

**MEDIA RELEASE 17 February 2020**

## Nominations open for 2020 Australian Cotton Industry Awards

Nominations have opened for the 2020 Australian Cotton Industry Awards, which recognise excellence and high achievement throughout the cotton supply chain.

Nominations for the Awards can be made by [downloading an entry form from this website and following the instructions to submit it](#).

Award nominations are open to both individuals and teams. Anyone in the industry can nominate themselves or others through the nomination form.

Cash prizes are on offer for the successful recipients of the 2020 Australian Cotton Industry Awards, which has five categories:

- **Bayer** Grower of the Year
- **AgriRisk** High Achiever of the Year
- **ADAMA** Chris Lehmann Trust Young Cotton Achiever of the Year
- **Cotton Seed Distributors** Researcher of the Year
- **Incitec Pivot Fertilisers** Service to Industry Award

Cotton Australia CEO Adam Kay said the Awards provide a valuable opportunity to recognise Australian cotton's high achievers and the significant contributions made by people in the industry.

"The Australian Cotton Industry Awards are a highlight of the year as they recognise the hard work of all who make Australian cotton such a special part of our country's agricultural story," he said.

"Whether you're a grower, a ginner, a product supplier, consultant, agronomist, or researcher, I strongly encourage you to nominate for the Awards and recognise those who have made enormous efforts to better our industry and country."

"I also want to acknowledge the support of the Awards program's major sponsors for this year – Bayer, ADAMA, AgriRisk, Cotton Seed Distributors, and Incitec Pivot Fertilisers."

The 2019 Australian Cotton Industry Awards recipients were:

- **Bayer** Grower of the Year: Tom and Charm Arnott (Boggabilla, NSW)
- **AgriRisk** High Achiever of the Year: Jamie Traill and Ashley Tunks (One Tree Agriculture, Warra, Queensland)
- **ADAMA** Chris Lehmann Trust Young Cotton Achiever of the Year: Murray Connor (Australian Food and Fibre, Moree, NSW)
- **Cotton Seed Distributors** Researcher of the Year: Dr Linda Smith (Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries)
- **Incitec Pivot Fertiliser** Service to Industry Award: Kieran O'Keeffe

Charm Arnott, who won the 2019 Grower of the Year Award with Tom Arnott, said the Awards program was an excellent opportunity to be involved in.

"To be the recipient of this award was a great honour especially given all the finalists had incredible businesses," Charm said.

"The judging process looks at every part of your farming business. Our perspective is that it has been an excellent opportunity to showcase our whole operation, and it gives others the chance to see how we are fine-tuning our farming business. In turn, we have also learnt from the other finalists, the judging panel and the broader cotton community.

"It has been tough in most cotton production regions this year, including for us in the Macintyre Valley. Farm productivity is much lower than usual but we would highly recommend everyone gets involved with this year's Awards program."

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Nominations for the 2020 Australian Cotton Industry Awards close at 5pm on Friday 27th March 2020.

Awards recipients will be announced at a gala dinner on Thursday 6th August 2020, to be held in conjunction with the 2020 Australian Cotton Conference, at the Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre (4th August – 6th August).

*Cotton Australia is the peak body for Australia's cotton growers.*

For more information visit: <https://cottonaustralia.com.au/>

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