



**ROYAL  
QUEENSLAND  
AWARDS**  
SHOWCASING AUSTRALIA'S BEST



**MEDIA RELEASE**

19 May 2023

## **Dual crown! Queensland remains home to Australia's best beef and ice cream**

Queensland has strengthened its status as the beef and ice cream capital of Australia, dominating the field in the hunt for the nation's finest produce at the Brisbane Showgrounds today.

Australia's best beef, lamb, cheese and ice cream were crowned from a total of 513 entries, in the RNA's prestigious Royal Queensland Awards presented by King Street.

ICON XB Wagyu, produced on the Darling Downs, was named Australia's best steak, while Milani Minus Eight Degrees in Sunnybank, Brisbane, took the title of Australia's best ice cream for their cucumber sorbet.

Queensland has held onto the Grand Champion Branded Beef of Show title since 2014, while Milani Minus Eight Degrees has proven itself to be one of the nation's finest ice cream producers, winning four of the five major awards.

Chief Judge of the Royal Queensland Branded Beef and Lamb Competition Elaine Millar said the beef competition, won by Paradigm Foods, provided a superb judging and eating experience across all classes.

"The champion ICON XB Wagyu by Paradigm Foods was exceptional in its depth of flavour which lasted delicately on the palate for an extraordinary time and melted like almond infused butter," she said.

"Our retail, food service and ultimately the end diner are certainly spoilt for choice due to the broad range of flavours and textures currently available which can only be the result of ideal seasons, diversity of regions and breed.

"The exceptional beef entries and availability reinforce Australia's position as a leader in the international beef market."

Chief Judge of the Royal Queensland Cheese and Dairy Awards and Royal Queensland Ice Cream, Gelato and Sorbet Awards Russell Smith said the quality of the entries in the ice cream competition were the highest they had ever seen.

"The winning cucumber sorbet was incredibly refreshing - it might be in sorbet form, but it still just tasted like fresh cucumber and it cleaned up on the palate beautifully," he said.

"The three ice cream, sorbet and gelato judges acknowledged they were awarding a phenomenal number of gold medals over the four days of judging as the quality of entries were extraordinary."



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Meanwhile it was all about southern Australian when it came to lamb and cheese, with Thomas Farms Lamb produced in South Australia named Australia's best lamb and Heidi Farm Tilset made in Tasmania winning Australia's best cheese.

Ms Millar said due to the high standards, the scoring was very close in the Branded Lamb Competition.

"Lamb has excelled across all states with entries, which indicates we have some of the world's best breeding programs, pastures and conditions for producing lamb."

Mr Smith said when it came to cheese, the winning Heidi Farm Tilsit was as good as Tilsit's get anywhere in the world.

"The Tilsit had a huge amount of flavour, nice elastic curd and a beautiful texture – the cheese dissolved in your mouth."

Entries in the Branded Beef and Lamb competitions were up 35 per cent on last year, while entries in the dairy competitions were up 20 per cent.

Some of today's award-winning products will be showcased on the Royal Queensland Cooking Stage at the Royal Queensland Show (Ekka) presented by RACQ, which is now just 85 days away.

## **GRAND CHAMPION BRANDED BEEF OF SHOW (Australia's best steak)**

ICON XB Wagyu by Paradigm Foods

## **MEAT & LIVESTOCK AUSTRALIA CHAMPION BRANDED LAMB OF SHOW (Australia's best lamb)**

Thomas Farms Lamb by Thomas Foods Australia

## **GRAND CHAMPION DAIRY PRODUCT OF SHOW (Australia's best cheese)**

Heidi Farm Tilsit by Saputo Dairy Australia

## **GRAND CHAMPION ICE CREAM, GELATO OR SORBET OF SHOW (Australia's best ice cream)**

Cucumber sorbet by Milani Minus Eight Degrees

## OTHER BEEF TROPHY WINNERS

### **MEAT & LIVESTOCK AUSTRALIA CHAMPION MSA GRADED BRANDED BEEF OF SHOW**

Little Joe by JBS Australia

### **King Street Grain Fed Class 1**

Gold: Angus Pure by Thomas Foods International

Silver: JBS Australia Riverina Angus MB2+ MSA by JBS Australia

Bronze: Black Diamond by Kilcoy Global Foods

### **King Street Grass Fed Class 2**

Gold: Little Joe by JBS Australia

Gold: JBS Australia Right to Roam EQG by JBS Australia



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## **Wagyu Class AUS-MEAT Marble Score 6 or less**

Gold: Carrara 640 Wagyu by Kilcoy Global Foods  
Silver: ICON XB Wagyu by Paradigm Foods  
Bronze: YUGO XB Wagyu by Paradigm Foods

## **Wagyu Class AUS-MEAT Marble Score 7+**

Gold: ICON Xb Wagyu by Paradigm Foods  
Silver: Jade Pure Wagyu by Kilcoy Global Foods  
Bronze: YUGO XB Wagyu by Paradigm Foods

## **Open Class**

Gold: Stockyard Gold by Stockyard Beef Pty Ltd  
Silver: JBS Australia Bachelor Angus MB2+ by JBS Australia  
Bronze: Ebony Black Angus by Kilcoy Global Foods

## OTHER LAMB TROPHY WINNERS

### **Branded Lamb - 20kg or Less**

Gold: Good Country by JBS Australia  
Silver: Sovereign by Australian Wholesale Meats  
Bronze: Coles Graze Lamb by Coles

### **Branded Lamb - More than 20kg**

Gold: Thomas Farms Lamb by Thomas Foods International  
Silver: Thomas Farms Classic Lamb by Thomas Foods International  
Bronze: Coles Graze Lamb by Coles

### **Restaurant Trade Branded Lamb - More than 24kg**

Gold: Great Southern by JBS Australia  
Silver: Union Station by Midfield Meat International Pty Ltd  
Bronze: '246' by Midfield Meat International Pty Ltd

## OTHER CHEESE AND DAIRY TROPHY WINNERS

### **Champion Cow's Milk Cheese of Show**

Heidi Farm Tilsit by Saputo Dairy Australia

### **Champion Non Cow's Milk Cheese of Show**

Meredith Dairy Goats Cheese with Pepperberry by Meredith Dairy

### **Champion Dairy Dessert or Yoghurt of Show**

Bulla European Style Natural Yoghurt by Bulla Dairy Foods

### **Dairy Australia Champion Butter, Milk or Cream of Show**

Norco Pure Jersey Milk by Norco Foods



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**Champion Buffalo, Goat, Sheep or Other Non-Cow's Milk Product of Show**  
Meredith Dairy Goats Cheese with Pepperberry by Meredith Dairy

**Champion Queensland Cheese or Dairy Product of Show**  
Blackall Gold Washed Rind by Woombye Cheese

OTHER ICE CREAM, GELATO AND SORBET TROPHY WINNERS

**Champion Vanilla, Chocolate or Strawberry Ice Cream or Gelato of Show**  
French Vanilla by Milani Minus Eight Degrees

**Champion Flavoured Ice Cream or Gelato of Show**  
Miso Maple Gelato with Sesame Brittle by Scoop Gelati

**Dairy Australia Champion Ice Cream or Gelato of Show**  
French Vanilla by Milani Minus Eight Degrees

**Champion Sorbet of Show**  
Cucumber Sorbet by Milani Minus Eight Degrees

For further information about the Royal Queensland Awards and a complete list of beef, lamb and dairy results, visit the Royal Queensland Awards website at [www.rqa.com.au](http://www.rqa.com.au).

Don't forget to follow us on social media [@royalqueenslandawards](https://twitter.com/royalqueenslandawards)

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