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**2010 SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORTERS**

Australian Dairy Conference	Horticulture Australia Limited
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Dairy Australia	Meat & Livestock Australia
Fisheries Research and Development Corporation	Nuffield Australia Queensland Branch
Geoffrey Gardiner Dairy Foundation	Rabobank
Grain Growers Association	Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation
Grains Research and Development Corporation	Sidney Myer Fund

Friday 23 October 2009

**EMBARGOED UNTIL 10AM, FRIDAY 23 OCTOBER 2009**

## Nuffield Scholarship for Adelaide vegetable grower

South Australian vegetable grower Steve Newman will tonight be awarded a scholarship in Australia's leading research program for primary producers, the Nuffield Australia Farming Scholarship Program.

Mr Newman is one of only 18 Australians to receive a 2010 Nuffield Scholarship. He will be presented with his scholarship tonight at the Innovation in Australian Farming Awards dinner at the Hawkesbury Race Club, which is part of the four-day Nuffield Australia Spring Tour being held in the NSW Hawkesbury region.

Nuffield Farming Scholarships, each worth \$27,000, give young Australian primary producers the opportunity to travel internationally and explore agricultural issues and opportunities in a global context. There are about 1400 Nuffield scholars worldwide. Mr Newman will use his scholarship, supported by Horticulture Australia Limited (HAL) using the vegetable levy and matched funds from the Australian Government, to study automation and soil management in vegetable production.

Mr Newman is production manager for Hills Fresh, an intensive vegetable-farming business in the Adelaide Hills that he runs with his father. They produce cauliflower, lettuce and leek on 25ha of irrigated land for domestic markets. They also graze cattle on another 68ha.

"To be competitive in a global market our business needs to be as automated as possible," Mr Newman says. "But automation on its own will not work, unless our soils are 'correct'. I plan to study soil management methods in tandem with automation.

"On our family farm we have already introduced compost trials in an attempt to improve our soils and we are working with the South Australian Research and Development Institute to improve soil insect and disease control. I would like to investigate what other countries are doing in this area," he says.

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," he says.

The 2010 Australian Nuffield Scholars will leave Australia in February, June or September 2010 for a compulsory Global Focus Program. This will involve travel to China, North America, South America, Middle East, India 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 Newman plans to visit the Netherlands and the US during his individual study tour.

**More information:**

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