; Livestock Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Dan Byrne</td>
<td>NSW Agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Mike Hill</td>
<td>Cattle Council of Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr William Hetherington</td>
<td>Australian Meat Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Rod Hadwen</td>
<td>Australian Lot Feeders Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Jonathon Webber / Dr Peter Miller</td>
<td>National Residues Survey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Colin Sharp / Dr Fay Stenhouse</td>
<td>Avcare Ltd</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Secretary: Dr Trevor Doust, telephone (02) 6272 3208.

National Chemical Registration Information System External Users Group

No meetings of the group were held during 2001–02.
APPENDIX E:

Freedom of information

Section 8 of the Freedom of Information Act 1982 (the FOI Act) requires each Commonwealth agency subject to the Act to publish detailed information on its organisation, functions and powers, and on arrangements for public involvement in the formulation of agency policy or administration of any enactment or scheme. This statement, together with the information contained in this report, is intended to meet the requirements of the FOI Act.

Organisation and structure

The NRA operates nationally under the direction of a Board of Directors. Further details about the NRA Board are in the Introduction and at Appendix A. There is also an organisation chart in the Introduction.

The NRA’s offices are situated in Canberra at:
Ground Floor, John Curtin House
22 Brisbane Avenue
Barton ACT 2600

Postal address
PO Box E240
Kingston ACT 2604

NRA’s functions and powers

The NRA is responsible for assessing and registering agvet chemical products proposed for supply and use in Australia, and controls them up to the point of retail sale.

The NRA has functions and powers that are conferred upon it by the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992, by the agvet Code and the agvet Regulations, and by certain state and territory laws.

Functions

The NRA’s functions are:

> to assess the suitability for sale in Australia of active constituents for proposed or existing chemical products, registered chemical products and labels for containers for chemical products;

> to provide information to the governments and authorities of the Commonwealth, the states and participating territories about approved active constituents for proposed or existing chemical products, registered chemical products and approved labels for such products, and to cooperate with those governments and authorities on matters relating to the management and control of chemical products;

> to keep records and statistics of approvals and registrations it has granted, and permits and licences it has issued, under the agvet Codes;

> to evaluate the effects of the use of chemical products in the states and participating territories;

> to cooperate with governments and authorities of the Commonwealth, states and participating territories, to facilitate a consistent approach to the assessment and control of chemicals;

> in cooperation with governments and authorities of the Commonwealth, states and participating territories, to develop codes of practice, standards and guidelines for, and to recommend precautions to be taken in connection with, the manufacture, export, import, sale, handling, possession, storage, disposal and use of chemical products in the states and participating territories;

> to collect, interpret, disseminate and publish information relating to chemical products and their use;

> to encourage and facilitate the application and use of results of evaluation and testing of chemical products;
to exchange information relating to chemical products and their use with overseas and international bodies having functions similar to those of the NRA;

> when requested by the Minister, or on its own initiative, to report to or advise the Minister on any matter relating to chemical products or arising in the course of the performance of its functions;

> to encourage and facilitate the introduction of uniform national procedures for control of the use of chemical products; and

> to fund, and cooperate in, a program designed to ensure that active constituents for proposed or existing chemical products, registered chemical products, and labels for containers for chemical products, comply with the agvet Codes and the agvet Regulations.

**Powers**

The NRA has powers to do all that is necessary or convenient to be done in connection with the performance of its functions, which may include:

> entering into contracts;

> acquiring, holding and disposing of real and personal property;

> occupying, using and controlling any land or building owned or held under lease by the Commonwealth, a state or a territory and made available for the purposes of the NRA;

> making available to the public, either without charge or upon payment of a fee to the NRA, manuals, reports, lists of requirements and other documents; and

> doing anything incidental to any of its powers.

**Ministerial powers**

In accordance with section 10 of the enabling legislation, the *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992*, the Commonwealth Minister responsible for administering agvet chemicals legislation may direct the NRA in writing in relation to the functions or powers that have been conferred on it under applicable Commonwealth or state laws. The NRA must comply with any such direction. During 2001–02, the Minister gave no such direction.

**Access to information**

The public may apply for the following information under the FOI Act:

> data packages provided by registration applicants for evaluation of agvet chemical products;

> NRA files on specific chemical evaluations and on a range of topics relating to NRA operations and functions; and

> meeting papers, briefs, minutes, and resolutions of decisions of the NRA Board and consultative committees.

**Web site**

Information on the NRA’s structure, functions, powers and publications may be obtained via the internet. The NRA’s home page is at http://www.nra.gov.au.

