

Media Release



February 19, 2018

Grate cheese & ice cream to scoop up awards

Dairy producers across Australia will soon be looking to cream the competition, with entries opening today for the Royal Queensland Food and Wine Show's (RQFWS) Cheese and Dairy Produce Show presented by Lendlease and Ice Cream, Gelato and Sorbet Competition presented by Lendlease.

International dairy judge and cheesemaker, Russell Smith, has worked closely with the RQFWS in securing some of the country's most highly regarded dairy experts to judge the competition and crown Australia's best.

The judges, led by Chief Judge Mr Smith, will oversee 12 ice cream, gelato and sorbet classes along with 57 classes in cheese and dairy, including 'other non-bovine milk products' which were added to seven of the classes last year.

Mr Smith said with the increasing number of products being made from milks other than from dairy cows, such as camel milk, he hoped to see more of these products entered in the 2018 competition.

"The camel milk products we saw last year were of a very high quality, especially the full cream milk and haloumi which won a gold and silver medal respectively," he said.

"I'm also really looking forward to judging the ice creams, gelatos and sorbets again this year as they're consistently of a higher standard than any similar products I judge anywhere else in Australia."

Those who win medals in the competition will have the opportunity to see their cream of the crop products served at Queensland's largest annual event - the Royal Queensland Show (Ekka) - and at the popular RQFWS Grape Grazing by Night wine event. They'll also have the chance to become a supplier to the world-class Royal International Convention Centre.

The Dairy Produce Show is one of the RNA's oldest competitions, dating back to the first ever Royal Queensland Show in 1876. While the Ice Cream, Gelato and Sorbet Competition was introduced in 2011.

Entries must be in by Thursday 29 March with judging taking place from Monday 21 May and the winners to be announced at an awards presentation on Friday 25 May. To enter go to www.rgfws.com.au.

ENTRIES CLOSE - THURSDAY 29 MARCH

JUDGING - MONDAY 21 to THURSDAY 24 MAY

AWARDS PRESENTATION - FRIDAY 25 MAY

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