

## **INAUGURAL NSW DAIRY FARMER AWARDS**

**SPONSORED BY DAIRY NSW and the NSW FARMERS' ASSOCIATION DAIRY COMMITTEE**

**Entries close 5pm Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2009**

The NSW Farmers' Association Dairy Section together with the Dairy NSW (formerly Dairy Industry Development Company or DIDCO) are promoting environmental sustainability and innovation by recognising those producers who have implemented environmentally sustainable and innovative management practices.

We are calling for nominations for 2 awards;

- Dairy Farm Environmental Sustainability Award
- Dairy Farm Innovation Award

Awards will be presented at the Annual NSW Dairy Products Awards Dinner and winners will be presented with some great prizes including:

- NSW Farmers' Association Membership for 1 year (valued to \$390)
- \$1000 in cash courtesy of Dairy NSW and NSW Farmers' Association
- Dairy NSW will also cover conference fees for 1 person (\$350), attendance at Dairy Awards Dinner for 2 people (\$240) and accommodation for 2 people at the Novotel Manly pacific (\$240)

We encourage all producers to apply or nominate a deserving producer by filling out the attached application form and preparing a 2 page (maximum) submission detailing how they fulfil the outlined criteria. Applications close at **5pm Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2009** and should be sent to:

**2009 NSW Dairy Awards  
C/- Kate McGilvray  
Dairy NSW  
PO Box 833 Mudgee NSW 2850  
Fax: 02 6373 1436**

For more information please call NSW Farmers' Association Member Service Centre on 1300 794 000 or Dairy NSW on 02 6373 1435.

### **Conditions of entry**

- Entries must be received by due date
- The entrant's dairy farming enterprise must be within the state of NSW
- The entrant's dairy farming enterprise must be economically viable
- The information you supply may be used by the NSW Dairy Awards for the purpose of judging and also for any promotions relating to the Awards
- The entrant agrees to participate in and assist with publicity of the NSW dairy industry
- Award winners may be called upon to address the industry and provide on farm tours
- Judging will be carried out by the NSW Farmers' Association's Dairy Section and Dairy NSW Committees.
- Prizes are not transferable
- The NSW Dairy Awards reserves the right not to allocate a prize in a category should there be insufficient numbers
- You may like to consider including before and after photographs and/or media coverage

## **INAUGURAL NSW DAIRY AWARDS APPLICATION**

Please fill out the information below in CLEAR CAPITAL letters.

Business Name:	<input type="text"/>		
Address:	<input type="text"/>		
Contact person:	<input type="text"/>	Email:	<input type="text"/>
Telephone:	<input type="text"/>	Fax:	<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>	Mobile:	<input type="text"/>
Farm name:	<input type="text"/>	Size (hectares):	<input type="text"/>
Farm location (if difference from above):	<input type="text"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	I/we have read and agree to the conditions of entry.		
<input type="checkbox"/>	I/we have attached our application assessing the relevant criteria (maximum 2 x A4 pages)		
Signature:	<input type="text"/>		
<b><u>Award Category</u></b> – please tick			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Dairy Farm Environmental Sustainability Award</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Dairy Farm Innovation Award</b>		

**Award Category** – please tick

**Dairy Farm Environmental Sustainability Award**

This award recognises the dairy farming business which demonstrates in a practical way choices that have been made on farm for the long term sustainability of the environment. Considerations will be made around the wise use of the land, labour & capital resources available or created. Increasingly the effects of dairy farming on both surface & groundwater and its impact on soil properties are factors the judges will consider.

**Judging criteria – please submit with this form a maximum of 2 pages, detailing how you have met, or are working towards the following criteria:**

1. Adoption of sustainable land and water management practices, and/or are implementing an EMS (Environmental Management System).
2. Maintenance of and/or improved productivity and environmental condition of your property as demonstrated by changes in key indicators such as: a reduction in the environmental cost of your product (e.g. improved water use per hectare or litre of milk) and improved farm business results; a change (%) in soil carbon or soil organic matter; a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (e.g. through lower fuel or fertiliser use or improved stock management); increase in biodiversity, above and below the soil; reduced soil erosion etc.
3. Creation of a property management plan, reflecting how your management and practices both improve productivity and improve or protect natural resources, with links to neighbours, landcare or catchment management plans. Please include a copy of your plan if possible.

4. Merging of your landcare practices within your commercial farming operation (e.g. your farming is consistent with how you manage biodiversity, shelter belts, re-vegetated areas and soil and water conservation) and demonstrates no loss of income or may even show an economic gain.
5. Management of non grazed or uncropped areas (such as creeks, hills, dams, wetlands, unimproved pasture, native remnant vegetation) and how you manage them for conservation and biodiversity benefits within the farm system.
6. Co-operation with and encouragement of others to become involved in sustainable environmental management practices (e.g. with neighbours, other landholders & local authorities, by participating in field days, workshops etc).

**Dairy Farm Innovation Award**

This award recognises the dairy farming business which has used innovative measures for problem solving in the farm business or has been innovative in the approach to technology used to assist the business. There is a need for the innovation award to be recognised as part of a long-term sustainable contribution to the business and the environment.

*Judging criteria – please submit with this form a maximum of 2 pages, detailing how you have met, or are working towards the following criteria:*

1. Identification of appropriate innovative management/technological practices.
2. Implementation of innovative measures.
3. Maintenance of and assessment of implemented innovative measures.
4. Creation of a property management plan, reflecting how the innovative measures will/have impacted on the management of your dairy business. Please include a copy of your plan if possible.

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