**Public registers**

The NRA maintains databases to store, manipulate and record product applications, to track submissions, and for product registration details, financial records, mailing lists and other information. Some other information, such as staff details, and industry and stakeholder contact details, is stored on databases.

Access to the following public registers is possible by arrangement, by visiting the NRA offices, or through the NRA’s web site:

> the Public Chemicals Registration Information System (PUBCRIS) (for information on numbers and approved uses of registered agvet products);

> permits for agricultural and veterinary chemicals; and

> the list of active constituents.
Files and records
The NRA maintains files on specific chemicals and on a range of topics relating to NRA operations and functions. Agreements, protocols, criteria and guidelines on operation of the clearance and registration process and the development of technical data are also maintained. The NRA also retains technical information in the form of individual product applications.

NRA publications
The NRA produces a range of publications on the National Registration Scheme and related matters. These publications are in the areas of:

- general information
  - NRA News (quarterly newsletter)
  - Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Gazette (monthly Commonwealth Government gazette)
  - NRA fact sheets
  - NRA community briefs
  - NRA Corporate Plan and Operational Plan
  - NRA Annual Report
  - NRA Service Charter
  - media releases
- agricultural registration requirements series
- veterinary registration requirements series
- labelling code of practice
- guidelines on agricultural chemicals
- guidelines on veterinary chemicals
  - guidelines on chemistry and manufacture
  - specific guidelines
  - efficacy and safety guidelines
- setting maximum residue limits
- guidelines for recall of agricultural and veterinary chemicals
- review of chemicals
- good manufacturing practice
- reporting adverse experiences with chemicals
- agricultural and veterinary public release summaries.

Copies of publications may be obtained by contacting:
Communications and Secretariat Section
Ph:  (02) 6272 3794
Fax:  (02) 6272 5811
Email: nra.contact@nra.gov.au

Confidential information
Some NRA documents, particularly individual chemical product applications, contain confidential commercial information and may not be divulged except in accordance with the provisions of section 162 of the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code scheduled to the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994.

Public consultation
Special consideration is given to the NRA’s consultative mechanisms with the agvet chemicals industry and other relevant specialised industry sectors and community groups.

The NRA has a general policy of making itself accessible to industry associations and community organisations, regularly inviting interested parties to meet with the Board or its other committees. It consults on a regular basis with a wide range of groups and organisations with relevant interests and maintains close contact with rural and service industries, researchers and other government agencies with an interest in agricultural and veterinary chemicals. For more detail on the NRA’s consultative framework, see Appendix D.

Requests for information under the FOI Act in 2001–02
Five requests for information under the FOI Act were received during 2001–02.

Requests for access to documents under the FOI Act can be made by writing (with the associated application fee) to:

FOI Coordinator
National Registration Authority
PO Box E240
Kingston ACT 2604

The power to grant or refuse access to NRA documents is held by each of the executive managers. The Chief Executive Officer has internal review powers. Initial inquiries may be made by telephoning (02) 6272 3756.
APPENDIX F:

NRA staffing overview

The NRA had a total of 129 staff at 30 June 2002. The total staffing of the NRA according to full- and part-time status and temporary status is shown in Table F1.

Staff movements, including appointments, resignations, retirements, retrenchments, redundancies and dismissals appear at Table F2.

Table F1:
NRA staffing at 30 June 2002

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>Full time (permanent)</th>
<th>Part time (permanent)</th>
<th>Temporary</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Executive</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior management</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 6</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 5</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 4</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 3</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 2</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>109</strong></td>
<td><strong>8</strong></td>
<td><strong>12</strong></td>
<td><strong>129</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table F2:
Permanent staff movements at NRA in 2001–02

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>Separated</th>
<th>Recruited</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Executive</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior management</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>19</strong></td>
<td><strong>28</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Workplace diversity

The NRA is committed to maintaining the excellence and diversity of its staff. To ensure this occurs the NRA has developed a Workplace Diversity Plan that incorporates:
>
- employee awareness of workplace diversity;
- training for supervisors;
- Workplace Diversity Contact Officer training; and
- collection and recording of statistical data.

Workplace diversity maintains the basic principles of equal employment opportunity (EEO), ensuring that the employment-related disadvantages of women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, people of non-English speaking background and people with disabilities are considered.

