



MINISTER FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES  
MINISTER FOR ENERGY  
MINISTER FOR MINERAL RESOURCES  
MINISTER FOR STATE DEVELOPMENT



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### Seeking top farmers - submit your entries now

The search is on for the State's top farmers – with just several weeks to get entries in for the first prize of \$10,000 for the farmer with the best mix of sustainability and profitability.

With the closing date of 9 June rapidly approaching, organisers also encouraged friends and colleagues of outstanding farmers to nominate them for consideration in this year's statewide awards.

Minister for Primary Industries Ian Macdonald and NSW Farmers' Association President Jock Laurie said while the ongoing drought was proving a major challenge for all farming industry members, the awards were an opportunity to recognise the determination and achievement of primary producers.

Minister Macdonald said judges would again be looking for innovative ways of coping with environment challenges, such as the ongoing drought.

"Our judges know all too well how tough this drought has been, so they are looking for farmers that have put the best strategies in place."

NSW Farmers' Association President Jock Laurie said the finalists helped tell the wider community the true story about the value of rural industries, and the tenacity of the farming community.

"Our farmer and young farmer of the year finalists are important ambassadors for the industry who can both help educate urban audiences, and inspire their colleagues who might be doing it tough.

"There are some incredible industry success stories out there in country NSW – we need faces and names to help bring those stories into the public's eye so they can truly appreciate where their world class food and fibre products really come from.

Meanwhile, more than 300 farmers are expected to attend a field day event today at beef cattle stud manager from Baryulgil, Rob Sinnamon's property, 'Yulgilbar Station'.

Rob, who won the award in 2007, hoped to use the event to share information on current cattle industry issues – and promote the benefits of the Farmer and Young Farmer awards.

The annual awards are coordinated by the NSW Department of Primary Industries and NSW Farmers' Association, and supported by Rural Press and the Royal Agricultural Society. For application forms go to [www.dpi.nsw.gov.au](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au) or [www.nswfarmers.org.au](http://www.nswfarmers.org.au)

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Royal Agricultural Society of NSW