



SENATOR THE HON RICHARD COLBECK

Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Senator for Tasmania

M E D I A R E L E A S E

2 October 2009

Qantas butter flies in face of Australian dairy farmers

*Prince Frederick asked Princess Mary
And Princess Mary asked the dairy maid
Can I have some butter for the
Royal slice of bread?*

*The dairy maid said Sorry Ma'am
We've subsidised it so heavily
Its all been sent Down Under
For Qantas to use instead!*

With apologies to *The King's Breakfast*, by A.A. Milne

"It was with great disappointment that I discovered this week that Australia's national carrier is using heavily subsidised butter from Denmark on its domestic flights," Senator Richard Colbeck said.

"It flies in the face of our national carrier's own corporate intent that Qantas sees fit to use heavily subsidised dairy products from the EU at a time when our Australian dairy farmers are doing it so tough.

"Qantas should strongly consider the plight of Australia's dairy farmers, and indeed all other Australian farm sectors, as part of its purchasing policy.

"Dairy farmers are already flying by the seat of their pants thanks to multi-national companies like National Foods. Some support from the Flying Kangaroo would be great."

Statement from Qantas's Q-catering website:

Our commitment is to embrace the challenges of large-scale catering to consistently deliver meals of delicious freshness and flavour, made from the finest of ingredients and produce that Australia has to offer.