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Tasmanian Government **Media Release**

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Guy Barnett, Minister for Primary Industries and Water

Recognising our outstanding Tasmanian rural women

The Tasmanian Government acknowledges and pays tribute to the thousands of Tasmanian women who contribute to our vitally important agricultural sector and rural communities.

The AgriFutures Rural Women's Award is the pre-eminent award for rural women which recognises past achievements and supports further development of outstanding women in Tasmania's vibrant agricultural sector.

In 2020 we were unable to have a State award presentation because of COVID so it is wonderful to be able to meet today to celebrate the Tasmanian winner of the 2020 AgriFutures Award, Karen Brock

We also wish Karen good luck later today as she represents Tasmania in a special online live event to announce the national winner.

Karen was awarded a \$10,000 bursary and the opportunity to complete a professional development training course. The prize also included the opportunity to attend a three-day online workshop with all other state/territory winners to focus on further professional development skills and refinement of her winning project based around plant tissue culture and food security production systems.

In 2020 there was an excellent and diverse field for the Tasmanian AgriFutures Awards and this is testament to the strength and vibrancy of Tasmania's rural women

In Tasmania we also have Tasmanian Women in Agriculture providing bursaries for our finalists for training and development opportunities and we acknowledge their support in providing opportunities for our rural women to shine.

Congratulations to the recipients of the awards sponsored by the Tasmanian Women in Agriculture - Louise Morris, the winner of the Encouragement Award and a \$2,000 training bursary, and Robyn

Eversole and Celia Leverton who were each awarded \$1,000 Development Awards.

The Tasmanian Government recognises the vital contribution women make to rural industries and communities and is proud to support the award in partnership with AgriFutures, Westpac, the ABC and other major sponsors.