

**2012 SYDNEY ROYAL CHEESE AND DAIRY PRODUCE; AND SUMMER FINE FOOD SHOWS**

**Media invited to attend judging sessions**

The Royal Agricultural Society of NSW (RAS) invites media representatives to attend judging sessions of the 2012 Sydney Royal Cheese and Dairy Produce Show and the Sydney Royal Summer Fine Food Show.

From Monday 13 February, expert panels of judges will begin to taste their way through thousands of products entered in this year's Shows. Cheese, chocolate, dips, gelato and butter will be among the produce to go under the judging microscope in the Sydney Royal Cheese and Dairy Produce Competition. Judges will also taste test an impressive line-up of coffee, breads, cakes and pies along with oysters, prawns, smoked salmon, pasta and much more in the Sydney Royal Summer Fine Food competitions.

**MEDIA ARE INVITED TO ATTEND ALL JUDGING SESSIONS  
PHOTOGRAPHS AND INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITIES WITH JUDGES ARE AVAILABLE  
JUDGING SESSIONS ARE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC**

**SYDNEY ROYAL CHEESE & DAIRY PRODUCE SHOW:  
Monday 13 – Wednesday 15 February 2012**

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>TIME</b>
Cheese	Monday 13 February	10:00am -12:00 2:00pm - 4:00pm
Milk, <b>Chocolate</b> , Dips, Butter, Cream	Tuesday 14 February <b>*Valentine's Day</b>	10:00am 12:00 2:00pm – 4:00pm
Ice Cream, Gelato, Dairy Desserts	Wednesday 15 February	10:00am – 12:00

**SYDNEY ROYAL FINE FOOD SHOW:  
Wednesday 22 February – Wednesday 29 February 2012**

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>TIME</b>
Beer	Wednesday 22 February	10:00am – 12:00 2:00pm – 4:00pm
Bread, Cake and Pie	Thursday 23 February	10:00am – 12:00 2:00pm – 4:00pm
Pasta	Friday 24 February	10:00am – 12:00
Coffee	Monday 27 February	10:00am – 12:00
Coffee	Tuesday 28 February	10:00am – 12:00
Aquaculture	Wednesday 29 February	10:00am – 12:00 2:00pm – 4:00pm

**All judging sessions are held at:  
Charley Room, Members Stand, Main Arena  
Sydney Showground, Sydney Olympic Park**

Following the Fine Food & Cheese and Dairy Produce Shows, award winners will be honoured at the Sydney Royal Cheese & Dairy Award Lunch on Thursday 8 March at 12noon at Sydney Showground.



Well-known cheese expert **Russell Smith** takes on the role of **Chief Judge** and will lead a team of experts as they taste their way through a strong field of 360 cheeses, and close to 600 other dairy products.

**RAS Dairy Produce Committee Chair Gerry Andersen** welcomes third-generation **French affineur Hervé Mons** as the international judge for the Cheese and Dairy Produce Show.

“Monsieur Hervé Mons is a very talented and highly-respected personality in the cheese world,” Mr Andersen said.

“Mons has been awarded the ‘Meilleur Ouvrier de France’ – Best Artisan of France, the highest recognition one can achieve in the field of affinage.”

“The RAS is extremely privileged to have Monsieur Hervé Mons visit and we are looking forward the insight he will bring to our Show from his experience judging cheeses around the world,” Mr Andersen said.

**RAS Fine Food Committee Chair Kim Currie** says an impressive lineup of exhibitors will make for some hotly-contested competition in the Sydney Royal Summer Fine Food Show.

“It is an exciting year for the Fine Food Show with the introduction of expanded biscuit classes in the Bread, Cake and Pie Competition and the introduction of new classes in the Aquaculture and Pasta Competitions,” Ms Currie said.

“This year we have expanded biscuit classes to include health and allergen intolerant biscuits such as gluten free varieties, new classes for Christmas cakes and puddings as well as a brand-new class for an apprentice centerpiece to be made of cake, pastry or sugar.”

Additional classes have been introduced to the Aquaculture Competition to increase opportunities for produces of smoked salmon and ocean and a brand-new filled pasta class has been created to allow chefs and restaurants to enter. Entries in the Pasta Competition have almost doubled, with many new exhibitors entering for the first time to show their products to the judging panel.

Winners will be able to advertise their medals on the packaging of their goods, making it easier for consumers to select these “best of show” products at the supermarket and delicatessen.

The Sydney Royal Fine Food Show is one of Australia’s premier industry events, recognising and rewarding innovation, diversity and excellence in agricultural production.

## **RESULTS:**

Cheese and Dairy Show results will be released at 5pm on Thursday 17 February via [www.sydneyroyal.com.au/dairy](http://www.sydneyroyal.com.au/dairy).

Fine Food Show results will be released at 5pm the day following each judging session via [www.sydneyroyal.com.au/finefood](http://www.sydneyroyal.com.au/finefood).

*To keep up to date with the Sydney Royal Wine, Dairy and Fine Food Shows, join the facebook fan page “[Sydney Royal Wine, Dairy and Fine Food Shows](#)” or tweet us @sydneyroyal.*

## **Media information, high-res images and interview requests:**

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**If you would like to attend the 2012 Macquarie Group Sydney Royal Wine Show, please RSVP to either Anna or Philippa to the above contact details.**