



The Hon Ray Williams MP

Member for Castle Hill
Minister for Multiculturalism and
Minister for Disability Services

MEDIA RELEASE

LOCAL STUDENT AWARDED PRESTIGIOUS SCHOLARSHIP

Lauren Adler of Castle Hill was one of fifteen university students to have been awarded the annual 2017 Horizon Scholarship.

This scholarship is an initiative of the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation (RIRDC) in partnership with leading industry sponsors, which recognises leadership and commitment to the future of Australian agriculture.

The successful scholars were selected from a talent pool of more than 150 applicants nationwide are ones to watch when it comes to shaping the future of Australian agriculture.

Lauren studied agriculture and Primary Industries at Oak Hill High School, where she made the NSW Education Standard Distinguished Achievements List; and has now commenced her first year studying Rural Science at Armidale University.

The scholarship will provide \$5,000 per year for the duration of Lauren's degree, and she will be able to participate in professional development workshops and work placement opportunities, to kick start her career in agriculture.

Students are paired with an industry sponsor that aligns with their career aspirations and industry experience. Support from sponsors is key to the program success and assists students expand their networks and learn new skills relevant to a career in their chosen field.

Local Member for Castle Hill Ray Williams congratulates Lauren on her achievement and stated "the Castle Hill area has such a rich agricultural history, as one of the major producing areas of both wool and citrus crops in the 19th century. It is great to see that the younger generation is still very interested in agriculture, and that we have one of the next future leaders in this field coming from our electorate."

Sponsors of the Horizon Scholarship include the Australian Egg Corporation, ANZ, Australian Wool Innovation, the Cotton Research and Development Corporation, Dairy Australia, the Grains Research and Development Corporation, Horticulture Innovation Australia, McCaughey Memorial Institute, Meat & Livestock Australia and RIRDC (including Rice and Chicken Meat research programs).

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