A Katherine horticulturalist has been named the Northern Territory winner of the 2004 Australian Nuffield Farming Scholars Association (ANFSA) scholarship.

Primary Industry Minister, Kon Vatskalis, congratulated Mr Jonathan Shaw at a special function in Katherine this morning, and presented him with the $21,000 scholarship.

“Mr Shaw has done the Territory very proud, and he should be congratulated for his achievements in the horticultural sector,” said Mr Vatskalis.

“The Australian Nuffield Farming Scholarship program recognises dynamic young farmers around the nation, and enables them to travel overseas to expand their knowledge and experience and learn from leaders in their field.”

Mr Jonathan Shaw is a horticulturalist in his early 30’s, and is raising a young family in Katherine.

He has been growing vegetables on his property in the Venn Horticultural Area for 10 years and has overcome a range of challenges, including wildlife damaging his crops and the requirements of unique soils in the region.

“During Mr Shaw’s overseas scholarship travel, he will learn more about marketing, people management and biological farming – all important aspects in operating a successful business and increasing production capacity into the future,” said Mr Vatskalis.

“It’s people like Mr Shaw who are helping to keep the Territory moving ahead, and ensuring our primary industry sector grows into the future.”