

## Victorian Owners' & Breeders' Awards Night

The late great Rubiton has taken out the John Ingleton Memorial Champion Victorian Stallion award for the 2006/2007 season. The former Blue Gum Farm resident joins another former Blue Gum stallion in Encosta de Lago as a multiple winner of the award.

Swettenham Stud stallion Dash for Cash has taken out the coveted Champion Victoria Freshman Sire award, the first major award for Swettenham Stud since Adam Sangster took over the reins of the Nagambie property in 2006.

Both these awards and many more were presented at the Victorian Owners' & Breeders' Awards Night at 'Champions' on Friday August 24.

Martin O'Connor and his mighty mare Finneto took out 3 awards, Leading Victorian Breeder, Leading Small Breeder and Champion Victorian Broodmare, for the second consecutive year. Thanks to the feats of the Cox Plate hero Fields of Omagh and the John Hawkes trained Malcolm, Finneto was crowned Champion Broodmare for the third time.

Blue Gum Farm also won the Champion Victorian Broodmare Sire award thanks to the former resident Last Tycoon, who served a great book of mares for so many seasons at the Euroa property.

In an emotional presentation Bryan Muschialli choked back tears as he accepted Life Membership to TBV after so many years serving as Treasurer and Committeemen for the Association. Bryan was honoured to receive the award, which he so thoroughly deserved after promoting Victorian breeding both nationally and across South East Asia as a bloodstock agent.

Former Thoroughbred Breeders Australia President Richard Turnley was awarded the TBV Industry Contribution Award, which is decided by the TBV Committee.

Richard served with distinction as TBA President for years before retiring earlier this year. TBV President Mike Becker paid tribute to Turnley who has invested so much of his own time and money representing Australian breeding at international meetings, ensuring we are recognised world wide.