

PRIME MINISTER

FOR PRESS

10 APRIL 1978

ALFALFA APHID CONTROL

The Government has decided to make \$450,000 available to the South Australian Government over the next three years for its blue and spotted lucerne aphid control and research program. This includes \$185,000 in aid this financial year.

The assistance was recommended by the Australian Agricultural Council at its last meeting when it discussed the serious nature of the threat posed by the aphids to our lucerne and medic pastures.

The Commonwealth is also contributing to the overall program of research and development of control measures through the provision of funds to the CSIRO. The CSIRO is working on control through plant breeding of resistant varieties of lucerne and by the introduction and distribution of parasites which are hosted by the lucerne.
