



16 September 2013

The Editor

Dear Sir,

Tasmanian farmers' success in the Australian Farmer of the Year Awards is due recognition for an industry which is a Tasmanian success story.

Cherry producer Tim Reid is to be applauded for winning the Farmer of the Year Award as well as being recognised for his industry leadership.

Dover's Peter and Frances Bender won a biosecurity award while Gawler farmer Rob Frampton and his parents, Norm and Lesley, were successful in the National Dairy Farmer Award.

These awards cover three very diverse farming operations from cherries to fish to dairy.

It is also worth noting that many Tasmanians were among the 33 finalists in 11 categories.

That is why the Liberals have a plan to grow the value of agriculture tenfold, to \$10 billion by 2050, by backing our farmers.

We will cut the red and green tape that is holding back growth, we will restore international shipping services to Tasmania, and we will create jobs and grow the local economy, which will increase local demand for high quality products.

We will also invest in innovation, research, skills development, sustainability and long-term post-farm gate value adding.

Yours sincerely,

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