



TIAR Media Release



TASMANIAN INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

DATE: MONDAY 1 NOVEMBER 2010

ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

Food bowl or pie in the sky?

There has been much media speculation over the last year or two about diverting water from Tasmania's wet north-west for irrigation. The proximity of reliable rainfall and underutilised land in the midlands seems too good an opportunity to pass up in order to help feed Australia's growing population.

Professor Wayne Meyer is one of Australia's leading experts on irrigation and sustainable farming systems and is based at the University of Adelaide.

Prof Meyer will deliver the inaugural Temple-Smith Lecture at UTAS on Wednesday 3 November on the topic of "Irrigation and Tasmania's food bowl."

During the lecture, he will discuss the potential benefits to food production, as well as the potential environmental dangers, of proposed large-scale irrigation schemes in Tasmania.

The Temple-Smith lecture is organised by the Australian Society of Soil Science and is named after Dr Mike Temple-Smith who led the Tasmanian government's research effort in agricultural soil and land management for much of the 1980s and '90s.

During this time he was responsible for recruiting and encouraging many young scientists.

The Tasmanian Branch of the Society is proud to name the Temple-Smith lecture in recognition of Mike's contribution to the profession.

Event details:

What: Professor Wayne Meyer will deliver the Inaugural Temple-Smith Lecture

When: 5.00pm November 3rd 2010

Where: Sandy Bay Campus, University of Tasmania, Life Sciences Lecture Theatre 1

The lecture is free and open to the general public

Presented by the Australian Society of Soil Science – Tasmanian Branch



TIAR is a joint venture between the Tasmanian Department of Primary Industries, Water, Parks and Environment and the University of Tasmania
