



Tasmanian Agricultural Productivity Group

July 2018 "Winter" Newsletter

Annual Election of Board Membership

Directors on our Board are appointed for a two year term. Our election cycle sees half the positions becoming vacant each year. Nominations are now being called for the following positions:

Plantation Forestry

Dairy Processing

Fresh Vegetables

"Other" Crop Processing

Transport & Logistics

Primary Production

Vegetable Processing

Any "retiring" Director is eligible for re-election to another two-year term.

Nomination forms are available by contacting the Executive Officer at:

terry.brient@gmail.com

Or, phone: 0407 287 537

Industry Forum and Annual General Meeting

This popular industry gathering will again be held towards the end of October or early November depending on the Minister's availability.

The precise date, venue and program details will be advised through our regular Member Updates.

TAPG Annual Awards for Agricultural Excellence

Nominations are now called for these awards as detailed below.

Nominations should be received by COB Friday 24 August and will be considered by the Board at their following meeting.

Prior contact with the EO is strongly recommended to anyone considering forwarding a nomination.

As a guide to anyone thinking of providing the Board with a nomination for these awards the Categories and Criteria for each are provided below:

TAPG Awards & Recognition Policy

Categories and Criteria for Nominations

Introduction:

Following the Board's adoption of our Policy on this matter it was resolved that a guideline document be produced for initial use and further development based on the year to year experience of the Board in determining awards.

Categories:

While the following categories are proposed there is not any expectation that potential awardees need to be nominated in any or all of them in any one year. The intention is that they simply serve to stimulate nominations and to focus discussion on the nature of the awards.

Suggested Categories:

- **Life Time Achievement** – “a sustained contribution over the course of a career.”
- **Innovation** – “a changed practice/machinery improvement, application of technology or related change.”
- **Scientific Advancement** – “recognition of research accomplishment within the agricultural industry.”

- **Market Development** – “awarded for accessing non-traditional or high value *niche* markets.”
- **Product Development** – “establishment of a new opportunity to extend agricultural productivity or reinvigorate an existing product.”
- **Service to the Agricultural Community** – “where an individual or group has supported the agricultural industry either directly or through representation.”
- **Training & Recruitment** – “recognition of industry changing processes including the Occupational Health & Training sector.”
- **Young Entrepreneur/s** – “acknowledgement of individual initiative and endeavour by younger person/s engaged in the industry.”

Criteria & Selection Process:

1. Nominations will be called in July of each year. Nominators will be urged to discuss the process with the Executive Officer.
2. Nominee details will be submitted to the Board using a common template that will allow easier comparison of candidates.
3. The emphasis in determining all awards will be on “high order” examples.
4. The Board will capture the essence of this detail through their discussion and determination of acceptability with any nomination.
5. The Citation included with the award will detail the key elements of the nomination that led to the award.

Conclusion:

Once discussion on these matters is settled by the Board the machinery processes of timelines, notification to recipients and media release needs to be determined to allow for presentations to be made at an appropriate occasion such as an Industry Forum or the AGM of TAPG.

Working Party: Draft Guidelines, Rick Rockliff, Terry Brient (March 2010)

Inaugural Presentations, 2013

Revisions: 2014, 2016, 2017

Precision Agriculture EXPO, 19 April 2018 – Hagley Farm School

Our fourth annual Precision Agriculture EXPO was held at a new venue; the Hagley Farm School, with close to 300 people attending.

The practice of conducting a major commodity EXPO within the overall program was deemed a great success with a Potato EXPO well supported by Simplot Australia and McCain Foods.

A major addition to this year's Program was a comprehensive display by Education and Training providers across all age groups. To this end we were delighted to have displays from the Education Department, Tasmanian Agricultural Education Network (TAEN), UTAS and University College and, importantly for the first time, TasTAFE.

The rationale for this aspect of the EXPO has been the recognition built through our Project work that, *if we are to maximise the returns available through the adoption of PA technology, we are going to need a better educated and trained workforce that we have ever had in the past*

In evaluating this year's program, our committee have agreed to feature Soil Health in next year's event.

The event will be held on Wednesday 17 April 2019. (NB: Good Friday 19 April, 20019)



TAPG Chairperson Jim Wilson, Minister Sarah Courtney and TAPG Director Keith Rice following the Formal Opening of the EXPO.



Machinery Exhibitors setting up on the Wednesday prior to the EXPO.



One of the Education and Training Exhibitors alongside the TIA Water for Profit Project Reporting display.



Taken from a Drone this photo clearly shows the excellent Machinery Demonstration paddock available to exhibitors.

In the foreground the pre-planted Broccoli is being tendered by the “Rippa” robot from Sydney University’s Field Robotic Centre during one of its demonstration runs.





List Map Training through the auspices of staff from DPIPWE was conducted in adjacent classrooms over a three-day period.



“Closing the circle” of Training Providers this year with the important addition of TasTAFE.



Major Sponsor for all four of our EXPOs, “TOPCON” have recently agreed to significant sponsorship of the “Technology Hub” being created at the Hagley Farm School.

For information on how your company can support the Tasmanian Agricultural Education Network please contact Andrew Harris on: 0407 871 830. Inspections of the outstanding facilities at Hagley Farm School can also be arranged through contact with Andrew.

For Comments or other feedback on this Newsletter please contact the Executive Officer:

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terry.brient@gmail.com