

Australian Certified Organic

The logo of champions – bud of course



Awards

Many ACO-certified clients have received prestigious awards lately. Their awards are something that the industry can be collectively proud of as they serve to demonstrate the benefit and quality of organic products and the progressive innovation of the companies in our industry. Some recent award winners are:

Lakelands Olives since its first entry in the Australian Olives Association (AOA) has won consecutive awards including in 2004 best in class and national award for Frantoio, winning it the Carol L'Heureux Trophy. In addition to AOA awards, Lakelands Olives has won gold prizes and best of class at the Royal Easter Show, EVOO Show and in Germany (Der Feinschmecker).

Olio Bello since its first harvest in 1998 has gained industry recognition with more than 31 awards for its extra virgin olive oil.

B.d. Farm Paris Creek is possibly the most awarded operation in the Australian organics industry. It recently won the

Rabo Bank Agri-Business Award for the category of Rural Enterprise sponsored by the *Australian Farm Journal*.

Rosnay Organic Farm has won various medals for its wines, including a gold medal at the RNA show in Brisbane and Top Gold at the Australian Small Wine Maker's Show. Its olive oil recently won a bronze medal at the Cowra Show.

Temple Bruer Wines has won a medley of gold, silver and bronze medals for its wines at royal shows in Canberra, Hobart, Melbourne and Brisbane and other wine shows nationally.

Bentivoglio Olives has won two gold medals, one bronze, top score ribbon and champion oil of show at the at Canberra Royal Show as well as three bronze at the AOA.

Good Morning Cereals recently won a Design Institute of Australia Commendation award for new product packaging.

Pure Harvest was the recipient of silver awards from the Dairy Industry Association of Australia, Victoria division, for organic UHT full-cream dairy milk and organic dairy low-fat milk. ■

National Landcare Program community support funding

Federal Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry Minister Warren Truss announced in December 2004 that 206 nationwide projects will receive funding under the community support component of the national Landcare program.

Landcare was established in 1992 as one of the mechanisms to progress towards sustainable ecosystems. It focuses on sustainable agriculture and improved management of the natural resource base — soil, water and vegetation — at farm level.

By engaging with farmers and landholders to improve practices at that level it was expected that the community would achieve significant public benefits: more economic use of available resources, improved water quality and natural resource condition, a sound resource base for future economic growth and wealthy and more resilient rural communities. ■

Contact: Details of the Landcare program can be accessed at < www.daff.gov.au/landcare >. Press releases, including details of projects, can be accessed at < www.maff.gov.au/releases/home_wt_releases.html >.

Let us know

If your company has recently received an award or grant please inform the BFA office so that we may publicly acknowledge your achievement.

Helping hand for businesses

Do you work in an innovative agribusiness? Do you have a new agribusiness product, service or technology you are seeking to commercialise? The Federal Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry can help you make it happen.

The New Industries Development Program (NIDP) is helping Australian agribusiness build on their strengths, explore new opportunities and compete successfully with the best the world has to offer.

NIDP helps people in the agricultural, processed food, fisheries and forestry industries turn innovative business ideas into competitive, profitable and sustainable commercial ventures through competitive based grants, scholarships and learning tools.

NIDP is part of the National Innovation Strategy *Backing Australia's Ability— Building our Future Through Science and Innovation*.

For more information visit < www.affa.gov.au >, call the NIDP team on 1300 88 45 88, or email nidp@daff.gov.au