

MEDIA STATEMENT

For immediate release

17 May 2016



INSIGHTS FROM THE SKY SAVE MONEY, INCREASE YIELDS



A new bird is taking to the skies over the Lockyer Valley this week, aiming to help horticulturalists achieve better crop yields and save money. With infrared eyes and a wingspan of over two metres, it's already attracting a lot of attention.

Qld Drone Photography Chief Pilot, Tony Gilbert, explains that the Ag Eagle is a specialised agricultural drone, purpose-designed for crop surveying and "tractor-tuff" in-field use, all day every day.

"We usually fly quadcopter drones," Mr Gilbert said, "but this fixed-wing aircraft is a whole new capability, able to fly in windy conditions and cover up to 400 acres in a single 45 minute flight with amazing detail".

"It brings an economy of scale that we simply could not offer in the past," he said, "and we expect to seriously disrupt the satellite NDVI imagery business."

Qld Drone Photography is the second Queensland aerial photography business to partner with Falcon UAV, importers of the Ag Eagle drone, to offer tailored aerial survey services to horticulturalists, broad acre farmers, orchardists and pastoralists. Its operational area covers north to the Sunshine Coast, west to St George/Goondiwindi and south to Stanthorpe and Texas.

The Ag Eagle UAV will be flying at an on-farm demonstration in North Laidley this Friday. Phone 0439 383202 for more details. Qld Drone Photography and Falcon UAV will be exhibiting at the Produce Marketing Association national conference at Brisbane Convention Centre tomorrow and in the Pavilion at CRT FarmFest in Toowoomba on 7-9 June.

-ENDS-

MEDIA ENQUIRIES

If you would like attend the Laidley demo or interview Tony Gilbert, please phone 0439 383202 or email info@qlddrones.com.au. For media materials, visit www.qlddrones.com.au/media. Please ask if you would like high resolution photographs or UHD video of Friday's on-farm demonstration flights.