

2011 SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORTERS

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Friday 22nd October, 2010

NEW NUFFIELD SCHOLAR SAYS PRODUCT DIFFERENTIATION THE KEY TO HIGHER PRAWN PRICES

Clint Scharfe, from Port Lincoln in South Australia, will tonight be awarded a prestigious Nuffield Scholarship supported by the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation.

Clint would like to investigate new technologies and how they could be applied in the South Australian prawn industry as well as management practices in other fisheries that could improve the performance of the Spencer Gulf Prawn Fishery and prawn fisheries in Australia generally.

Clint says “I’d also like to identify how product differentiation will improve prawn prices, including the value of an internationally recognised environmental accreditation system”.

Clint is self-employed as a prawn fisher in the Spencer Gulf Prawn Fishery, based on the capture of wild King Prawns. He is also employed in the family Southern Bluefin Tuna business. In addition, Clint is a member of the Spencer Gulf and West Coast Prawn Fishermen’s Association’s management committee.

Clint says “food processing technologies, and in some cases fishing technologies, are well advanced in a number of countries. I would like to visit countries excelling in this area, including Norway, Japan and the United Kingdom.”

Additionally, he would like to investigate sustainable fishing practices in the UK and the United States of America.

Nuffield Australia is an organisation which provides an opportunity to Australian farmers to travel overseas on an agricultural research scholarship. It is a 16-week program which consists of both group and individual travel. The next group will be travelling through New Zealand, North America, Brazil, Mexico and France in February-March 2011.

Clint is available for interviews to talk about his planned study.

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A high-resolution photo of Clint is available for download from nuffield.com.au/gallery.html