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The Manager
Companies Announcement Section
Australian Stock Exchange
Level 4
Bridge Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Via elodgement

Dear Sir/Madam

MEDIA RELEASE – WEBSTER BACKS CONFIDENCE IN WALNUT PROJECT

Attached is a media announcement in relation to Webster's confidence in the walnut project with further investment.

For enquiries please contact:

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Company Secretary
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Media Release

Webster Backs Confidence in Walnut Project With Further Investment

6 June 2007

Webster Limited today announced plans for a \$2 million walnut processing plant in the Riverina area of NSW.

Webster Limited chairman Rod Roberts said the company was finalising plans for a walnut hulling and drying line to process walnuts from orchards it manages in the Riverina area.

“Over the next three years we have further plans for a \$10 million processing and packing plant to come on line as walnut production ramps up,” Mr Roberts said.

Mr Roberts said Webster’s investment signalled its confidence in the walnut project which, when completed, would create a business with turnover in excess of \$100 million, employing more than 120 people in the Riverina area and Tasmania.

Webster, in conjunction with ‘partner’ company Gunns Limited and private investors, has developed an 800 ha walnut orchard on Tabitta Lane near Griffith, NSW. We are concluding year two of a contracted four year development program and on track to complete a further 800ha orchard at Leeton over the next two months. This is in addition to its existing 540 ha of walnut orchards on the east coast of Tasmania.

“Webster has overseen a \$30 million investment in the Riverina. And this is before we start to do any downstream value-adding, which will employ a further 80 staff plus contractors.

“Webster have employed staff and are developing nursery stock for planting in the winters of 2007-08.

Mr Roberts said Webster was very confident of the success of the walnut venture as Australia presently grew a very small percentage of the walnuts it consumed, so there was a big opportunity for import replacement.

“Walnuts makes sense from a business point of view and we are in a very good position.

“We are the largest walnut orchard manager in the southern hemisphere, we have the only Australian commercial walnut nursery, and we have developed Australian and international intellectual property relating to growing and harvesting.” Mr Roberts said.

“In a period of water uncertainty, Webster has negotiated very good arrangements for water delivery both in Tasmania and the Riverina.

“The walnut market is globally very large with more than 1.5 million tonnes of in-shell nuts being traded annually and demand is on the increase because of their well-documented health benefits

“Australia has a negligible share of this international market but we have an opportunity to be a counter-seasonal competitive supplier to the northern hemisphere.

“And, again Webster Limited, which has developed a reputation as a reliable supplier of fresh vegetables to European supermarket chains, is well-placed to capitalise on this export opportunity.

Mr Roberts said that at maturity, orchards planted and managed by Webster will account for more than 20,000 tonnes of local production with a value exceeding \$100 million per annum, making it the largest Southern Hemisphere player in this global industry.

Rod Roberts, Chairman, Webster Limited

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