Workplace diversity, however, goes beyond rectifying disadvantage and correcting past actions. Managing diversity builds upon the foundation of EEO but goes a step further to ensure each organisation develops human resource management strategies to value and accommodate differences in the background, perspectives and family responsibilities of employees. Workplace diversity acknowledges the positive contribution a diverse workforce can make to an organisation. By embracing workplace diversity the NRA will maximise the skills of its staff and their diverse backgrounds.

A breakdown of staffing by gender appears in Table F3, and a profile of staff according to representation of EEO groups appears at Table F4.

Since 2000–01 the number of employees from a non-English speaking background has increased slightly whilst the number of employees with a disability has remained constant.

### Table F3:

**NRA staffing by gender at 30 June 2002**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Executive</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior management</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 6</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 5</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 4</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>69</strong></td>
<td><strong>60</strong></td>
<td><strong>129</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table F4:

**EEO profile of NRA staff at 30 June 2002 (1)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>People of non-English speaking background</th>
<th>People with a disability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Executive</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior management</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>14</strong></td>
<td><strong>6</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: (1) Based on voluntary disclosure of EEO information by staff.
Occupational health and safety (OHS)

The NRA has an OHS Agreement formed with the Community and Public Sector Union, consistent with the *Occupational Health and Safety (Commonwealth Employment) Act 1991*. The agreement specifies arrangements for Designated Work Groups, election and training of Health and Safety Representatives and administrative arrangements for the OHS Committee.

The NRA continued to demonstrate a strong commitment to OHS during 2001–02.

Achievements included:
> conducting emergency evacuation drills;
> arranging fire warden training;
> developing a Building Emergency Management Plan for Salvation Army House;
> installing additional fire safety equipment in John Curtin House;
> arranging professional workplace assessments for new employees and other employees as requested;
> purchasing ergonomic equipment in accordance with individual employee needs;
> training OHS representatives;
> running a Health Week program with activities such as:
  - health assessments
  - fitness assessments
  - skin checks
  - sporting activities
  - stress management activities and lectures
  - health lectures, e.g. on heart disease and herbal medicine
  - workplace ergonomics lectures;
> replacing non-height adjustable desks;
> running an active OHS Committee, including a Fitness and Recreation Subcommittee that coordinates activities such as power walking, jogging and promotion of healthy food; and
> arranging eyesight tests and other minor medical assistance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table F5: Reportable accidents and dangerous occurrences in NRA in 2001–02</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accidents resulting in death</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accidents causing serious personal injury</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accidents causing incapacity of five days or more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dangerous occurrences not resulting in death, serious personal injury or incapacity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Commonwealth Disability Strategy

The NRA incorporates the principles of the Commonwealth Disability Strategy in its Workplace Diversity Plan and other Management Practices. Further work is planned to incorporate principles such as the reasonable adjustment principle into revised selection and recruitment procedures. Applicants for vacancies are invited to advise the selection committee of any disability when making application to ensure this is appropriately considered.

The provision of information is an area where significant enhancements were achieved. The NRA's web site has been designed as an accessible information service for clients and the general public.

Approximately 4.6 per cent of NRA employees have identified as having a disability and further work is planned to provide more assistance and support for these employees.
## APPENDIX G:
### Consultancies

