

Achievers with get up and grow

BETHANY GRIFFITHS



CULINARY herb farm Holla Fresh is adding flavour to an otherwise bland year.

Managing director Ian Lines said sales took a minor hit from the pandemic but had since seen a healthy boost.



**Holla Fresh's
Ian Lines in his
hydroponic
greenhouse.
Picture:
Frank Monger**

"Since COVID-19 more people are cooking at home, requiring nicer flavours to make stuff instead of going out," he said.

The familyowned hydroponic operation grows 15 varieties of herbs and produce, including basil, mint and chives, in greenhouses on 3.8ha at Tantanoola, in the southeast.

Mr Lines would like to see great farmers nominated for The Weekly Times Coles 2019 Farmer of the Year

Awards. He said the awards were important to promote the industry to younger Australians and recognise the contribution farmers make to the country.

"I don't think a lot of Australia realises the commitment and time that farmers and their families have got to put in," he said.

The awards, proudly supported by the Sunday Mail, seek the best farmers in six categories

– cropping, beef, dairy, sheep, horticulture and lifestyle

– with The Weekly Times Coles 2020 Farmer of the Year chosen from the category winners. Finalists and winners will be announced in February.

Last year's winners were cropping farmers Peter and Renee Burke, from Jerilderie in southern NSW.