



MEDIA RELEASE

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New Vice President for RGA

The Ricegrowers' Association of Australia (RGA) has elected a new Vice President following Hayden Cudmore's decision to step down after two years in the role.

At a RGA Central Executive meeting held at the beginning of the month in Jerilderie, Berriquin Branch Delegate and rice grower Robert Massina was chosen by the RGA's elected representatives in the role of RGA Vice President.

Mr Massina joins the RGA leadership team with not only practical farm and farm business knowledge, but also a wealth of corporate experience including nine years with Elders Limited in Agribusiness Finance and Regional Leadership roles, and four years with Landpower Australia as Group Marketing Manager (AU and NZ) and Business Development.

RGA President Jeremy Morton has paid tribute to Mr Cudmore's service to the industry.

"Hayden has worked tirelessly for the rice industry as RGA Vice President. He should be very proud of his achievements."

"Very few people understand the complex area of water policy better than Hayden. Hayden's incredible knowledge and ability in the water space is well known and respected throughout the whole Australian water sector."

Mr Cudmore said that he felt it was the right time for him to step down from the role. "I've really enjoyed my time as RGA Vice President and now is a good opportunity for generational change. We've still got a big task ahead of us at both a state and federal level with both the development of the Water Resource Plans and the implementation of the Murray Darling Basin Plan, and I'm confident of our capacity to respond in the best interests of growers."

Mr Cudmore will continue to represent the RGA and his region in the following capacity; RGA Mirrool Branch President, RGA Water Committee Delegate, RGA New South Wales Irrigators Council Delegate and Representative of the Murrumbidgee Water Resource Plan Stakeholder Advisory Panel.

Mr Massina said that he was looking forward to joining the RGA leadership team at this time.

"I am very excited about this opportunity. The opportunity for agriculture in Australia is at an all-time high and this includes the rice industry. I'm optimistic about the future."

"The RGA will continue to be there helping our growers adapt to the future and exploiting the opportunities that arise."

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