Table G1: Consultancies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Consultant</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acumen Alliance</td>
<td>Preparation of accounting &amp; IT procedures and performance reporting</td>
<td>$75,929</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Allen Consulting Group</td>
<td>Strategic study into the future of agricultural and veterinary chemicals</td>
<td>$190,054</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citec</td>
<td>E-commerce</td>
<td>$86,144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mastech Asia Pacific</td>
<td>Building Annual Returns Access database</td>
<td>$23,021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mercer HR Consulting</td>
<td>Review of remuneration</td>
<td>$18,501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Price Waterhouse Coopers</td>
<td>Development of Activity Based Costing model for fees review &amp; associated financial models</td>
<td>$126,413</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Southern Communications</td>
<td>Development of corporate video &amp; community service announcement</td>
<td>$15,205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Advertising</td>
<td>Rural awareness campaign</td>
<td>$19,841</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Managing Innovations</td>
<td>Market testing &amp; rural awareness advertising concepts</td>
<td>$14,030</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Systems</td>
<td>Software development</td>
<td>$16,125</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
access to information, 43, 105, 106
access to management and staff, 42
accidents, workplace, 109
active constituents, 23, 24–5, 27, 28, 32, 33
acute dietary risk, 27
Administrative Appeals Tribunal, 43
Adverse Experience Reporting Program for Veterinary Chemicals (AERP Vet), 31–2, 80
advertising and promotion, 35
advisory documentation, 21
agreement-making, 40, 109
Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1982, see legislation
Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994, see legislation
Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Labelling Codes, 21
agricultural registrations, 23, 24, 28
almond growers, 22
Animal Residue Data Sheets, 28
annual operational plan, 7, 37
annual report, 37
antibiotics, 22, 28
applications, 7, 17, 23–4
appropriation funding, 7
aquaculture, 37
amortisation and depreciation, 17, 18
assets, value of, 17
assurance and control assessment audit, 39
atrazine, 33
Audit Committee, 77
Auditor-General’s reports, 39, 43
audits, 25, 34
assurance and control assessment, 39
financial, 43
HGP authorised suppliers, 30
ISO 9000 series standard, 38
Australian Customs Service, 30
Australian National Audit Office, 39, 43
Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service, 31
awareness, 35, 36
beef and beef products, 26, 30, 34
bird products, 31
Board of Directors, 8, 74–7
Brazil, 22
business management, 36–9
certificates of export, 34, 39
certified agreement, 17, 40
Chairperson’s report, 1–3
ChemCert, 75
Chemical Review Program, 32–4, 36, 42, 80
NRA Board considerations, 38
Chemistry and Residues Evaluation Program, 22, 24–5, 26
Chief Executive Officer, 10, 12, 76
citrus industry, 22, 43
Codex Alimentarius Commission, 26
committees, 38, 77, 95–103, 109
Commonwealth Disability Strategy, 109
Commonwealth Ombudsman, 43
communication activities, 35, 36
workshops and seminars, 22, 27, 28
see also consultation; publications
Community and Public Sector Union, 109
Community Consultative Committee, 95
complaints, 43
compliance with law, 29–35
NRA Board considerations, 37
product performance and safety, 26–7
compliance with registration requirements, 21–5
confidential information, 27, 106
Consents to Import, 30
consultancies, 1–2, 110
consultation, 25, 26, 42, 95–103
see also industry consultation; public consultation
court officers, 74
freedom of information requests, 106
corporate governance, 14, 8–13, 74–79
corporate planning, 7, 37
corporate processes, 40
Corporate Services Program, 10, 11, 13
corporate structures and services, 36–9
courts, 43
prosecutions, 31
Crop Protection Approvals Pty Ltd, 22
customers and stakeholders, 6, 22
awareness of NRA’s role and programs, 36
dietary risk workshop, 27
regional, 37
see also industry; public
Customs Administration Regulations 2000, 30
Dairy Industry, 22
Dangerous occurrences, 109
Data protection, 27, 106
Declared interests, Board members, 75
Deficit, 17
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (AFFA), 22, 26, 28
Department of Health and Ageing, 25
depreciation and amortisation, 17, 18
development programs, see education and training
developments since end of financial year, 18
diazinon, 75
dietary risk, 24–5, 27
dimetridazole, 75
Director of Public Prosecution referrals, 31
Directors, 8, 9, 74–77
disability, people with, 108, 109
diversity in workplace, 42, 108, 109
documents, 37, 38
dried fruit industry, 22

E
Education and training, 22, 27, 28, 35
staff, 27, 40, 109
see also publications
Elapsed Time Pilot Project, 23
electronic commerce, 39
electronic media clips, 39
enabling legislation, see legislation
Emergency Use applications, 23
employees, see staff
enquiries, responding to, 36
Environment Australia, 25, 26, 28
Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999, 26
equal employment opportunity (EEO) groups, 42, 108
equine products, 35
equity and social justice, 42, 108, 109
ergonomic equipment, 109
European Community, 34
European Medicines Evaluation Authority, 22
European Union, 30, 35
exchanges, of staff, 40
executive officers, 10, 12–13, 38, 107–8, 76
Existing Chemical Review Program, 32, 33
expenditure, 17, 18
consultancies, 110
Export Advisory Group on Antimicrobial Resistance, 28
Export Slaughter Intervals, 22
exports, see trade
external scrutiny, 43

F
fees, 7, 17, 38–9
female staff, 108
field days, 36
files and records, 106
management, 39
finalisation of applications, 23–4
finance, 7, 17–18, 46–72
Audit Committee, 77
ChemCert funding proposal, 75
consultancies, expenditure on, 110
fraud control, 38
permit scheme activities, 22
financial statements, 17, 46–72
fire ants, 23
fishing industry, 31, 37
Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ), 24–5, 27
fraud control, 38
freedom of information, 43, 104–6
frogs, 33
fruit industry, see horticulture
full-time staff, 107
functions, 104–5
see also role
funding arrangements, see finance

