



Eric Love meets up with Darren Fahey, Compost for Soils, NSW, and Jacqui Telgenkamp.



Peter Wadewits, Peats Soils, and John Durst, Sydney Markets.



LEFT: Simone and Neil Jolliffe, Wagga Wagga, with Rhonda and Bill Daly, YLAD Living Soils, NSW.



Connie Harris, Warringah Council, with Paul Perkins, chairman, Kimbriki Slide.

Compost benefits enrich award night



ABOVE: Neil and Simone Jolliffe, Wagga Wagga.



LEFT: Christopher Rochfort, CORE, speaks at the dinner.



RIGHT: Rowan Williams, BASF, addresses the audience.



Daniel and Bozena Kastowsky, GCM Enviro.



Steve Beaman with Mark Jackson and Peter Wadewits, Peats Soils.

HIGH achievers in the compost industry celebrated their growing industry this month in Sydney at the Compost Ball 2012. Television gardening personality Costa "the Composter" Georgiadis and his chicken Kinky hosted the evening where the NSW compost industry was represented, along with South Australian and Victorian players, with more than 130 people attending. Special guests included Acting Speaker of the Legislative Assembly Gareth Ward, Member for Kiama, along with Councillor Connie Harris from the host council, Warringah, and Paul Perkins from Kimbriki Environmental Enterprises.

While the guests enjoyed an organic meal, Eric Love and Christopher Rochfort (chairman and CEO, CORE) highlighted the outcomes of International Composting Awareness Week (ICAW) Australia in May.

The number of partners that supported ICAW 2012 was a record.

Certificates recognising achievements in recycled organics in NSW were also handed out to deserving winners (see breakout box).

The compost industry in NSW has forged ahead in recent years and 2011-12 made significant gains made in both horticulture and agriculture sectors along with urban amenity and mine site rehabilitation.

An increasing number of landholders are choosing to

HIGH ACHIEVERS

- **Cut flower sector:** Bilpin Blossoms Farm – supplied by Soilco.
- **Vegetables sector:** Alandale Farm – supplied by Soilco and ANL.
- **Weed and erosion control project:** Bugeja Farm – project manager CORE.
- **Stormwater treatment project:** Woollahra Municipal Council at Lyne Park Raingarden – supplied by STAR Water, project manager Sydney Civil.
- **Viticulture sector:** Mistletoe Winery, Tyrrell's, Glandore Estate, Braemore – supplied by ANL.
- **Food waste trial project:** Hills Shire Council.
- **Sports field project:** Sutherland Shire Council at Rydges Sports Field – supplied by SITA Organics.
- **Broadacre sector:** Milgadara Farm – supplied by YLAD Living Soils.
- **People:** AS4454 Working Group NSW – Simon Leake, Angus Campbell, Tony Emery, Garry Kimble. Annie Kavanagh, senior project officer, Organics NSW Environment Protection Authority.



Darren Fahey, Compost for Soils, NSW, with recognition for his achievements in the organic industry.

reduce their synthetic inputs and utilise composts and mulches to improve overall soil health and productivity while enhancing ecosystems services for the community at large.

The industry is growing quickly with many new participants involved in on-farm composting in regional and rural areas across the state, while larger processors close to the coast continue to expand to accommodate for the ever increasing organic wastes diverted from landfill. This is expected to continue with diversion of food waste from landfills providing large volumes of valuable nutrients for recycling.

The Get Wasted Band entertained, with special thanks given to ball sponsor, BAS and wine sponsor, Mistletoe Wines.



A star line-up, from left: Juan Vargas, Duncan Legood, Annie Kavanagh, Simon Leake, Rhonda Daly, Rob Nicoll, Kathy Woods, Angus Campbell, Bill Daly and Tony Emery.



LEFT: Simon Leake with Kathy Woods and Angus Campbell.

RIGHT: Award winners, Bill and Rhonda Daly, YLab Living Soils, NSW.



Annie Kavanagh takes the chance for a photo with her award.



RIGHT: Duncan Legood, SITA with the certificate honouring the Rydges Sports Field project.



LEFT: Tony Emery, Soilco shows off his award certificate.