Northern Territory cut flower industry is blooming
15 February

The Minister for Primary Industry and Fisheries is pleased to announce that a group of local cut flower growers will commercialise a new hybrid flower developed by the Department of Primary Industry.

“Mangoes, table grapes, Asian vegetables and cut flowers are the heart of the industry and it’s encouraging to see growers taking moves to expand their product range.

“One of these moves has involved my department supplying new commercial varieties of plants through its breeding program to local flower growers.

“The growers have taken up the Plant Breeders Rights and will commercialise a Zingiber hybrid developed by DPIFM called the Darzing.

“Interest has already been shown in commercialising a number of other Zingiber hybrids developed by the department.

“Further selection work and evaluation will also be undertaken this flowering season on a number of new Ornamental plants to determine which have the best commercial application.

“These new varieties will allow the cut flower industry to further expand its product range, with the first commercial release planned for next year.

“The nursery industry is also interested in commercialising a number of potted colour Curcuma hybrids which will provide the nursery industry with a range of new colour varieties and further expand the range of tropical cut flowers.

“It should be remembered that it was the Territory’s cut flower industry that stepped up to the plate for the Commonwealth Games, after the north Queensland industry was devastated by a cyclone, it was local growers that filled the void a short notice and provided those fabulous centre pieces for the bouquets provided.

Contact: Matthew Henger – (08) 8941 1457