

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
BY SENATOR A. BRECKON
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 15th JULY 2013**

Question

Can the Minister advise Members how much, including monies paid as part of the 'exit strategy', has been paid to growers/glasshouse operators in each year from 1995 to the present day and to whom?

Answer

A detailed search of archived grower records is required to determine the extent to which this information was retained by the former Agriculture and Fisheries Committee, which will take a significant amount of Officer time. From 1995 to 2005 support payments varied with the type of crop grown ranging from no subsidy, up to £200 per vergée for outdoor spray carnations. Past subsidies varied each year depending upon the season, budget and crop type.

The 2005 Rural Economic Strategy (RES) discontinued the individual crop subsidy and replaced it with a Single Area Payment (SAP) per vergée, to prevent crops being grown simply for the subsidy they commanded. It also recognised the difficulties facing the protected crops sector (glasshouse and polythene tunnels) in the context of high fixed and variable costs and high levels of competition within export markets.

Following consultation with the protected crops sector, it was agreed that the States would provide a one off 'roll-up' payment in 2006, based on the average cropped areas planted in the years 2004 and 2005 to enable the growers either to adapt to the changing market, diversify or to leave the industry. Following this "exit strategy" ongoing crop support was given through the SAP.

The Department is only required to keep financial details for the previous 7 financial years. The following details the payments between 2006 and 2012, including monies paid as part of the exit strategy and SAP to the protected crops sector.

	2006 £	2007 £	2008 £	2009 £	2010 £	2011 £	2012 £
G J Growers	105,599.76	289.00	260.10	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
La Valette Nurseries Ltd	33,039.36	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Three Oaks Vineries Ltd	67,426.68	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Harmony Produce Ltd	166,899.68	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
La Chasse Nurseries Ltd	342,059.19	1,042.30	1,042.30	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
PJ Le Cuirot Ltd	26,901.84	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Fauvic Nurseries Ltd	269,043.50	1654.97	1,508.54	857.82	Nil	Nil	Nil
Grantez Growers Ltd	103,965.00	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
P & M Growers Ltd	10,755.00	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Two Sole Traders	92,335.26	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	1,218,025.26	2,986.27	£2,810.94	£857.82	0	0	0