



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## **Release 2**

### **Hands-on training meets industry demand**

Australian Agricultural College Corporation (AACC) has unveiled its new direction for 2007 with a course restructure aimed at producing multi-skilled graduates for stronger rural communities.

AACC director Malcolm McKay said the new course structure represents a step forward in the provision of flexible and relevant agricultural training.

"We have forged strong links with industry groups and rural communities," he said.  
"This relationship will help us produce graduates who are more job-ready than ever before."

Under the course restructure, students start their studies with a Certificate II in Rural Operations. Graduates of the Certificate II courses can then go straight to work with useable skills or go onto further training.

Mr McKay said the new course structure was developed in response to a growing demand for more multi-skilled graduates with the basic knowledge to operate a farm as well as perform specific tasks.

"We're really listening to what students, and rural employers and industries need," he said.  
"When you're working in the agricultural and rural industry, you face a wide range of challenges that test you everyday. You can't just run to the nearest servo when the tractor or ute stops, and you can't just call a tradesman when the gate doesn't close. You need a wide range of basic farm skills to effectively handle these situations."

Mr McKay said the outcome of the course restructure will be greater resources being allocated to areas of specialisation and a higher level of quality training.

**Media enquires, interviews:**

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