



**Media release
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A change at the top for the Batlow Fruit Co-operative

The Batlow Fruit Co-operative's chairman, Darral Ashton, has stepped down after almost nine years in the position.

Darral has been an apple grower in Batlow since 1974 and has clocked up over 18 years of service as a member of the board. He will continue to remain part of the board as an independent Director for 2010.

"It's been a pleasure to have had the opportunity to lead the Batlow Fruit Co-operative throughout the years as Chairman," Darral said. "I'm very confident in John's abilities and know he is a fantastic candidate to take over the reins."

Darral was replaced by fellow orchardist, John Robson earlier this year, John has over 40 years experience in the industry and has served on the board since October 2006 after previously serving from 1980-81 and 1991-1995.

John is the director of Mount View orchard and a member of the co-operative's Audit Committee, the Remuneration Committee and the Rules Committee.

John said: "Having been part of the co-operative for over 40 years, it is a great honour to be appointed as chairman. I hope that my experience in the industry will bring some valuable guidance and growth to the co-operative and the Batlow region as a whole."

For further information on the Batlow Fruit Co-operative, visit www.batlow.com.au



ENDS

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