



Amanda Rishworth MP

Member for Kingston

MEDIA RELEASE

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Local scientist recognised for innovation in agricultural research

Dr Richard Muhlack from Morphett Vale has won the Grape and Wine Research and Development Corporation Award, one of the major awards presented at the 2008 Australian Agricultural Industries Young Innovators and Scientists Awards held on Tuesday night at Parliament House, Canberra.

This award was presented on the basis of Dr Muhlack's research into innovative ways of producing renewable electricity from winery waste.

Dr Muhlack said "This project has many potential benefits for the wine industry, including reducing energy costs and greenhouse gas emissions. It will also help minimise the impacts of global energy price fluctuations in the wine industry."

Amanda Rishworth, Member for Kingston, said "I congratulate Dr Richard Muhlack on this work and would encourage other young scientists to pursue research that helps secure a successful future for Australia's agriculture, fisheries, forestry, food and natural resource industries."

"The Rudd Government is committed to investing in scientific research and to developing the talent of young Australians such as Dr Richard Muhlack," she said.

Grants of up to \$20,000 were given to 14 young Australians aged between 18 and 35 years who work or study in the agriculture, fisheries, and forestry, food or natural resource industries.

A scientist whose research could help to tackle climate change by reducing methane emissions in cattle has taken out the top award.

Dr Nicholas Hudson will receive \$20,000 from Meat & Livestock Australia and \$30,000 as winner of the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Award, for his research into improving cattle feed efficiency.

Information on the winners of the 2008 Australian Agricultural Industries Young Innovators and Scientists Awards is available at www.daff.gov.au/scienceawards

Sponsors are the Australian Government; Australian Animal Welfare Strategy; Australian Egg Corporation Limited; Australian Meat Processor Corporation; Australian Pork Limited; Dairy Australia; Forest and Wood Products Australia; Horticulture Australia Limited; Land & Water Australia; Meat & Livestock Australia and the Research and Development Corporations for Fisheries, Grains, Grape and Wine, Rural Industries and Sugar.