



NORTH EAST
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MEDIA RELEASE

Embargoed until 8pm, 25 August 2006

Upper Murray landholder named North East Landcarer of the Year

A landholder and native nursery operator from Shelley has won the Individual Landcarer Award at the 2006 North East Landcare Awards.

Lyn Coulston was presented with the Award tonight (25 August) at an event that also celebrated 20 years of Landcare in Australia.

The Individual Landcare Award is made to a person who carries out and/or promotes Landcare or sustainable production through on-ground or awareness activities as a volunteer.

Awards organiser and North East CMA Landcare Team Leader, Mr Tom Croft, said Lyn Coulston had made an outstanding contribution to Landcare.

“Lyn was actively involved in Landcare before the movement even had an official name ! She was a founding member of the Upper Murray Catchment Farm Tree Group back in 1984 and has supported the development of many other groups in the Upper Murray, including Tintaldra, Cudgewa, Nariel-Thougla and Koetong Landcare,” said Tom.

Lyn Coulston has led and supported Landcare in many ways, including;

- Chairing the Victorian Blackberry Taskforce since November 2005 and Chairing the North East Blackberry Action Group;
- Training the community in seed collection, propagation, seedling care to planting and maintenance;
- Being instrumental in developing and obtaining more than \$150,000 in funding for Upper Murray Drought Recovery strategy projects;
- Working with other members of the community through the Towong Drought Recovery Committee to assist landholders with emergency funding and feed for livestock and providing access to agricultural professionals from Government agencies;
- Supporting the Tallangatta Primary School by donating a variety of native trees and shrubs from her Mountain Creek Nursery at Shelley;

Lyn is also active in forest management and the promotion of sustainable forest production in and around the Upper Murray. She actively contributes to many natural resource management groups, including her role as a Board member of the North East Catchment Management Authority since 2000.

Tom Croft said the North East Landcare Awards highlighted the diversity and impact of the Landcare movement in the Region.

“These Awards encourage and recognise the outstanding commitment to Landcare from a diverse range of individuals and Landcare groups across the North East. Although Landcare is best known for tree planting, our winners demonstrate the incredible diversity of activity going on in our Region.”

The annual Awards are run by the North East CMA and proudly supported by the Victorian Government through the Victorian Action Plan for Second Generation Landcare.

For additional information or an interview please contact,

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