



Media Release

May 17, 2013

Victorian blue crowned Australia's best cheese while local Brisbane gelato wins best ice-cream

For the third year in a row, a blue cheese from Victoria has taken out the top award in the Royal Queensland Food and Wine Show's (RQFWS) Cheese and Dairy Produce competition.

Announced today in Brisbane, Rowefords Blue from Berrys Creek Gourmet Cheese in Poowong was crowned Australia's best cheese while Bulimba's Sugo Mi's Very Chocolate gelato took out the nation's best ice-cream.

More than 300 dairy products and 200 ice-creams were put to the test this week as the 2013 RQFWS kicked off with Cheese and Dairy Produce judging; and Ice-Cream, Gelato and Sorbet judging.

RQFWS Chief Judge Russell Smith said it isn't too common for a goat's blue to be as good as the Rowefords Blue.

"Goat's blue doesn't get any better than this – it is an absolutely superb blue cheese," he said.

"It has a firm and slightly crumbly texture with even blueing throughout the cheese which results in a subtle, complex and balanced blue flavour with a long back palate."

Mr Smith said the competition's best products were again outstanding.

"The standout products in the cheese classes were two exceptional blues," he said.

"The white mould cheese classes were also above average and there were some fantastic products in the stretched curd classes also."

Now in its third year, entries for the RQFWS Ice-Cream, Gelato and Sorbet competition increased by more than 25 per cent and introduced three new champion trophies.

Mr Smith said the judging panel were again impressed with the standard of product in the Ice-Cream, Gelato and Sorbet competition.

"We've become used to a very high standard," he said.

"The winning ice-cream – Sugo Mi's Very Chocolate – had a smooth, silky texture with a luscious mouth feel and a superb rich chocolate flavour."

Major competition winners include:

- **Palatable Partners Champion Cheese Of Show:** Berrys Creek Gourmet Cheese – Bellingham Blue

Media Enquiries:

Andrea Sackson
Acting Communications Manager
Ph: 07 3253 3930 / 0414 672 318
Email: asackson@rna.org.au

Katie Johnston
Media and Communications Officer
Ph: 07 3253 3931 / 0417 514 025
Email: kjohnston@rna.org.au





- **Most Successful Exhibitor (Cheese):** Warrnambool Cheese and Butter Factory – Great Ocean Road Extra Tasty Cheddar
- **Champion Dairy Dessert or Yoghurt of Show:** Maleny Cheese – Maleny Gourmet Mango Yoghurt
- **Most Successful Exhibitor (Desserts):** Maleny Dairies – Maleny Dairies Natural Yoghurt
- **Champion Milk or Cream of Show:** Bulla Dairy Foods – Bulla Crème Fraîche 200ml
- **Most Successful Exhibitor (Milk and Cream):** Lion Dairy and Drinks Malanda – Dare Mocha
- **Champion Buffalo, Goat or Sheep Milk Product:** Berrys Creek Gourmet Cheese – Rowefords Blue
- **Most Successful Exhibitor (Buffalo, Goat or Sheep Milk):** Woodside Cheese Wrights – Monet Curd
- **Champion Queensland Cheese or Dairy Product of Show:** Emmos Fine Foods – Nannybert
- **Dairy Australia Grand Champion Dairy Product of Show:** Berrys Creek Gourmet Cheese – Rowefords Blue
- **Majors Group Champion Vanilla or Chocolate Ice-Cream or Gelato of Show:** Sugo Mi – Very Chocolate
- **Majors Group Champion Flavoured Ice-Cream or Gelato of Show:** Sugo Mi – Very Chocolate
- **Majors Group Champion Ice-Cream or Gelato of Show:** Sugo Mi – Very Chocolate
- **Majors Group Champion Sorbet of Show:** Gelateria Dolce Follia – Coconut Milk Sorbet Gelato
- **Majors Group Champion Queensland Ice-Cream, Gelato or Sorbet of Show:** Sugo Mi – Very Chocolate
- **Oppenheimer Grand Champion Ice-Cream, Gelato or Sorbet of Show:** Sugo Mi – Very Chocolate

Competition winners earn the right to display their gold, silver, bronze or trophy show medal on product packaging, ensuring consumers know they are buying the best of the best in that product range.

Dedicated to unearthing Australia's best food and wine, the RQFWS continues to surpass all expectations, growing in stature and popularity since its inception in 2009, and now attracts more than 2,600 entries and includes nine competitions.

The hunt for the next two best of the best continues with the RQFWS branded beef and lamb competitions occurring in June as the RNA continues its quest to find Australia's best steak and lamb. Remaining 2013 RQFWS competitions include:

- Branded Lamb: 12 June
- Branded Beef: 13 June
- Royal Queensland Wine Show: 1 – 5 July
- AMIC Sausage King: 7 July
- Beer and Cider: 17 – 18 July
- AMIC Ham, Bacon and Smallgoods: 27 July
- Chocolate: 10 – 11 September

Media Enquiries:

Andrea Sackson
Acting Communications Manager
Ph: 07 3253 3930 / 0414 672 318
Email: asackson@rna.org.au

Katie Johnston
Media and Communications Officer
Ph: 07 3253 3931 / 0417 514 025
Email: kjohnston@rna.org.au

