

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

# **AGRIBUSINESS EXPORT AWARD WINNER ANNOUNCED**

29 October 2009

Namoi Cotton Co-operative Ltd, a leading Australian agribusiness operating in the cotton industry has last night taken the title of Best Agribusiness of the Year at an Exports Awards night in Sydney.

The awards showcased a number of regional NSW businesses which have continued keep their focus on export growth and also helped Sydney Ports achieve a record eighth year of container trade growth.

Based in the North West of New South Wales, Namoi Cotton is the leading provider of ginning and marketing services to the Australian cotton industry.

“As part of our paddock to port strategy, Sydney Ports Corporation is pleased to continue sponsoring the Australian Institute of Export “*Best Agribusiness*” award,” Chief Executive Officer Grant Gilfillan said today.

“I would like to congratulate Namoi Cotton on their fine achievement in delivering a superb quality product that is world renowned.”

The “agribusiness award” is part of the annual Premier’s NSW Export Awards - covering 16 categories including regional exporters and small businesses.

Peter Mace, General Manager of the Australian Institute of Export, who manage the Premier’s NSW Export Awards commented “We are delighted to see the strong level of entries for the Agribusiness category in 2009, and congratulate Namoi Cotton, a very deserving winner.

“We also value the strong support of Sydney Ports Corporation for these prestigious export awards through their sponsorship of the Agribusiness category,” Mr Mace said.

Mr Gilfillan said Sydney Ports Corporation’s sponsorship of the event built on the valuable partnership Sydney Port has developed with the State’s top exporters.

Other finalists in the Agribusiness Awards included:

- Adina Vineyard I am Australian Wine – Adina I am Australian Wine is a unique Hunter Valley Wine, grown, sourced, harvested and bottled in the Hunter Valley.
- Sanitarium Health Food Company – Based on the Central Coast, Sanitarium is the largest manufacturer and marketer of breakfast cereals, soy beverages and vegetarian meals in Australia.
- William Inglis & Son Ltd – William Inglis & Son is a family owned company that has grown into one of the world’s most renowned thoroughbred auction houses.
- JD’s Seafood Export Contractors Pty Ltd – JD’s is a marketer and exporter of premium, fresh chilled, frozen and live Australian seafood, including coastal NSW.

Sydney Ports has built, managed and developed world class port facilities and services to provide New South Wales with a commercially focused, efficient logistics chain.

“In the 2008/09 financial year, total containers—measured in TEUs, twenty foot equivalent units — transferred through Port Botany reached a record 1.784 million TEUs,” Mr Gilfillan said.

“The record throughput of over 442,000 full export TEUs out of Port Botany helped mitigate the effects of the global economic slowdown and also helped Sydney Ports achieve another annual growth record.

“Amongst the top fifteen Agribusiness exports out of Port Botany last year were Wood, Timber and Cork, Cereals, Wheat, Meat, Dairy Products and Wine from regional NSW (List below).

Mr Gilfillan said Sydney Ports’ continued extensive infrastructure program is aimed at delivering the commercial and logistical requirements of exporters by looking to remove supply chain constraints.

“Sydney Ports is undertaking major projects aimed at meeting Sydney and NSW’s trade demands well into the future. We are well underway on the \$1 billion Port Botany Container Terminal Expansion which will provide additional terminal capacity for projected growth in exports and better access to shipping lines for exporters.

“Working together with regional communities, exporters and transport networks we will increase future opportunities to grow our businesses to support the NSW economy,” Mr Gilfillan said.

#### **TOP 15 NSW AGRIBUSINESS EXPORTS EXPORTED OUT OF PORT BOTANY**

<b>FY 08/09</b>	<b>PRODUCT</b>	<b>Containerised TEU*</b>
1	Wood, timber and cork	23,796
2	Cereal Prep (Flour)	16,545
3	Wheat	15,999
4	Meat and meat preparations	14,790
5	Pet Food (Dog Or Cat Food)	12,311
6	Food Preparations- Other	11,299
7	Vegetables & Legumes	8,813
8	Wool	6,181
9	Cotton	4,280
10	Hides, skins and fur skins, raw	2,821
11	Wine & Sparkling Wine	2,447
12	Fish, crustaceans and molluscs, and preparations	2,045
13	Oil seeds, oil nuts and oil kernels	2,002
14	Dairy products and eggs	1,962
15	Cereals, Unmilled	1,936

**\*TEU- Twenty Foot Equivalent Units**

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