



NORTHERN TERRITORY CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Media Release

EMBARGOED UNTIL SATURDAY 2 APRIL

RECOGNITION AWARD IS A COUP FOR YOUNG RURAL WOMEN

Extraordinary women are the backbone of the Northern Territory's pastoral industry so it was fitting that two very special women were recognised at last night's NT Cattleman's Association Annual Conference 'night of nights'. The pastoral women's award ceremony was part of the Northern Territory's 2011 Centenary of International Women's Day celebrations and a joint initiative between the NT Government, the National Australia Bank and the NT Cattleman's Association.

The two awards categories were:

- The Recognition Award – for a woman over 35 who has made a significant impact on the NT rural community and helped shape the pastoral industry and the people around it.
- The Young Leader Award – for a woman under 35 living and working in the NT, who has demonstrated the potential for great achievement and influence in the NT pastoral industry and who is committed to regional development and future growth of the industry.

In what is seen as a coup for younger women, the Recognition Award was last night presented by Women's Policy Minister, Malarndirri McCarthy to 36 year old Katherine woman, Trudi Oxley.

Trudi packed her swag and headed north from rural Victoria in 1997 to begin a two year stint on Birrindudu Station, in the western Victoria River district.

Her passion and commitment to developing north Australia's cattle industry took seed when she began her illustrious 11 year career with the Department of Primary Industries. She has developed leading edge benchmarking and best practise models in land management and stock handling.

Trudi pioneered training stock camps in cattle and land management and the truck driver's cattle handling course which has since been taken up by other states.

Her 'down time' is spent with her husband Paul and young son Ian, developing their own commercial breeding herd. Her commitment to the industry is best summed up by a producer who said:

"The amount of Trudi's life that she has given is way beyond her job description. We are so lucky she is so dedicated, intelligent, inspirational and kind."

Trudi's prize includes flights and accommodation to attend a two day personal development course held by internationally renowned facilitators 'The Right Mind'.

The Young Leader Award went to Mataranka pastoralist Moira Lanzarin. Thirty-four year old Moira moved from North Queensland with her parents while she was still at high school. They set up a Brahman stud on the floodplains near Kakadu.

In her new life in the north Moira developed a passion for advocacy and personal development. While still working on the family property she studied at Business Degree through Charles Darwin University, and numerous short courses in weed and fire control and cattle processing and handling.

'Advancing and protecting the interests of the cattle producers in the Northern Territory'



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She was the inaugural secretary of the NT Cattleman's Association Top End branch and sat on the executive of the NT Brahman Breeders Association. Her work with youth development saw a resurgence of school students handling and exhibiting cattle at rural shows.

Now a mother of two, Moira has received accolades that include the 1998 NT Young Achiever of the Year, the 2002 Centenary Medal for Regional Services and was runner up in the 2009 NT Rural Woman of the Year.

Moira has won a fully funded trip to Brisbane for the Regional Women's Leaders Convention in early April.

Minister McCarthy also made special mention of 84 year old Lillian Savage who had been nominated for the Recognition Award.

Lillian's life story reads like a script for a great Australian movie. She travelled to the Kimberley's with her husband Bob in the 1940s where they moved from one mustering contract to the next with a growing brood in tow.

In 1964 they began the arduous job of developing Suplejack Station, 730 km north west of Alice Springs on the Tanami Track. The long road from town was travelled in an old Bedford truck with their six children and an Aboriginal family of four, and their worldly possessions. The tarpaulin they pitched on arrival was to be 'home' for the first six months.

Lillian fenced, built, mustered, cooked, taught and nursed over the next few decades to create a wonderful life in the outback for her family.

Her nominee described Lillian as "a quiet achiever".

"She holds a deep-seated passion for the cattle industry. Lillian epitomises a true woman of the outback."

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Background information

The Northern Territory Cattleman's Association (NTCA)

The Northern Territory Cattlemen's Association is the peak primary industry group in the Northern Territory representing over 90% of the Territory's cattle herd. With over 220 pastoral leases, our industry manages a landmass in excess of 620,000 square kilometres and a herd of over 2 million head. Annual turnoff is around 600,000 head to live-export and domestic markets.

The pastoral industry is the Northern Territory's third largest GDP earner, accounting for more than 50% of primary production in the NT and generating over \$400 million in direct income. In 2010, over 300,000 cattle were exported live through the Port of Darwin. Live cattle exports are of critical importance to the northern pastoral industry and the northern Territory economy as a whole.

The industry directly provides in excess of 1800 jobs, mainly in rural areas of the Northern Territory. By area, employment and economic contribution the pastoral industry is the dominant industry in land management in the NT, with a predominant focus on long-term sustainable production. Over 85% of all NTCA members are active participants in Conservation, Environmental and Landcare groups throughout the Northern Territory and the Association encourages members to join their local groups.

NTCA members include all of the country's largest beef producers including the Australian Agricultural Company (AACo), Consolidated Pastoral Company (CPC), S Kidman & Co, Heytesbury Beef, North Australian Pastoral Company (NAPCO), Georgina Pastoral Company, The Indigenous Land Corporation (ILC) and Paraway. These companies operations extend beyond the Northern Territory to cover vast tracts of northern, eastern and western Australia.

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