G
Gazette, 22, 37
gender, staffing by, 108
gene technology, 25
Good Laboratory Practice data requirements, 22
good manufacturing practice, 17, 29–30, 34–5, 81, 102
governing legislation, see legislation
government requirements, consistency of operations with, 37–8
Government’s On-line strategy, 39
graduate program, 40
grains, 26, 37
greyhound industry, 37
growers, visits to, 22
guidelines, 21, 28, 35
    staff recruitment and selection, 42

H
harmonisation, international, 21, 34–5
Health Week program, 109
hormonal growth promotants (HPGs), 30, 34
horse industry, 35, 37
horticulture, 22, 37, 43
    maximum residue limits, compliance with, 26
Horticulture Australia, 22, 27
human resources, see staff

I
imported chemicals, 29, 30
indemnities and insurance, 76
industry, 35
    advisory documentation, 21
    contributions to NRA funding, 7, 17
    registration seminars, 28
    visits, 22
industry consultation, 37, 96–103
    fees review implementation, 38–9
    registration, 22, 25, 27, 100–1
Industry Liaison Committee, 96–7
Industry Technical Committee, 97–9
information reports, 39
information technology, 17, 39
Information Technology Strategic Plan, 17
insurance and indemnities, 76
interagency arrangements, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28
Internal Audit Program, 38
International Committee for Harmonisation of
    Technical Requirements for Registration of
    Veterinary Chemical Products Guidelines, 21
international harmonisation, 21, 34–5
international involvement, 21, 26
internet, 39
intranet, 39
investigations, 31
ISO 9000 series standard, 38

J
Joint Food and Agriculture Organization and
    World Health Organization Expert Committee
    on Food Additives and Contaminants, 26
judicial decisions, 43

K
key corporate processes, 40

L
Labelling Codes, 21
labels, 21, 34, 35, 39
    tribunal decision, 43
legislation, 6–7, 21, 82–94
    consistency of operations with, 37–8
    Customs Administration Regulations 2000, 30
    data protection proposals, 27
    Environmental Protection and Biodiversity
    Conservation Act 1999, 26
    National Competition Policy Review, 28
    product performance and safety
        requirements, 25–6
        statutory timeframes, 23–4
levies, 7, 39
licences, 17, 29–30, 34–5, 102
Limit of Quantitation, 22
list servers, 39
location, 6, 104
long-service leave, 17

M
male staff, 108
management, 36–40
    access to, 42
    management committees, 38
    management development, 40
    management practices, 40
    Management Review Committee, 38
    Manufacturers’ Licensing Scheme, 17, 29–30,
        34–5, 81, 102
    Manufacturers’ Licensing Scheme Liaison
        Committee, 102
marketplace safety, 25–6, 31–4
maximum residue limits, 22
    compliance, 26
meat products, 26, 30, 34
media clips, 39
media enquiries, 36
meetings, 38, 95–103
    Audit Committee, 77
    NRA Board, 37–8, 74–5
member of committees, 77, 95–103
memorandums of understanding, 24, 25
men staff, 108
middle management development program, 40
minimum compositional standards, 22
ministerial directions, 43
ministerial powers, 105
ministerial responsibilities, 7
Minor Use Permit process, 22
Mutual Recognition Agreement, 34, 35

N
National Chemical Registration Information System External Users Group, 103
National Competition Policy Review, 28
National HGP Monitoring and Control System, 30, 34
National Occupational Health and Safety Commission, 25, 28
National Registration Scheme, 6, 78–83
National Residue Survey, 26
neomycin, 75
new chemical reviews, 32–3
New South Wales Farmers Federation, 22
non-compliance reports, 30–1
non-English speaking background, staff from, 108
non ongoing staff, 107
NRA Board of Directors, 8, 74–7
NRA Executive team, 12–13, 38, 107–8, 76
NRA Fees Review, 38–9
NRA Gazette, 22, 37
NRA News, 42
NRA People Plan, 40
NRA permit scheme, 22
NRA Quality System, 38

O
occupational health and safety (OHS), 109
office location, 104
Office of the Gene Technology Regulator, 25
Ombudsman, 43
ongoing staff, 107
On-line strategy, 39
operating environment, 1–2
operating expenses, 17, 18
operational plan, 7, 37
operations, 37–8, 43
organisation and structure, 1, 10–11, 104
Chemicals Review Program, 32
fees review implementation, 38–9

