



May 20, 2019

## Australia's best dairy products put to the taste test

The cream of the crop in cheese and ice cream will be unearthed this week, with Royal Queensland Food and Wine Show (RQFWS) judging getting underway at the Brisbane Showgrounds today.

Thirteen judges, including dairy expert and Chief Judge Russell Smith, will taste 547 entries in the Cheese and Dairy Produce Show presented by King Street and Ice Cream, Gelato and Sorbet Competition presented by King Street over the next four days.

Entry numbers in the search for Australia's best cheese and ice cream are the highest they've been in three years and up almost 20 per cent on last year.

Fifteen of those entries are in the new single serve multi-pack ice cream class, where producers have entered packs of stick, cone and sandwich ice creams with the same flavour profile.

Chief Judge Russell Smith said the judges were excited to see the innovation happening in that particular style of dairy product.

"Over the past decade, innovative flavour combinations and new trends have emerged in multi-pack ice creams, so I'm really looking forward to seeing what the dairy companies are doing this year," he said.

The organic food trend is evident in the cheese and dairy competition, with 53 organic products entered this year - a 68 per cent increase on last year.

"The significant rise in organic cheese and dairy entries reflects the world-wide trend of people being more conscious about where their food comes from and how it's manufactured," Mr Smith said.

"I expect the standard of products entered in both the cheese and ice cream competitions to again be very high - the quality is consistently the best I see anywhere in Australia."

The judges will oversee 59 competition classes in cheese and dairy including eight in the non-cow's milk section featuring camel, goat, buffalo and sheep milk products, along with 14 in ice cream, gelato and sorbet.

Australia's best cheese and ice cream will then be crowned at an awards presentation this Friday 24 May at the Brisbane Showgrounds.

**WHAT:** RQFWS Cheese and Dairy Produce Show presented by King Street and Ice Cream, Gelato and Sorbet Competition presented by King Street judging

**WHEN:** Monday 20 to Thursday 23 May from 8.30am to 2pm. The new single serve multi-pack class will be judged on Thursday.



## Media Release

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**WHERE:** Ernest Baynes Dining Room - Brisbane Showgrounds, 600 Gregory Terrace, Bowen Hills

The awards presentation including the announcement of Australia's best cheese and ice cream will be held this Friday 24 May from 1pm to 3pm in the Ernest Baynes Dining Room, Brisbane Showgrounds.

Editors please note, media are welcome to attend the judging and awards presentation.

Don't forget to follow us on social media @rqfws



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