

Cotton industry announces national awards competition

By Brooke Summers

There has been an overwhelming response to the call for entries in the Australian Cotton Industry Awards.

Entries closed on March 15 and there was a very strong response for all categories. Nominations have come from all sectors of industry including Cotton Grower Associations, individual growers, industry organisations and individuals.

Chairman of the Australian Cotton Industry Awards Taskforce, Geoff Hewitt, says these awards will unite the industry and improve the overall standard of cotton growing in Australia.

“A main objective is to provide the industry with inspiring role models that we can all learn from. We’ll be sharing information on all the finalists and winners with industry and the community,” Geoff said.

Drawn from local grower competition winners and by direct entry, five winners will be announced at the industry’s Conference Dinner on August 12, 2004 in the categories of:

- Cotton Industry Bayer CropScience Grower of the Year
- Cotton Industry Queensland Cotton High Achiever of the Year;
- Cotton Industry Elders Young Achiever of the Year;
- Cotton Industry Service to Industry Award; and,
- Cotton Industry Researcher of the Year Award.

“Australia’s cotton industry is technologically advanced, research focused and setting world benchmarks for environmental management. We have people in all sectors, from growing, marketing, services and research who deserve to be rewarded for their outstanding skills and contributions,” Geoff said.

“Cotton Australia and the Australian Cotton Growers Research Association is proud to be bringing these awards together for the industry, at a time when we have all felt the strain of the worst drought in over 100 years.

“With the full support of the Australian Cotton Industry Council and the Cotton Grower Associations, we are confident these awards will become an industry showcase for years to come,” he said.

Sam Howard, Managing Director of major sponsor Bayer CropScience says, “we are excited to be supporting the Cotton Grower of the Year Award and believe it is an excellent opportunity to recognise the progressive nature of the cotton industry.

For more information, please go to www.cottonaustralia.com.au or call Brooke Summers, Ph 0418 962 942.

The Cotton Industry Awards Taskforce would like to thank the sponsors: Queensland Cotton; Bayer CropScience; and Elders.

