



ROYAL
QUEENSLAND
AWARDS
SHOWCASING AUSTRALIA'S BEST



MEDIA RELEASE

17 May 2024

Cream of the crop – Qld home of Australia's best cheese and ice cream!

Queensland can lay claim to being the cheese 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, dairy, ice cream, gelato, sorbet, barramundi and prawns were crowned from a total of 465 entries, in the RNA's prestigious Royal Queensland Awards supported by King Street.

Blackall Gold Washed Rind, produced by the Sunshine Coast's Woombye Cheese, was named Australia's best cheese while Wicked Ice Cream from Port Douglas took the title of Australia's best ice cream for their Coconut Delight sorbet.

2024 Grand Champion Cheese or Dairy Product of Show winner Woombye Cheese has won Champion Queensland Cheese or Dairy Product of Show for its Blackall Gold Washed Rind for three years running (2022, 2023 and 2024), while Wicked Ice Cream has proven itself to be one of the nation's finest ice cream producers, winning three of the five major awards this year.

Chief Judge of the Royal Queensland Cheese and Dairy Awards and Royal Queensland Ice Cream, Gelato and Sorbet Awards Russell Smith said the standard of the entries in the ice cream competition was exceptional and world-class.

"The winning Coconut Delight sorbet from Wicked Ice Cream is just superb. It has a beautiful balance of flavours between the freshness of the coconut and the underlying salt level," he said.

Mr Smith said Woombye Cheese's Blackall Gold Washed Rind was the cheesemaker's best yet.

"Woombye Cheese was the Grand Champion back in 2022 and they have reclaimed the title this year because their washed rind entry boasts exactly the flavour profile we are looking for in this style of cheese," he said.

Chief Judge of the Royal Queensland Branded Beef and Lamb Awards presented by Rabobank Elaine Millar said the beef competition, won by Andrews Meat Industries from Lidcombe, New South Wales, provided a magnificent judging experience across all classes.



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“The champion W. Black showcased outstanding qualities – textbook marbling, perfect tasting yet retained juiciness, melt in the mouth firm silky tenderness and beautifully well-balanced complex flavours from caramel popcorn, creamy pureed macadamia through to the umami richness of Shiitake mushrooms,” she said.

“The exceptional beef entries reinforce Australia’s position as a leader in the international beef market.”

Ms Millar said Tasmanian sourced lamb was proving tough to beat with producers from the state winning Grand Champion Branded Lamb of Show in 2022, 2023 and 2024.

“Australia’s best lamb for 2024, Tasmanian Quality Meats Trade Lamb, delivered superb rich complex flavours and fine pate`-like textures, resulting in a generous mouthfeel. The stunning juiciness and tenderness are obviously the result of the superb marbling throughout.

“Our retail and food service industries and ultimately the end diner are the beneficiaries of Australia’s dedicated beef and lamb producers who continue to excel within a diversity of regions and breeds of cattle.”

Entries in the Branded Beef and Lamb competitions were up 21 per cent on last year.

Chief Judge of the inaugural Royal Aquaculture Awards, John Susman said the introduction of the new competition celebrated excellence in one of the fastest growing sectors of agribusiness.

“The Aquaculture Awards launched with the Farmed Prawn and Barramundi classes and the winning entries underwent a rigorous assessment based on quality, flavour and presentation,” he said.

“The competition honours the efforts of aquaculture farmers from around Australia and we are looking to grow it in future years with the planned introduction of other farmed fish varieties.”

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 85 days away.

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

W.Black by Andrews Meat Industries

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

Tasmanian Quality Meats Trade Lamb by Tasmanian Quality Meats

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

Blackall Gold Washed Rind by Woombye Cheese

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

Coconut Delight by Wicked Ice Cream



OTHER BEEF TROPHY WINNERS

CHAMPION MSA GRADED BRANDED BEEF OF SHOW

Portoro, Marble Score 4+ by JBS Australia

Grain Fed Striploin Class 1

Gold: Portoro, Marble Score 4+ by JBS Australia

Silver: Riverina Angus MB2+MSA by JBS Australia

Bronze: Sir Thomas by Mort & Co

Grass Fed Striploin Class 2

Gold: Manning Valley Naturally Grassfed Beef by NH Foods Australia

Silver: Great Southern Pinnacle, Marble Score 2+ by JBS Australia

Bronze: Flinders Natural by Stanbroke

Wagyu Class AUS-MEAT Marble Score 6 or less

Gold: Carrara Wagyu by Kilcoy Global Foods

Silver: Diamantina Wagyu by Stanbroke

Bronze: The Phoenix by Mort & Co

Wagyu Class AUS-MEAT Marble Score 7+

Gold: W. Black by Andrews Meat Industries

Silver: Black Opal by Harmony Fine Foods

Bronze: KING RIVER by King River

Open Class

Gold: Stockyard Gold by Stockyard Beef Pty Ltd

Silver: Coles Finest Carbon Neutral Beef by Coles

Bronze: Ebony Black Angus by Kilcoy Global Foods

OTHER LAMB TROPHY WINNERS

Branded Lamb - 20kg or Less

Gold: Tasmanian Quality Meats Trade Lamb by Tasmanian Quality Meats

Silver: Coles Lamb by Coles



Bronze: Milly Hill by Milly Hill Pty Ltd

Branded Lamb - More than 20kg

Gold: Tasmanian Royal by Royal Wholesale Meats

Silver: Coles Graze Lamb by Coles

Bronze: White Pyrenees Lamb by White Stripe Foods Pty Ltd

Restaurant Trade Branded Lamb - More than 24kg

Gold: Kinross Station 6+ by Endeavour Meats

Silver: Victoria Hill Lamb by Victoria Hill Lamb

Bronze: 246 Lamb by Midfield Meat International

OTHER CHEESE AND DAIRY TROPHY WINNERS

Champion Cow's Milk Cheese of Show

Blackall Gold Washed Rind by Woombye Cheese

Champion Non-Cow's Milk Cheese of Show

Fresh Goat Cheese Chevre by Meredith Dairy

Champion Dairy Dessert or Yoghurt of Show

Natural Yoghurt by Maleny Dairies

Champion Butter, Milk or Cream of Show

Bulla Double Thick Cream by Bulla Dairy Foods

Champion Buffalo, Goat, Sheep or Other Non-Cow's Milk Product of Show

Fresh Goat Cheese Chevre 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

Fiordilatte by Juliettes For Lovers of

Champion Flavoured Ice Cream or Gelato of Show

Creamy Gourmet Banana by Wicked Ice Cream

Champion Ice Cream or Gelato of Show

Fiordilatte by Juliettes For Lovers of



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Champion Sorbet of Show

Coconut Delight by Wicked Ice Cream

AQUACULTURE TROPHY WINNERS

Champion Barramundi of Show

Coral Coast Barramundi by GFB Fisheries

Champion Tiger Prawn of Show

Fresh Tiger Prawns by Australian Prawn Farms

For further information about the Royal Queensland Awards and a complete list of beef, lamb, dairy and aquaculture results, visit the Royal Queensland Awards website at www.rqa.com.au.

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