

Media Alert

June 11, 2013

Competition beefs up at the Royal Queensland Food and Wine Show

Grain fed will go head to head with grass fed while MSA fights it out with Non MSA in this week's Royal Queensland Food and Wine Show (RQFWS) branded beef and lamb competitions. Designed to unearth Australia's top food and wine products, the 2013 RQFWS has already awarded the best ice-cream and dairy product, and has now turned its attention to crowning the nation's best steak and lamb.

This year's competitions, which will be held tomorrow and Thursday at the RNA Showgrounds, have experienced significant increases in entries – up a massive 89 per cent in lamb products and 32 per cent in beef products. There has also been an important change to the Branded Lamb Competition for 2013 with the previous 'Branded Lamb MSA and Non MSA' class now divided into two specific classes of more than 20kg and less than 20kg.

RQFWS Chairman of Judges Russell Smith will work alongside seven other beef and lamb judges, including award-winning restaurateurs John Kilroy of Cha Cha Char and David Pugh of Restaurant Two, to award the grand champion beef and champion lamb products on Friday.

WHAT:	Royal Queensland Food and Wine Show: Branded Beef and Lamb Competition
WHEN:	Tomorrow and Thursday (June 12 and 13)
TIME:	8:30am to 1pm
WHERE:	Stockmen's Bar and Grill, RNA Showgrounds, Bowen Hills, Brisbane
PARKING:	Main Arena

Note: Awards presentation will be held at 11:30am, June 14

Judging panel:

- Russell Smith (RQFWS Chairman of Judges) Branded Beef and Branded Lamb
- John Kilroy (Cha Cha Char) Branded Beef
- David Pugh (Restaurant Two) Branded Beef
- John Warlters (Rural Press Queensland) Branded Beef
- Travis Grigg Branded Beef
- Sarah Meibusch (Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation) Branded Beef
- Billy Gibney (Billy's Meats) Branded Lamb
- David Jones (Meat and Livestock Australia) Branded Lamb

News editors please note:

- Branded Lamb judging will take place Wednesday 12 June
- Branded Beef judging will take place Thursday 13 June
- Media are welcome to attend judging to film, take vision and interview judges in the Stockmen's Bar and Grill, RNA Showgrounds

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- Media are welcome to attend the awards presentation on Friday 14 June from 11:30am in the Stockmen's Bar and Grill, RNA Showgrounds
- A media release revealing winners will be sent to media outlets following the awards presentation

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.

For the first time, the Australian Meat Industry Council's Ham, Bacon and Smallgoods Competition will be held in conjunction with the RQFWS. A panel of industry judges will work their way through the seven categories in July – boneless leg ham, leg ham on the bone, bacon rashers (full middle), cooked corned silverside, pre-cooked sausage, cold meat platter presentation and dried meat (beef jerky/biltong).

The RQFWS will run through to September. Visit the brand new dedicated RQFWS website at <u>www.rqfws.com.au</u>

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

Remaining 2013 RQFWS competitions include:

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