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Vine Health Australia Barossa Valley, South Australia Photo: John Krüger

Vinehealth Australia CEO Inca Lee named Research/Innovator of the Year

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BY ANTHONY MADIGAN ON WEDNESDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 2019

NEWS

Vinehealth Australia CEO Inca Lee has been named Researcher/Innovator of the Year at the Australian Women in Wine Awards, announced in New York this morning.

WBM – Australia's Wine Business Magazine is a sponsor of the awards.

Other finalists in the category were Joanna Gambetta from Charles Sturt University and Mango Parker from the Australian Wine Research Institute.

Accepting the award via video link from Australia, Inca paid tribute to Prue Henschke who nominated her.

"You are an inspiration and a trailblazer. Your generosity of time and ideas to industry matters, including biosecurity, is boundless," Inca said.

Inca also thanked Angove Family Winemakers for sponsoring her award. "At Vinehealth Australia we've worked closely for many years with Angoves. They are true biosecurity champions," she said.

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Inca said she shared the award with the talented people she has been fortunate to work with during her career at Pernod Ricard Winemakers and Vinehealth Australia.

“My sole focus now is to provide growers and winemakers with new ways to protect their wines and their brands from the devastating impacts of a biosecurity shock. It’s a huge challenge, but I think with greater awareness we are making progress,” she said.

Other winners...

Marketer of the Year – Imogen Hayes (Handpicked Wines)

Champion of Diversity & Equality – John Davis (Pepper Tree Wines)

Owner/Operator of the Year – Sarah McDougall (Lake George Winery)

Viticulturist of the Year – Sheridan Alm (Starrs Reach Vineyard)

Woman of Inspiration – Angie Bradbury (Dig+Fish)

Honorary Australian Woman in Wine – USA – Christina Pickard

Cellar Door Person of the Year – Ulrika Larsson (Clairault Streicker)

Winemaker of the Year – Vanya Cullen (Cullen Wines)

The 2019 awards were judged by panels made up of Australian Women in Wine Awards Advisory Board members and previous winners.

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