



Media Release

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For immediate release

Rising star Anthony De Ieso awarded South Australian Young Grower of the Year

South Australian bunch line vegetable grower Anthony De Ieso of Thorndon Park Produce has been awarded the AUSVEG SA Young Grower of the Year Award at the 2019 AUSVEG SA and William Buck Vegetable Industry Awards for Excellence.

The Young Grower of the Year Award is proudly sponsored by the South Australian Produce Market, and recognises a leading grower who excels in all aspects of business management and growing and also makes an exceptional contribution to the industry as a whole. The award was presented by South Australia's Minister for Primary Industries and Regions, the Hon. David Basham MP at the Arkaba Hotel on Wednesday 19 May.

Anthony is an established young grower in the industry who is highly-respected for both his growing and business acumen and his reputation of giving back to the industry. He regularly gives his time to support industry R&D projects and trials on property and recently developed a program called *Feed the Need* which provides agricultural students with the opportunity to experience and work on a horticultural property trial site, with produce grown then donated via Foodbank SA. The objective of the program is to get more University students interested in horticulture to help address the acute shortage of skilled workers and graduates in the sector.

Anthony was recognised for his commitment to improving his business and growing skills and for launching new products and efficiency measures within his business. The award also recognises Anthony's significant trial work with commercial and government R&D specialists and his willingness to share results with the broader industry.

AUSVEG SA Chief Executive Officer Jordan Brooke-Barnett congratulated Anthony on the award, and said it recognised his significant work to support R&D adoption in the industry.

"Anthony is a strong leader within our industry and always goes above and beyond to trial new technologies and approaches on his farm. He is a committed and valued member of our industry and always makes time to share his knowledge with his peers," said Jordan Brooke-Barnett.

"With committed growers such as Anthony the industry is in good hands and AUSVEG SA congratulate him on this significant achievement."

Anthony De Ieso will now be nominated as the AUSVEG SA state-endorsed nominee at the National Awards for Excellence, which will be held at the Hort Connections 2021 conference in Brisbane from 7-9 June 2021.

AUSVEG SA is the leading horticultural industry body representing the interests of vegetable producers in the state and provides growers with a united voice and strong representation with all levels of government.

For photographs of the awards ceremony or to request more information or an interview with Anthony, please contact AUSVEG SA using the details below.

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