

Tubestock Growers Perpetual Award Citation

Judy Horton

The recipient of this award is one of the nursery and garden industry's best known personalities. Originally a schoolteacher, she studied at Ryde School of Horticulture in the early 1980s. She then had ten years of experience in retail nurseries as a garden adviser and seven years with NSW National Trust as a bush regenerator.

Judy worked for Yates for over twenty years until recently "retiring". She wrote newsletters, information sheets and press releases. She edited and was responsible for the Yates Garden Guide (Australia's best-selling gardening book) and other Yates publications in Australia and New Zealand. In all Judy had overseen five editions of the Yates Garden Guide, treating each one as an 'honour' to be involved with. She also maintained the Yates archives, quite a responsibility for a company with over 125 years of history.

As well as her work with Yates Garden Guide, Judy has written three gardening books plus many articles for gardening magazines. She has sent out a monthly gardening newsletter for dissemination to the full spectrum of radio, print and social media. Radio listeners regularly benefited from Judy's clear articulation and understanding of gardening problems when she talks on 702ABC Saturday morning talkback or one of the several radio stations she also broadcasts on. At times she has filled in for both Don Burke on 2UE and Graham Ross on 2GB.

She provides interesting talks to many groups such as garden clubs and Probus and has spoken at garden shows around Australia, including Floriade in Canberra, The Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show and Sydney's Royal Easter Show. She has established herself as the 'ringmistress' of Q&A sessions at MIFGS and the Queensland Garden Expo.

Judy was the MC at NGIA's Darwin Conference in 2010,

at the National Arborists' Association conference (twice) and the Institute of Landscape Designers and Managers award night (twice). For a number of years she was on the judging panel for the AIH Young Horticulturist of the Year and was a member of the NGIA Marketing Committee and the Sydney Committee of Australia's Open Garden Scheme. In November 2012 she was announced as one of two Registered Horticulturist Ambassadors for the AIH. For ten years she was the secretary of HMA NSW and is now the patron of her local garden club.

In 2003 she was awarded the NGINA Allan Seale Award for her outstanding media contribution to the industry and in 2009 she was presented with the Horticultural Media Association Hall of Fame Laurel for her outstanding contribution to the promotion of gardening. In 2012 she was awarded the NGINA Award of Merit for her outstanding contribution to the industry. In the same year she was presented with the Golden Wattle Award, the highest award from the Australian Institute of Horticulture, for her contribution to horticulture. Despite retiring she is still very active within the industry and still guides a generation of gardeners.

She is married to Rob with two adult children and five grandchildren. While she still occasionally gets time to enjoy her own garden on 5 acres at Dural, her main ambition is to encourage people to enjoy gardening. She has no horticultural prejudices, accepts any type of gardening and as a horticulturist feels a burning responsibility to pass on gardening knowledge and enthusiasm to the next generation.

The NGINA Tubestock Growers Perpetual Award is awarded to Judy Horton for her outstanding contribution to the Horticultural Industry.



Presented by Doug Shelton, 20th November 2015

