

MEDIA RELEASE

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Growers vine for smashing pumpkin success

Veggie patches across Queensland will be packing on the pounds, with entries opening today for the Royal Queensland Show's (Ekka) iconic Giant Pumpkin Competition, sponsored by Pillow Talk.

The heavyweights will be ready to rumble when they roll onto the Plaza at the Brisbane Showgrounds for judging and awards in May next year.

No doubt extreme gardeners will be trying to squash Minden farmer Geoff Frohloff's winning streak, after he claimed the title of Champion Heaviest Pumpkin of Show for the third time in a row earlier this year, with a 202kg whopper.

The competition, which is held outside of the August Ekka dates to take advantage of prime pumpkin growing season, is open to all green thumbs including farmers, school children and amateur gardeners.

The larger than life prize-winning vegetables will be on display in the Agricultural Hall at Ekka from 11 - 20 August, 2017.

Horticulture dates back to the very first show in 1876, with the Ekka continuing to celebrate and champion agriculture by showcasing and rewarding the best of the best.

Those who think their pumpkins are destined for big things, can enter the competition by visiting <u>www.ekka.com.au/competitions/categories/agriculture</u>.

Schools interested in entering will be provided with Giant Atlantic Pumpkin seeds.

Entries close 5pm Friday 21 April, 2017, with judging and awards to be held on Saturday 13 May, 2017.

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