

Media Release

12 November 2010

Program set to develop Australian dairy leaders

Young dairy leaders with the vision and passion to guide the dairy industry are being called to apply for the new 'Developing Dairy Leaders Program'.

The program, developed by Dairy Australia and Australian Dairy Farmers (ADF), aims to build on the leadership skills of people aged 18-30 who are committed to the dairy industry.

Two applicants from each major dairying region will be selected to participate in the all-expenses paid program, which runs from February to May 2011. Program participants will:

- take part in a four-day residential skills development program in Melbourne
- a two-day residential policy and media development program in Canberra
- gain formal accreditation towards the industry's learning and development career pathway
- work with an industry-leading mentor
- learn to contribute to the development of policy.

The program has been developed in response to the Australian Dairy Industry Council (ADIC) Dairy Leadership – An Industry Blueprint 2010-15, which identified 200 leadership roles are required across the industry - 40 new people each year.

Dairy Australia Managing Director Ian Halliday is pleased to support this initiative as a part of the industry's commitment to developing its leaders.

"The Australian Dairy industry has overcome many challenges in recent years with the guidance of its dedicated leaders," Mr Halliday said.

"Dairy Australia recognises the importance of supporting our leaders in every stage of their development and I encourage our next generation of leaders to participate in this program and building the future of the Australian dairy industry."

ADF President Wes Judd believes the Developing Dairy Leaders Program is a key activity in supporting the development of its state level leaders.

"This program will suit young people who have taken steps down the leadership path and want to further develop their knowledge and career. It provides a fantastic opportunity for participants to learn from current industry leaders," Mr Judd said.

"I urge young people out there to apply and have a go for themselves and the dairy industry."

Visit www.dairyaustralia.com.au/leadership to download an application form or for more information. Applications close on 10 December 2010.

Media enquiries:

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Delivery of this program is supported by the National Centre for Dairy Education Australia (NCDEA), Dairy Australia's The People in Dairy Program (TPID) and a Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry's (DAFF) 'Next Generation Farmer' grant.

NCDEA is one of the many examples of the dairy service levy at work. For more information on this and other levy investments visit www.dairyaustralia.com.au

Dairy Australia is the national services body for the Australian dairy industry. The company acts as the collective investment arm of the industry, investing in essential research, development, extension and industry services.

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