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News

Avocado Growers Welcome Mandatory Horticulture Code of Conduct - 19/09/2006

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Avocados Australia congratulates Federal Agriculture Minister Peter McGauran on his announcement: "That the Australian Government has today decided to immediately proceed to implement a mandatory code of conduct for the wholesale horticulture sector."

Avocados growers have waited many years for today's statement. Australian growers have asked for fair and reasonable trading terms for over a decade now, explained Mr Rod Dalton Chair of Avocados Australia.

Minister McGauran has clearly demonstrated an understanding of the issues that confront the least empowered members of our supply chain, the growers, said Mr Dalton. We would like to see vibrant and profitable growing and wholesale sector, he also added.

Minister McGauran said today that the necessary regulations to introduce a mandatory code would be introduced to Parliament as a matter of urgency.

The Minister's statement delivers on the government's 2004 election commitment.

Avocados Australia in partnership with more than 30 other peak horticulture bodies, both national and state have worked long and hard for more than two years to get a code.

We look forward to working the Government and Minister McGauran on the detail and implementation plan for the betterment of the whole horticulture supply chain.

For further comment:

Rod Dalton, Avocados Australia Chair on 0414 461 316

Avocados Australia Limited is the Peak Industry Body in Australia for Avocados. We are a "not for profit" membership based organisation. Our members are Avocado growers along with associated businesses and industry people.

Avocados Australia seeks to work with all parts of the chain from production through to the consumer. By working together we seek to continually improve the ability of growers to provide a healthy, profitable and safe product for all consumers. As part of this continual improvement we guide a "research & development" and "marketing and promotion" program for the Australian Avocado industry.

The Australian Avocado industry comprises 1300 growers across the country and produces 40,000 tonnes of Avocados each year worth \$AUD80 million. Key growing areas are north, central and southeast Queensland, northern and central New South Wales, the Sunraysia or tristate area (South Australia, Victoria and south western New South Wales) and Western Australia.

For more information contact Avocados Australia at admin@avocado.org.au

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