



ROYAL  
QUEENSLAND  
AWARDS  
SHOWCASING AUSTRALIA'S BEST



MEDIA RELEASE

Friday May 1, 2026

## Qld scoops the title of Australia's best steak and ice cream

Queensland has produced Australia's best beef and ice cream at the RNA's prestigious Royal Queensland Cheese & Dairy; Ice Cream, Gelato & Sorbet and Branded Beef and Lamb Awards supported by King Street.

Stockyard Beef from the Darling Downs in Queensland won Grand Champion Branded Beef of Show for its Kiwami while Townsville business Zina's Mangoes has produced the Grand Champion Ice Cream, Gelato or Sorbet at the Royal Queensland Awards in Brisbane today.

Australia's best beef, lamb, cheese, dairy, ice cream, gelato and sorbet were crowned from a total of 592 entries. The number of ice cream entries in the competition increased by 30 per cent compared to 2025.

Zina's Mangoes was awarded Australia's best in the Ice Cream, Gelato and Sorbet competition for its French Vanilla gelato, giving the Queensland business something to (ice) scream about! They also took out the titles for Champion Vanilla, Chocolate or Strawberry Ice Cream or Gelato of Show and Champion Ice Cream or Gelato of Show.

Midfield Meat International's Union Station in Victoria produced the Champion Branded Lamb of Show.

The nation's finest cheese was awarded to King Island Dairy from Victoria for their Roaring Forties Blue, taking out the Grand Champion Cheese or Dairy Product of Show.

Chief Judge of the Royal Queensland Branded Beef and Lamb Awards Elaine Millar said the Grand Champion Stockyard Kiwami showcased outstanding qualities - textbook marbling, perfect lasting yet retained juiciness, melt in the mouth firm but silky tenderness and beautifully well-balanced complex flavours.

"Another divine winning wagyu entry from Stockyard," she said.

Chief Judge of the Royal Queensland Ice Cream, Gelato and Sorbet and Royal Queensland Cheese and Dairy Awards Russell Smith said the Grand Champion French Vanilla gelato was outstanding in an exceptional vanilla class.

"Vanilla is one of the most difficult flavours to perfect. Zina's Mangoes' used a very high-quality vanilla bean and delivered a gelato with a silky smooth texture," he said.



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“It was fantastic to award Grand Champion to a first-time entrant in what has become the biggest Ice Cream, Gelato and Sorbet competition in Australia. This competition continues to grow too boasting a 30 per cent increase in entries this year,”

Mr Smith said the Grand Champion cheese, the Roaring Forties Blue by King Island Dairy, was up there amongst some of the best blue cheeses in the world.

“The Roaring Forties Blue has been famous for the past 20 to 30 years and it had all the fruity flavours you would expect in the cheese. It is one of the best Roaring Forties I have ever tasted,” he said.

“The standard of entries across the two dairy competitions was very high, with an outstanding showing in the flavoured milk classes. It was wonderful to see producers using real strawberry juice in their strawberry milk!

“The top cheese products were up there with the best cheeses in Australia and on average the quality in cheese and dairy was very high.”

The Royal Queensland Awards recognise and celebrate Australia’s finest food and beverage products and the producers behind them across seven categories - distilled spirits, beer, wine, beef, lamb, dairy and ice cream.

Some of today’s award-winning products will be showcased on the Royal Queensland Cooking Stage at the Royal Queensland Show (Ekka) which is now just 99 days away.

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

Stockyard Kiwami by Stockyard Beef

## **GRAND CHAMPION BRANDED LAMB OF SHOW (Australia’s best lamb)**

Union Station by Midfield Meat International Pty Ltd

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

Roaring Forties Blue by King Island Dairy

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

French Vanilla Gelato by Zina’s Mangoes Pty Ltd

## **OTHER BEEF TROPHY WINNERS**

### **CHAMPION MSA GRADED BRANDED BEEF OF SHOW**

Stockyard Gold by Stockyard Beef

### **Grain Fed Class MSA Graded**

Gold: Stockyard Gold by Stockyard Beef



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Silver: Sir Thomas by Mort & Co Ltd

Bronze: Angus Reserve Black Angus Beef by NH Foods Australia

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

Gold Diamantina Wagyu – SB6 by Stanbroke

Silver: Tajima Australian Grainfed Wagyu by Andrews Meat Industries

Bronze: Carrara Wagyu by Kilcoy Global Foods

## **Wagyu Class AUS-MEAT Marble Score 7+ MSA and Non MSA**

Gold: Stockyard Kiwami by Stockyard Beef

Silver: W. Black by Andrews Meat Industries

Bronze: The Phoenix by Mort & Co Ltd.

## **Open Class (Excludes Wagyu)**

Gold: Diamantina Black Onyx – SB7 by Stanbroke

Silver: JBS Australia Yardstick MB2+ by JBS Australia

Bronze: JBS Australia Riverina Angus MB2+ by JBS Australia

## **OTHER LAMB TROPHY WINNERS**

### **Branded Lamb – 20 kg or less MSA and Non MSA**

Gold: Ambassador by Australian Lamb Company/Minerva Foods

Silver: Coles Finest Lamb by Coles

Bronze: Royal Trade by Royal Wholesale Meats

### **Branded Lamb – 20kg or more MSA and Non MSA**

Gold: Union Station by Midfield Meat International Pty Ltd

Silver: Tasmanian Royal by Royal Wholesale Meats



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Bronze: Royal Trade by Royal Wholesale Meats

## **Restaurant Trade Branded Lamb – 24kg or more MSA and Non MSA**

Gold: Sovereign by Australian Lamb Company/Minerva Foods

Silver: Tasmanian Royal by Royal Wholesale Meats

Bronze: '246' by Midfield Meat International Pty Ltd

## **OTHER CHEESE AND DAIRY TROPHY WINNERS**

### **CHAMPION COW'S MILK CHEESE OF SHOW**

Roaring Forties Blue by King Island Dairy

### **CHAMPION NON COW'S MILK CHEESE OF SHOW**

Black Savourine by Yarra Valley Dairy

### **CHAMPION DAIRY DESSERT OR YOGHURT OF SHOW**

Gourmet Apple and Cinnamon Yoghurt by Maleny Cheese

### **CHAMPION BUTTER, MILK OR CREAM OF SHOW**

Bulla Crème Fraiche 200ml by Bulla Dairy Foods

### **CHAMPION BUFFALO, GOAT, SHEEP OR OTHER NON-COW'S MILK PRODUCT OF SHOW**

Fresh Camel Milk by Summer Land Camels

### **CHAMPION QUEENSLAND CHEESE OR DAIRY PRODUCT OF SHOW**

Fresh Camel Milk by Summer Land Camels

## **OTHER ICE CREAM, GELATO AND SORBET TROPHY WINNERS**

### **CHAMPION VANILLA, CHOCOLATE OR STRAWBERRY ICE CREAM OR GELATO OF SHOW**

French Vanilla Gelato by Zina's Mangoes Pty Ltd

### **CHAMPION FLAVOURED ICE CREAM OR GELATO OF SHOW**

Enchanted Orchard by Gelato Wonderland

### **CHAMPION ICE CREAM OR GELATO OF SHOW**

French Vanilla Gelato by Zina's Mangoes Pty Ltd

### **CHAMPION SORBET OF SHOW**

Coconut Delight by Wicked Ice Cream



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For further information about the Royal Queensland Awards and a complete list of beef, lamb, cheese, dairy, ice cream, gelato and sorbet competition results visit [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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