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21 January 2016

URGENT: Horticulture Award Review - grower survey

The Horticulture Modern Award is scheduled to be heard at the Fair Trade Commission between 14-24 March.

To give horticulture the best chance of retaining the hard fought conditions that horticulture employers have under the current Award, Avocados Australia strongly urges you to complete the survey below.

The Unions have submitted various claims. They are comprehensive and deliver worker evidence in support of their claims.

The Union claims are:

- 4 hour minimum engagement of casuals (at present there is no minimum period for engagement of casuals);
- Conversion of casual employees to full time or part time after 6 or 12 months employment;
- 4 hour minimum engagement of part time employees (at present there is no minimum engagement for part time employees);
- Overtime rates and penalties for casual employees on the same terms as full time employees;
- A requirement that when employing casuals they are to be advised of a number of matters including likely hours; and
- Require additional hours to be granted to existing casuals and part time employees before employing more casual and part time employees.

The Voice of Horticulture (voiceofhorticulture.org.au) has been actively defending horticulture employers' interests but they need your support in order to represent growers in the best way possible. The Voice of Horticulture has designed this survey to help gather the necessary data to ensure that the Award has a fair and relevant safety net of terms and conditions.

The information collected will be used to help provide a comprehensive picture of the horticulture industry so it is vital that the impacts of Award Changes are supported by evidence.

Please [click here](#) to complete the survey by **31 January 2016**.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Peter Hansford at the Voice of Horticulture on 0417 050 939 or Peter.Hansford@voiceofhorticulture.org.au.

Regards

John Tyas
Avocados Australia CEO

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