Index
115

our people, see staff
outcome, 20
outlook, 18
outputs, 7, 19–40
overseas delegations, 22, 35

P
parliamentary committees, 43
part-time staff, 107
people, see customers and stakeholders; staff People Plan, 40
performance indicators, 7, 20
Performance Management Scheme, 40
performance reports, 20–40
permits, 22–3, 27, 39
Pesticides Division, 1
pindone, 33–4, 75
Pioneer Seafoods Pty Ltd, 31
plans and planning, 7, 17, 37, 108
Policy and Public Affairs Program, 10, 11, 13
Portfolio Budget Statements, 7, 37
postal address, 104
powers, 105
Principal Scientist positions, 1
privacy, 43
product applications, 23, 24
product quality assurance, 28
product recalls, 31, 35
product safety, 25–6, 31–4, 35
Productivity Commission, 43
programs, 10
customer and stakeholder awareness of, 36
promotion and advertising, 35
prosecutions, 31
public consultation, 25, 27, 42, 95, 106
public education strategy, 35
public registers, 105
Public Release Summaries, 27
publications, 42, 106
compliance (Output 1.1.2), 16, 32, 33, 35
guidelines, 21, 28, 35
minimum compositional standards, 22
registration (Output 1.1.1), 21, 22, 27, 28
Review Scope Documents, 16, 32
Trade Advice Notices, 27

organisation and Development Working Group on Pesticides, 21
quality assurance, 28
Adverse Experience Reporting Program for Veterinary Chemicals (AERP Vet), 31–2, 80
Manufacturers’ Licensing Scheme, 17, 29–30, 34–5, 81, 102
NRA Board considerations, 37
Quality Planning Group, 38
Quality System, 38
Queensland Department of Primary Industry, 31

rabbit control, 33–4
recalls, 31, 35
records and files, 106
management, 39
recruitment, 17, 40, 42, 107
regional meetings, 37
registration, 21–8, 37, 78–83
Registration Liaison Committee, 100–1
Registration Program, 10, 11, 13
renewal fees, 7, 17
rent, 18
reporting documents, 37
reports of non-compliance, 30–1
requests for information, 39
Requirements Document (Overseas Trade Aspects of Residues in Food Commodities), 26
residue evaluations, 22, 24–5, 26
Residues Advisory Committee, 103
responsible Minister, 7
revenue, 7, 17
Review and Compliance Program, 10, 11, 13
Review Scope Documents, 16, 32
reviews, 23, 27
fees, 38–9
Labelling Codes, 21
National Competition Policy, 28
record-keeping practices, 39
see also audits; Chemical Review Program risk management, 31
role, 6–7, 104–5
customer and stakeholder awareness of, 36
rural awareness program, 36
rural Board meetings, 37

safety
of products, 25–6, 31–4
workplace, 109
scientific assessment services, 18, 28
scrutiny, 43
see also audits; reviews
seminars and workshops, 22, 27, 28
senior management, 11, 76, 107
separated staff, 107
service agreements, 28
service charter, 6
sex, of NRA staff, 108
SGS International, 38
social justice and equity, 42, 108, 109
sodium nifurstyrenate, 31
Special Review Program, 32
specialist advice, 25, 28, 78
staff (our people), 40, 107–9
access to, 42
human resource development plan, 37
indemnities and insurance, 76
intranet, 39
Principal Scientist positions, 1
staff exchanges, 40
staff expenses, 17, 18
staff recruitment and selection, 17, 40, 42, 107
staff training and development, 27, 40, 109
stakeholders, see customers and stakeholders
State compliance services, 18
stockfeed guidelines, 28
structure, see organisation and structure
Study Encouragement Scheme, 40

temporary staff, 107
Therapeutic Goods Administration, 25, 28, 34
timeframes, 23–4, 32
trade, 22, 30, 34–5
certificates of export, 34, 39
Trade Advice Notices, 27
trade assessments, 25, 26
training, see education and training tribunals, 43
United Kingdom Veterinary Medicines Directorate, 22
United States Department of Agriculture, 35

vegetable industry, 22
Veterinary Medicines Division, 1
veterinary registrations, 23, 24
VICH Guidelines, 21
Vietnam, 22
voluntary recalls, 31

web site, 39
wine grape industry, 22
With Holding Periods, 22
women staff, 108
workplace diversity, 42, 108, 109
Workplace Diversity Plan, 108
workplace relations, 40, 109
workplace safety, 109
workshops and seminars, 22, 27, 28
THIS WILL BE A BLANK PAGE