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2009 SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORTERS

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| Australian Wool Innovation | Impact Fertilisers |
| Fisheries Research and Development Corporation | Landmark |
| Estates of the late RC and EC Capper Webb | Macquarie Agricultural Services |
| Geoffrey Gardiner Dairy Foundation | Meat & Livestock Australia |
| Grain Growers Association | Rabobank |
| Grains Research and Development Corporation | Rural Finance Corporation |
| Kondinin Group | Sidney Myer Fund |

Thursday, August 20, 2009

Global food security theme for Nuffield Spring Tour

The role of Australian agriculture in securing global food supplies will be the topic of the keynote address from leading agricultural researcher Professor Bill Bellotti at Nuffield Australia's Annual Spring Tour in October.

Professor Bellotti is the Vincent Fairfax Chair in Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development at the University of Western Sydney and he will deliver his address as part of the scholar presentation day at the Sebel, Windsor, on Friday October 23.

Professor Bellotti is committed to developing synergies between agriculture and food, and between agriculture and environment, based on "eating as an act of agriculture", and "farmers as the greatest group of environmental managers on the planet".

The four-day Nuffield Spring Tour begins with visits to the Leppington Dairy, Elizabeth Macarthur Agricultural Institute and horticulturalists in the Hawkesbury region on Thursday October 22.

On Friday October 23 nine of the 2009 Australian Nuffield scholars will present the findings of their study tours. These include:

- Stuart Barden, NSW, on grain growing in marginal and low rainfall areas (sponsored by Grains Research and Development Corporation)
- Leon Ryan, WA, on factors influencing grain demand (sponsored by Grains Research and Development Corporation)
- Cameron Tubby, WA, on alternative farming systems for semi-arid conditions (sponsored by Landmark)
- Bruce Watson, NSW, on long-term grain price trends and managing price volatility (sponsored by Macquarie Agricultural Services)
- Ben Morris, Victoria, on improving soils for higher yields (sponsored by Rural Finance Corporation)
- David Drage, Victoria, on emissions trading challenges and opportunities (sponsored by the Estates of RC and EC Capper Webb)
- Brendon Tierney, WA, on efficient use of capital in farm businesses (sponsored by the Kondinin Group)
- James Hassall, NSW, on new precision agriculture technologies (sponsored by Grains Research and Development Corporation)
- David Cussons, WA, on communication strategies to improve public and media perceptions of agriculture (sponsored by Australian Wool Innovation)

The 2010 Nuffield Scholars will be announced at a dinner following the presentations of scholar reports.

The third day of the Spring Tour includes a visit to the Flemington Markets, Pace Farms and a tour of the University of Western Sydney Hawkesbury Campus including research facilities investigating the impact of climate change on forestry and recycled organic waste.

A visit to the Grain Growers Association's Bread Research Institute will be the final event in the tour, on Sunday October 25.

For more information on the Nuffield Spring Tour contact Nuffield Australia chief executive officer Jim Geltch on 03 5480 0755, enquiries@nuffield.com.au.

Further information:

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