



February 17, 2020

## Who will be crowned the crème de la crème?

Dairy producers have the chance to be crowned Australia's best, with entries now open for the Royal Queensland Food and Wine Show's (RQFWS) Cheese and Dairy Produce Show presented by King Street and Ice Cream, Gelato and Sorbet Competition presented by King Street now open.

The Cheese and Dairy Produce Show stems back to the first-ever Royal Queensland Show (Ekka) in 1876, making it one of the RNA's oldest competitions.

The awards are built on a longstanding tradition to celebrate excellence in Australian dairy produce while incorporating current industry trends.

International cheese and dairy expert and competition Chief Judge Russell Smith said it had been a challenging year for both dairy farmers and processors.

"The severity of the ongoing drought plus the devastating bushfires have impacted so much of the country, including many dairying areas," he said.

"In spite of these conditions I expect the standard of products entered in both the cheese and ice cream competitions to be upheld."

Last year the competition introduced peer to peer reports which were greatly appreciated by exhibitors, with the RNA receiving positive feedback.

"It is encouraging for the exhibitors to hear from their peers and see for themselves the innovation and creativity that goes into making an award-winning product," Mr Smith said.

"The RNA is also inspiring other dairy competitions around the country to introduce this style of feedback."

Mr Smith will lead a team of nine industry experts in tasting Australia's finest cheese and dairy produce, with many new faces on the judging panel.

Successful competitors will have the opportunity to be featured throughout the 10 days of the Ekka in August which is Queensland's largest event and become a supplier to the Royal International Convention Centre (Royal ICC) and feature in their menu compendium which is offered to international, national and local events.

The competition will be held at the Brisbane Showgrounds.

To enter go to [www.rqfws.com.au](http://www.rqfws.com.au)

**ENTRIES CLOSE – FRIDAY 3 APRIL**

**JUDGING – MONDAY 18 MAY TO WEDNESDAY 21 MAY**



## Media Release

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### AWARDS PRESENTATION – FRIDAY 22 MAY

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