

Hayleys Agriculture continues to dominate National Agribusiness Awards

WINS 10 AWARDS INCLUDING 6 GOLDS AND A NATIONAL AWARD FOR STERLING CONTRIBUTION TO SRI LANKAN AGRICULTURE

Hayleys Agriculture the agribusiness arm of Hayleys PLC Sri Lanka's respected conglomerate maintained its top slot at the annual National Agribusiness Awards which was held at the BMICH last Saturday by winning 10 awards. The 2014 National Agribusiness Awards organized by the National Agribusiness Council was held for the 9th time concurrently with the Pro Foods & Pro Pack AgriBiz Exhibition at the BMICH from the 22nd to the 24th of August 2014. This prestigious event is supported by the Ministry of Agriculture.

Hayleys Agriculture won six Awards in the Large Category, three awards in the Small category and 1 Award under the Medium category. Overall, the company won 6 Gold Awards, 2 Silver Awards, 1 Bronze and was the 2nd Runner up among the National Award winners. With this year's achievement, the total number of awards won by Hayleys Agriculture in the last five years is an unsurpassed record of 45 awards, most of them Gold awards.

"This is an amazing feat which highlights the pre-eminent role played by Hayleys in the Agriculture realm in Sri Lanka," said Rizvi Zaheed the Managing Director of Hayleys Agriculture Holdings Ltd and Head of the Hayleys Agribusiness Sector. The company is involved in every aspect of agriculture in Sri Lanka providing all agri inputs as well as producing a wide variety of agricultural products for the domestic and global markets. "We will robustly pursue our goal with passion and excellence in taking Sri Lankan agriculture to the world whilst helping to achieve food security for all Sri Lankans", he added.

Business units that won Gold awards were HJS Condiments and Sunfrost for their impressive record of developing and growing Sri Lanka's most successful global agri food supply chain, taking products from rural farmers and reaching a wide spectrum of global markets in over 30 countries. Within a short period of time HJS Condiments has developed 6 major product lines & accounts for 43% of the Island's total fruit & vegetable exports.

Quality Seed Company which won 3 Awards is the preferred flower seed and cut flower producer in Sri Lanka while Hayleys Agro Biotech won a Gold Award for its pioneering work and for reaching global markets across the world. The Agro Farms, Crop Protection and Agri Machinery divisions were also among the award winners for the impactful contribution in provision of high quality planting materials, extension services and new product introductions that have helped boost agricultural productivity and farmer incomes.

Hayleys Agriculture is indisputably the most significant contributor to the Agriculture sector in Sri Lanka with constant innovation and new product introductions which is helping improve productivity and value addition. The entrenched involvement of rural farmers through sustainable partnerships and expansion of global markets has helped the company to develop sustainable agri supply chains and also to mitigate the impacts of adverse weather and chart a course of expansion and development. The recent foray into growing and processing of seaweed in the Mannar basin is a good example of the innovative and pioneering spirit that prevails in the company. This has helped to bring benefits to all stakeholders.