



May 25, 2018

Curd it be true? Queensland ice cream scoops title of Australia's best

There's nothing sour about this win - a Brisbane ice cream maker has taken out the Royal Queensland Food and Wine Show's (RQFWS) Ice Cream, Gelato and Sorbet Competition presented by Lendlease at the Brisbane Showgrounds today, for their lemon curd ice cream.

Gourmet Ice Cream Products, based in Virginia, squeezed out 171 other ice cream, gelato and sorbet entries to claim the prestigious title.

International dairy expert and RQFWS Chief Judge Russell Smith said the ice cream had a beautiful balance and silky smooth texture.

"The tangy lemon was balanced by just enough sugar and it had an incredibly refreshing flavour," he said.

"It's quite unusual for a lemon curd flavoured ice cream to win Grand Champion, as we often see the more common flavours like chocolate come out on top. This shows just what an exceptional job the ice cream maker has done."

Meanwhile Berrys Creek Gourmet Cheese claimed the title of Australia's best cheese in the Cheese and Dairy Produce Show presented by Lendlease for the fourth year in a row - this time for their Oak Blue, made from cow's milk.

Mr Smith said it was by far the best blue he had tasted in Australia in a decade.

"The strong, robust blue flavour was exceptional. Berrys Creek cheese maker Barry Charlton is incredibly talented and knows his craft so well," he said.

The 17 judges, led by Mr Smith, were also excited by the increase in niche products this year, with camel milk ice cream and cheese topped with green ants entered for the very first time.

"The Anthill cheese, which won a gold-medal, shows great innovation in cheese making and definitely has that wow factor," Mr Smith said.

"We also received a 50 per cent increase in non-bovine products this year including camel milk entries and for such a young industry the quality was exceptional. There were two gold-medals awarded in the milks."

Overall, the judges tasted their way through more than 500 dairy products over four days this week to crown Australia's best.



Some of today's award-winning products will now feature on the menu at the fine dining steakhouse restaurant at the Royal Queensland Show (Ekka), which is just 76 days away.

MAJOR COMPETITION WINNERS

Australia's best ice cream, gelato and sorbet

LENDLEASE GRAND CHAMPION ICE CREAM, GELATO OR SORBET OF SHOW (**Australia's best ice cream**)
Gourmet Ice Cream Products - Class 5 Cat. No. 51 - Lemon Curd

LENDLEASE CHAMPION VANILLA OR CHOCOLATE ICE CREAM OR GELATO OF SHOW
Gelato Mio - Class 1 Cat. No. 4 - French Vanilla

LENDLEASE CHAMPION FLAVOURED ICE CREAM OR GELATO OF SHOW
Gourmet Ice Cream Products - Class 5 Cat. No. 51 - Lemon Curd

CHAMPION ICE CREAM OR GELATO OF SHOW
Gourmet Ice Cream Products - Class 5 Cat. No. 51 - Lemon Curd

LENDLEASE CHAMPION SORBET OF SHOW
Gelateria Gondola - Class 11 Cat. No. 161 - Frutti Di Bosco (mix Berry)

LENDLEASE CHAMPION QUEENSLAND ICE CREAM, GELATO OR SORBET OF SHOW
Gourmet Ice Cream Products - Class 5 Cat. No. 51 - Lemon Curd

Australia's best cheese and dairy

LENDLEASE GRAND CHAMPION DAIRY PRODUCT OF SHOW (**Australia's best cheese**)
Berrys Creek Gourmet Cheese - Class 22 Cat. No. 156 - Oak Blue

CHAMPION CHEESE OF SHOW
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LENDLEASE CHAMPION DAIRY DESSERT or YOGHURT OF SHOW
The Natural Yoghurt Company - Class 31 Cat. No. 178 - George's Authentic Greek Ginger Yoghurt

CHAMPION BUTTER, MILK or CREAM OF SHOW
Fonterra Australia - Class 34 Cat. No. 186 - Beautifully Butterfully Salted Butter 250g

LENDLEASE CHAMPION BUFFALO, GOAT, SHEEP OR OTHER NON BOVINE MILK PRODUCT OF SHOW
Frollicking Goat - Class 51 Cat. No. 273 - Frollicking Goat Bûche Noir

LENDLEASE CHAMPION QUEENSLAND CHEESE OR DAIRY PRODUCT OF SHOW
Frollicking Goat - Class 51 Cat. No. 273 - Frollicking Goat Bûche Noir

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Media Release

