



Council of Australasian Weed Societies

<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~weedss/>

MEDIA RELEASE

12 May 2008

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR CAWS NURSERY AWARD

Nominations for the 2008 CAWS Nursery Award close with State and Territory Weed Societies at the end of June.

The Most Weed-Wise Nursery Award, held every year in Australia and New Zealand by the Council of Australasian Weed Societies (CAWS), provides environmentally aware garden nurseries with the chance for national recognition.

CAWS President John Virtue said the Award acknowledged retail nurseries that removed invasive garden plants from sale, supported appropriate labeling schemes and educated customers about invasive garden plants that posed environmental threats.

“Anyone can nominate a garden centre or retail nursery, including customers, nursery staff or nursery owners,” Dr Virtue said.

The Award is endorsed by the Nursery & Garden Industry Australia and by Sustainable Gardening Australia.

“Nominations close with State and Territory weed societies on 30 June. Australian State/Territory winners will be announced in August, and the National winners for Australia and New Zealand will be announced in September,” he said.

Nurseries are assessed for the National CAWS Award by State Weed Societies against the following criteria:

- The voluntary removal of invasive species
- The sale of local native flora

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- The standard of labeling of plants including the use of the correct scientific name, and identification of potentially invasive species
- Industry accreditation
- Policy on invasive species and/or related issues
- Participation in schemes such as ‘Grow Me Instead’

Last year the National Most Weed-Wise Nursery CAWS Award was won by Melbourne’s Bulleen Arts and Garden nursery for its efforts in educating customers about plants that escape from gardens and become major environmental weed threats.

Dr Virtue said the Council of Australasian Weed Societies Inc. coordinated, supported and represented weed societies in Australia and New Zealand, providing national leadership, information and opportunities to advance weed management.

“It is the overarching body for six Australian State weed societies and the Plant Protection Society of New Zealand,” Dr Virtue said.

Nominations can be submitted to:

The Weed Society of New South Wales (Inc)
PO Box 438, WAHROONGA NSW 2076

The Weed Society of Queensland (Inc)
GPO Box 1607, BRISBANE QLD 4001

The Weed Management Society of South Australia Inc.
PO Box 517, TORRENS PARK SA 5062

The Weed Society of Victoria (Inc)
PO Box 987, FRANKSTON VIC 3199

The Weeds Society of Western Australia (Inc)
PO Box 190, VICTORIA PARK WA 6100

Tasmanian Weed Society (Inc)
P.O. Box 4608, Bathurst St, HOBART TAS 7000

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**Any ACT nominees should be submitted through The Weed Society of New South Wales. Any NT nominees should be submitted through The Weed Management Society of South Australia.*

Further information about nominating for the CAWS Awards is available on the CAWS website at <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~weedss/>

MEDIA CONTACT:

Dr John Virtue, CAWS President

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PHOTO CAPTION:

Bullen Arts and Garden CEO Paul McMorran, Manager Anna Thirkell-Johnson with CAWS President Dr John Virtue

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