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Media statement

Great Southern nurseryman wins Tree Farming award

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Great Southern nurseryman and landowner, Bill Hollingworth, received the WA Tree Farmer of the Year at the WA Landcare Awards dinner held in Geraldton last night.

The award, jointly sponsored by Australian Forest Growers and the Forest Products Commission, acknowledges the personal efforts of landowners and private forest growers who strive to achieve successful economic and environmental outcomes from tree plantings on their properties.

Mr Hollingworth has become one of the region's leading champions on the commercial and environmental sustainability of farm forestry and continually promotes the role trees in the landscape can play in mitigating salinity and addressing land degradation.

As chairman of the private forest development committee, Timber 2020, Mr Hollingworth has shown strong leadership in researching local casuarina species, especially the commercial and environmental impact of *Casuarina obesa*.

In 2005, Mr Hollingworth received a Churchill Fellowship to study the silviculture and utilisation of casuarina species.

The Hollingworth's property, south of Mt Barker, is home to Bandicoot Nursery which produces 6 million seedlings annually for commercial and revegetation purposes while providing additional regional employment options.

Leading by example, Mr Hollingworth's farm forestry activities include a range of eucalyptus species managed for sawn timber, in addition to trials on a variety of tree species.

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Pictures accompanying this release:

Picture 1: Bill Hollingworth at his property south of Mt Barker

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