

Media Release

Bamboo Goes for Gold – Again!

Big Heart Bamboo is hoping to add another major award to its trophy shelf. Founder-owner-operator Becky Dart is a finalist in the *Weekly Times Coles 2020 Farmer of the Year* awards which will be announced this Friday, February 26, from 5pm. The awards celebrate those leading the way in Australian farming.

Big Heart Bamboo, a comparative newcomer to the food marketplace, supplies fresh bamboo shoots and a range of gourmet bamboo condiments that includes pickles, relishes, chutneys, toppings and a new range of fragrant refreshing teas. Becky says that working on her father's Bamboo Australia plantation coupled with her UQ degree in Applied Science inspired her to take bamboo into the kitchen for some serious research.

“Bamboo has an unexpectedly powerful nutritional profile and a really delicate flavour that adapts effortlessly to other flavours and textures without losing its own fragrance and crunch. The Japanese refer to it as ‘eating the sound of bamboo’.”

The market has responded enthusiastically to the new products, with orders coming from local shops and restaurants, interstate and even overseas.

Becky's extensive study research alerted her to the fact that bamboo has many other aspects to commend it, being a readily-renewable crop that requires no pesticides, only minimal organic fertilisers and being able to sequester one-and-a-half times the amount of carbon dioxide as an equivalent acreage of broadleaf forest. Becky says it could play a major future role in protecting the environment.

“It's an honour to carry forward the vision and labour my father has put into developing one of Australia's major new crops,” she says. “Being a contender for the *Weekly Times Coles 2020 Farmer of the Year* award is a significant recognition of all that's been invested in getting Big Heart Bamboo to where it is now –and it's a great encouragement to continue developing new products and new markets of a food that has so much potential.”

For more information on Big Heart Bamboo;

Becky on 0416 275 239 www.bigheartbamboo.com.au

Facebook; Big Heart Bamboo Instagram; @bigheartbamboo

Big Heart Bamboo is a proud State Winner of the 2019 Delicious Produce Awards, 2020 Delicious Produce Awards, 2019 Eumundi Chamber of Commerce Business of the Year Award and further endorsement with the Food Agribusiness Network Sunshine Coast

To arrange an interview or photocall contact Becky on 0416 275 239 or Jan 0429 898 328

Photographs available on request

[The Weekly Times Coles 2020 Farmer of the Year awards live stream | The Weekly Times \(weeklytimesnow.com.au\)](https://www.weeklytimesnow.com.au)