

Local Green-thumbed family takes out National Award

Dracaena Farm of Beachmere was named the 'Best Medium Production Nursery' in Australia at the 2010 Nursery & Garden Industry Awards held in Darwin recently, acknowledging its outstanding accomplishments.

The family business is headed up by Bryan Hillier, his wife Sharon and daughter Bronwyn. "Winning nationally two years in row and in Queensland for the past six years is so overwhelming especially considering the calibre of the competition," said Bryan. "Each year we aim to defend our title. We can't get complacent; each year we challenge ourselves to continue improving."

"We pride ourselves on setting this benchmark within the industry," said Bryan. "We are extremely passionate about horticulture and developing the industry. I think this is reflected in our business and how we approach our customers, work and the team."

In surviving the drought, a period that was particularly tough for those in the nursery and garden industry Bryan believes their customer service was what paid dividends. "We follow through with our customers and truly value their success as ours," said Bryan.

The 'Best Medium Production Nursery' award acknowledges producers with six to 15 fulltime employees and display extraordinary business operation and dedication to work on a daily basis.

About the 2010 Nursery & Garden Industry Awards

The Nursery & Garden Industry Awards praise outstanding businesses and individuals within the industry, who have shown excellent business practice in the past 12 months.

There are 14 prestigious categories and are featured at the awards program including two new categories this year, Best Government Nursery and Best Propagation Nursery.

Other categories include the Environment Award, Community Award, Training Award, Export Award, Best Small, Medium and Large Garden Centre, Best Small, and Large Production Nursery, Allied Supplier Award and Young Leader Award.

About Dracaena Farm

Celebrating its 21st year in business, Dracaena Farm Nursery is a multi-award winning wholesale production nursery located 45 minutes north of Brisbane. Specialising in the production of water wise and drought-tolerant plants, the nursery's mission is to provide the growing public with good quality, healthy plants — to guarantee the best possible start to their gardens and landscapes.

For more information visit www.ngia.com.au

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