



Nursery & Garden Industry Australia

Life Member - Citation

Mr Gary Eyles

February 2018

Life Membership is the highest honour awarded by Nursery & Garden Industry Australia and may be conferred on any person who has rendered distinguished and meritorious service to the nursery industry.

The contribution of this person is recognised as extending across State and Territory borders and is acknowledged as contributing to the welfare of the industry as a whole.

Our recipient tonight is a third-generation nurseryman, with a life time of achievement in the industry and a proven track record, volunteering countless hours to support and better the industry.

He is held in the highest esteem, his counsel well respected and often sought after. A true professional in every sense, he has been referred to as one of the gentleman of the industry.

A founding member of the International Society of Citrus Nurserymen (ISCN) our recipient also served for many years as their president. Through the ISCN, our recipient has done much to foster and improve citrus nurseries and the broader citrus industry both locally and internationally. As a recent example our recipient was instrumental in the successful organisation and running, as the Chair, of the 11th ISCN held in Mildura in Jul 2017. Likewise, his service as a representative to Austcitrus has done much to advance the importance of high health plant material and the importance our industry has to broader horticulture in Australia.

To the broader nursery industry, he has dedicated much; Board service includes the NGINA board from 2006 until 2012 and the NGIA board from 2008 to 2011 including time spent as Vice President.

Our recipient has also dedicated time to numerous committees and work groups throughout his career including the Nursery Accreditation and Certification Committee which previously governed the Nursery Production Farm Management System. He remains a strong advocate for the adoption of industry best practice and accreditation, with his own nursery being long accredited through NIASA.

In early 2016 our recipient chaired the NGI Future Structure Committee, a process which saw him consult broadly with many members within our association and from other industries and

organisations. It was a process which required an open mind and certainly considerable fortitude and through this he displayed a rare combination of wisdom, honesty and professionalism.

He is indeed an asset to our industry and we are all the much richer for his being part of it. This has been recognised by his peers in the past including the awarding of the NGINA Award of Merit in 2011 and Life Membership of NGINA in Nov 2015. It is a testament to his character that he is being recognised again tonight, this time by our highest honour.

Ladies and gentlemen please join with me in congratulating our newest Life Member Mr Gary Eyles.