

Hon Tim Whetstone MP

Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development

Wednesday 17 July 2019

Enterprising young farmer wins Young Rural Ambassador Award

Garry Schutz, a farmer and passionate sheep shearer from Eudunda, has been named South Australia's Young Rural Ambassador for 2019.

Representing the Northern Show Association, 19 year-old Garry Schutz was named the winner at the Young Rural Ambassador Award State Final by the Agricultural Societies Council of South Australia on Friday night.

Garry grew up on a family sheep and cropping farm north east of Eudunda and has been involved in the Eudunda Show, as well as travelling between local shows and interstate to compete in shearing competitions.

Twenty-year old Cassy Poulton was the runner-up, representing the Central region. She is studying a Bachelor of Animal Science and wants to be involved with genetics and livestock breeding.

Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development Tim Whetstone, who crowned the winner at the award event, acknowledged the nominees for their passionate work in supporting their local shows.

"Once again it was outstanding to have such a high calibre field of finalists for the awards holding agriculture and our regions in good stead for future years" said Minister Whetstone.

"It is important we continue to foster young rural leaders and create opportunities that inspire our youth to stay in the agriculture sector and promote their regional communities

"Regional South Australia is home to so many passionate and talented young people who are achieving amazing things, I'm sure selecting a winner has been no easy task. I congratulate all finalists on their accomplishments and look forward to seeing what they achieve next. These young people are future leaders in their regional communities.

"The Young Rural Ambassador Program is about engaging committed and passionate young people in their local communities and agriculture in South Australia."

Garry Schutz said he was thrilled to be named Young Rural Ambassador Award for 2019.

"I feel over the moon to have won the state final and feel very lucky as the other candidates were all very worthy and congratulate them," Mr Schutz said.

"Along with my family I have been very involved with the Eudunda Show helping out wherever I can and being an exhibitor growing up. I have assisted with the shearing competition and this year as a show committee member helped start the Merino hogget competition."

The finalists were: Tayla Paull (Murraylands), Bridget Johansen (Southern), Chloe Hilder (Northern), Angus Llewellyn (South East & Border), Matilda Harris (South East & Border), Chloe Provis (Eyre Peninsula) and Bronwyn Farrow (Yorke Peninsula).