



Queensland grain's top seeds to be recognised at awards

Queensland's grains best and brightest are set to be recognised this year at the Queensland Grain Industry Awards, hosted by peak farm group AgForce Queensland.

AgForce Grains president Wayne Newton said AgForce is proud to showcase and celebrate innovation and best practice in the state's grains industry.

"In 2011, Queensland's grain industry is forecast to contribute more than \$885 million to the state's economy, and we have some of Australia's most cutting edge and passionate growers here who deserved to be recognised for their hard work.

"The Queensland Grains Awards were last held in 2006 but to recognise the industry AgForce has revitalised the awards this year, opening nominations for three categories:

- The '**Jason Rae Memorial' Grain Grower of the Year Award**, sponsored by Rabobank, which honours an individual who has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to the sustainability of the Queensland Grains Industry.
- The **Grain Industry Emerging Leader Award**, sponsored by GrainCorp, which recognises a significant contribution by an individual aged between 18-35 years of age, and
- The '**Bruce McClelland Memorial' Grains Innovation Award**, which rewards an individual or organisation for their commitment to enhance the long term sustainability and profitability of the grain supply chain through innovation, technology and development.

"Growers who nominate put themselves in the running for some great prizes, including two overseas study trips to the location of their choice."

Mr Newton said the Awards would culminate at a gala dinner at the Toowoomba Turf Club on Friday 9 December.

"This industry is known for their modesty but we urge all growers, their friends and business associates to put worthy contenders forward for nomination."

Nominations are now open and close on Friday 11 November. More information can be found at www.agforceqld.org.au > Events > Queensland Grain Awards.

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Who is AgForce? AgForce represents thousands of Queensland broadacre producers who recognise the value in having a strong voice. AgForce leads the way to ensure agriculture's social, economic and environmental contribution is recognised by all levels of government. AgForce works alongside landholders, encourages and supports the next generation, builds industry partnerships and skills and promotes agriculture - for secure, sustainable, progressive and profitable food and fibre into the future.