1. The Royal National Agricultural and Industrial Association of Queensland (the RNA) promotes and encourages the development of Queensland’s agricultural, industrial, manufacturing and cultural resources.
2. The Ekka has brought the country and city together since 1876 to celebrate and champion agriculture and the roles it plays in everyday lives. The Ekka has been cancelled four times in its history, including in 2020 and 2021 due to COVID-19 restrictions.
3. The primary production sector (including agriculture, forestry, fishing, food manufacturing and wood product manufacturing) contributes significantly to the Queensland economy.
4. Despite the challenges of the coronavirus pandemic, drought and floods, the sector has remained resilient. For 2021–22, the total value of Queensland’s primary industry commodities and first stage processing is forecast to be $23.54 billion.
5. Queensland’s primary industries export to nearly 200 destinations worldwide with an export value of $8.54 billion in 2020-21. The sector accounts for more than 13 per cent of Queensland’s overseas exports by value. The industry directly and indirectly employs more than 365,000 people, with a corresponding supply chain output value of around $27 billion.
6. To improve agricultural productivity and foster more prosperous communities, the Government will continue to deliver key services, promote trade, collaborate with stakeholders, manage the risks of pests and diseases, develop innovative technologies, and support the growth of the Queensland food and fibre industries.
7. Cabinet noted the information regarding agriculture sector issues.
8. *Attachments*:
* Nil.