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**2009 SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORTERS**

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Friday 10 October 2008

**EMBARGOED UNTIL 10AM, FRIDAY 10 OCTOBER 2008**

## Nuffield scholarship for Morawa's Cameron Tubby

Cameron Tubby from Morawa, Western Australia, will tonight be awarded Australia's leading farming scholarship, a Nuffield Australia Farming Scholarship.

Mr Tubby is one of only 16 Australians to receive a 2009 Nuffield Scholarship. He will be presented with his award tonight at the Innovative Farming Australia awards dinner in Hobart, part of the six day Nuffield Australia Spring Tour being held in Tasmania.

Nuffield Farming Scholarships, each worth \$26,000, give young Australian farmers the opportunity to travel internationally and explore agricultural issues and opportunities in a global context. There are about 1300 Nuffield scholars worldwide.

Mr Tubby will use his scholarship, sponsored by Landmark, to investigate innovative, sustainable and profitable alternative farming systems and variations of existing systems for the Mediterranean and semi-arid climatic zones of Western Australia.

He will study crops and livestock that may be better suited to low rainfall areas of Western Australia than Australia's traditional farming systems, which have been adopted from Europe and North America. The potential for aquaculture, perennials, genetically modified crops and other innovative farming systems from around the world will also be investigated.

Mr Tubby and his wife, Teresa, work in a partnership with Cameron's parents, farming 7600 hectares in Western Australia's north-eastern wheat belt. They annually crop up to 4000 hectares with cereals and legumes. They also have a commercial flock of 5000 Damara ewes, with a Damara, Dorper and Wiltidam stud being established.

"Low rainfall zones of Western Australia have experienced extended periods of drought which I believe have rendered our traditional farming systems unsustainable," he says. "Climate change may also force us to change our traditional practices.

"I think there are opportunities in systems developed in other countries with similar climatic conditions which we have so far overlooked, including alternative livestock, aquaculture and perennial pastures and shrub species for grazing."

Nuffield Australia CEO Mr Jim Geltch says many Nuffield Scholars go on to become active leaders in agriculture and the community, and sharing their research findings is an important part of the scholarship program.

"For many, the scholarship experience changes their lives by opening their eyes to the wider world and giving them the confidence to pursue their goals," Mr Geltch says.

The 16 2009 Australian Nuffield Scholars will leave Australia in either February or June 2009 for a compulsory Global Focus Program. This will involve travel to China, North America, South America and Europe investigating agricultural marketing and trade issues, environmental issues and experiencing the different social and cultural aspects of each region.

Following the initial six-week program, the scholars will go their individual ways to pursue specific study programs in the country or countries of their choice. Mr Tubby hopes to travel to Israel, South Africa and Argentina on his individual tour.

Landmark General Manager, Graeme Jacobs says Landmark is proud to sponsor the Nuffield Agricultural Scholarship Program.

"It gives excellent opportunities and experience to young farmers and reinforces Landmark's commitment to up and coming leaders in Australian Rural Agriculture," Mr Jacobs says.

**More information:**

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A high-resolution photograph of Mr Tubby can be downloaded from the link [www.coretext.com.au/communications\\_images.php](http://www.coretext.com.au/communications_images.php)