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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR GREAT SOUTH WEST DAIRY AWARDS**

The Great South West Dairy Awards hope to hit a century in 2013.

A record 80 nominations plus more than 60 farm photos were received for the awards in 2012 and organisers are aiming to top that mark in 2013.

Nominations open on January 15 and close on February 17. The award categories include Employer of the Year, Employee of the Year, Share Farmer of the Year, National Resource and Sustainability Manager of the Year, Young Farm Leader of the Year and Farm Photo of the Year.

Nominations are also being sought for the Western Victorian Dairy Industry Honour Board.

The awards, now in their eighth year, will be presented at the Glenormiston College on April 19.

Project manager Barb Collins said the awards had been growing each year and she expected that trend to continue in 2013.

“We had record nominations in 2012 and record attendance at our Gala Awards Night and the whole program continues to grow,” she said.

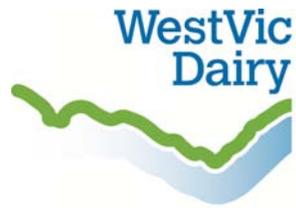
“The awards are now widely recognised as a major event for the dairy industry in south-west Victoria. It would be great if we could attract 100 nominations this year.”

Mrs Collins said the awards aimed to recognise and reward good performers on local dairy farms.

“We have a variety of categories to cover a wide range of farming practices and techniques. South-west Victoria is proud of the high quality of work on local dairy farms and the awards are a good way to recognise those achievements.”

Nine dairy farmers and service providers have been inducted on the Western Victorian Dairy Industry Honour Board over the past two years and Mrs Collins encouraged people to nominate other worthy recipients.

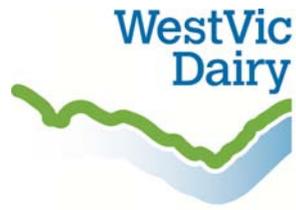
“We want to recognise people who have contributed and made a positive impact on the dairy industry and their local communities,” she said.



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"We are looking to recognise the long-term contribution of farmers, service providers and others in the industry who have made a real and positive impact on dairying," Mrs Collins said.

People interested in nominating for the awards can contact Mrs Collins on 55 922477 or email [barb@westvicdairy.com.au](mailto:barb@westvicdairy.com.au).



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