



# Alpine Valleys

agribusiness forum

*Australian Alpine Valleys - Where the Best Grows to Perfection*

## media release & photo opportunity

May 18, 2010

### **Agribusiness Next Gen Leaders Program Graduate**

Twelve of the North East's aspiring young leaders attended their graduation from the Next Gen Leadership Program at the Quality Gateway Hotel in Wangaratta on Wednesday April 28.

The leadership program was a joint project between the Australian Alpine Valleys Agribusiness Forum and the Alpine Valleys Community Leadership Program made possible with funding from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

A highlight of the ..... month program was a trip to Melbourne to experience the early morning activity of the Melbourne wholesale fruit, vegetable and flower market and a tour of the Police Academy focusing on leadership and training.

During the program, participants attended several presentations by high profile guest speakers and visited the Department of Primary Industries BioScience Research facility at LaTrobe University where the focus was on the effects of climate change.

The group also received presentations from industry experts at Regional Development Victoria, which included an address by the Chief Executive Officer, Justin Hanney. The participants came away impressed by with the high level of focus placed on regional Victoria and the future of rural agribusiness and communities.

The group acknowledged the valuable opportunities they were given to access a 'behind the scenes' insight into agricultural research, leadership training, marketing, government policy and process.