



**Niall Blair**

Minister for Primary Industries  
Minister for Regional Water  
Minister for Trade and Industry

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **FOUR RURAL WOMEN SHINING IN THE REGIONS**

Minister for Primary Industries, Niall Blair today announced Jillian Kilby from Dubbo, Ginny Stevens from Mangoplah, Shanna Whan from Narrabri and Olympia Yarger from Fyshwick ACT as the four finalists for the 2018 NSW-ACT AgriFutures™ Rural Women's Award.

The Award identifies and supports rural women who have the ambition, commitment and leadership potential to make a greater contribution to our regions.

“I am very pleased to announce this year’s ambitious and dedicated finalists, who already make an important contribution to our regional communities,” Mr Blair said.

“Each applicant has submitted their innovative project which outlines how their initiative will drive change and improve our primary industries and regional communities.

“These women play a huge role in building confidence, both in the rural sector and their community. I know everyone will be inspired by these regional heroes.”

They join a vibrant NSW-ACT alumni of over 40 past award winners and finalists committed to making a difference to regional communities and primary industries.

The winner of the 2018 NSW-ACT AgriFutures™ Rural Women's Award will receive a bursary of \$10,000 along with professional development opportunities.

The Award winner will be announced in April at Parliament House in Sydney. The three remaining finalists will receive a \$1,000 Department of Primary Industries bursary for skills and leadership development.

The NSW-ACT Rural Women’s Award is co-ordinated by the NSW Rural Women’s Network through the Department of Primary Industries and supported by NSW Farmers, Office of Environment & Heritage and the NSW Country Women’s Association.

The NSW-ACT winner will compete for the national award later this year at Parliament House in Canberra, where the winner will be awarded an additional \$10,000 bursary and the national runner-up an additional \$5,000.

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