SOLUCE AND FARMERS' FEDERATION

Nominations for the 2022 Reef Champion Awards <u>open</u> <u>today</u>. The Awards are a celebration of the outstanding achievements of individuals and organisations working to improve the quality of water entering the iconic Great Barrier Reef. The Awards recognise the dedicated land managers, Traditional Owners, extension officers, industries and members of the community excelling in their efforts to help safeguard the future of the Reef. More information and the sponsorship prospectus <u>HERE</u>.

2

Having lived in suburban Brisbane most of her life, Molly Blake never imagined herself traversing through banana paddocks as part of her daily work. Now she can't imagine spending her days any other way. For the past year, Molly has been working as a Graduate Extension Officer for the Australian Banana Growers' Council based in South Johnstone, around 1 hour south of Cairns, through QFF's Agricultural Extension Work Placement Program. Read Molly's story <u>HERE</u>.

3

AgriFutures Australia is working with RMCG to support the Pre-Farm Gate Waste <u>Program</u>, which is collaborating with Australia's primary industries to better understand and identify the options to improve their waste management. A survey has been developed to capture waste volumes and practices to increase the knowledge of cross-sectoral waste issues for agriculture, fisheries and forestry. The survey closes 13 June. Find it <u>HERE</u>.

The Developing Northern Australia Conference on 6 to 8 July in Mackay offers attendees the opportunity to discuss the challenges and opportunities for next-generation agriculture and water, and reflect upon progress being made. It has a major influence on policy and program development, investment attraction and problem solving. Join change-makers advancing Australia's north and register <u>HERE</u>.

5

QFF is seeking to appoint a program manager with experience in banking, insurance or the financial sector. The successful candidate will display an understanding of farm enterprises and agricultural crop yield concepts. They will lead a new innovative crop insurance project and oversee the delivery of additional insurance-related projects within the QFF project portfolio. See the job advertisement for the Risk and Insurance Program Manager, Agriculture <u>HERE</u>.

6.

Digital technologies are rapidly changing the way we work, learn and live - yet in agriculture, digital capability is generally still lagging. The AFI is undertaking research to assess Australian agriculture's digital capability, which will help target investment where it's most needed to build capacity for a future-fit farm sector. The survey which can be found <u>HERE</u>, only takes 5 minutes, and will not only provide anonymised data to paint a picture for the research, but also help you identify your own digital strengths and opportunities for skills development.

The Fruit and Vegetable Consortium, Nutrition Australia, and AUSVEG are undertaking a research project amongst Australian vegetable growers to better understand the industry perceptions and views towards increasing consumption of vegetables, as a national priority as we recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. Australian vegetable growers are invited to participate in a short online survey. Your views are important as suppliers and growers of fresh produce. More information <u>HERE</u>.

8.

Step-by-step guides, practical advice and videos are now available on the <u>Business Queensland</u> website for business owners and operators to work through at their own pace to develop tailored plans and introduce strategies to help their business thrive. There are updates across a number of topics, including Finance, Accounting and profit, Adapting to change and Digital skills for business. See information <u>HERE</u>

9.

The Supporting Landholder Capacity <u>Survey</u> is a threeyear project aimed at supporting landholder capacity for quality agriculture development across the Top End of Australia. The firsthand experiences of growers in applying for land, water and environmental approvals in the North are sought. The responses provided in this survey will help to identify the major obstacles to agricultural development in the north. More information <u>HERE</u>.

10.

QFF, with funding from the Department of Justice and Attorney-General, has developed 'Walking the Wire', an ekit to help strengthen the financial security of rural agribusiness women. It aims to provide guidance to help farming women take the next step in securing their financial future, particularly where they may have had difficulty prioritising their own financial security in the past. See the e-kit <u>HERE</u>



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