



Royal Agricultural Society of NSW

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**19 November, 2009**

## **MEDIA INVITED TO ATTEND JUDGING OF THE 2010 RAS RURAL ACHIEVER AWARD**

The Royal Agricultural Society of NSW (RAS) is preparing to choose eight young people from across country NSW, to be the 2010 RAS Rural Achievers.

The prestigious Award, which is now in its 21st year, recognises future young leaders who are making a significant contribution to their local community and to rural Australia.

**RAS Agricultural Development General Manager, Mr Bernie O'Sullivan** says the Award recognises the achievements of young Australians who are passionate about rural NSW.

"These young people represent the future of agriculture in this state, and this country, and are wonderful ambassadors for their regions," said Mr O'Sullivan.

Judges will consider nine young people as finalists at the Sydney judging session on Friday 27 November. Six competitors will be judged at Tamworth on Monday 7 December and 11 young people will be out to impress the panel in Parkes on Tuesday 15 December.

Eight finalists will receive an all expenses paid, behind the scenes experience at Australia's largest event, the **Sydney Royal Easter Show, 1 April – 14 April**. During their time in Sydney, they will also receive a tour of Rural Press, home of The Land, a trip to Parliament House, and be invited to attend a cocktail reception at Government House.

"Rural Achievers will have the opportunity to network with a range of industry and government leaders throughout the course of their trip to the Royal Easter Show, helping them achieve their ambitions and kick start their careers," said Mr O'Sullivan.

"The award is a chance to challenge yourself and came out of the experience with better public speaking skills, great memories and with more doors open for career networking."

**Tim Stivens, Junee (2009 Rural Achiever)**

"As a Rural Achiever finalist at the Show, I met a lot of great contacts and learnt a lot about how other successful people in the Agriculture industry do business. Now in my professional life I draw on these contacts and often work with the people I met during my time as a Rural Achiever."

**Troy Setter, Warialda (2001 Rural Achiever)**

The judges are; John Fairfax AO - RAS Senior Vice President, John Dwyer – General Manager The Land, David Moor - President Agricultural Societies Council of NSW, and Jenny Dudley - wife of RAS President Glenn Dudley.

### **2010 Rural Achievers Award Judging Schedule:**

#### ***Sydney***

Sydney Olympic Park  
Friday, 27 November

#### ***Tamworth***

Powerhouse Motel  
Monday, 7 December

#### ***Parkes***

Coachman Hotel  
Tuesday, 15 December

Media representatives are invited to attend the judging sessions between 12.15 and 12.45pm. Interview and photo opportunities will be available with the judging panel and Rural Achievers entrants.

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