

October 30, 2020

Grow a monster pumpkin and squash the competition

It's time to make room in the veggie patch, with entries opening tomorrow for the Royal Queensland Show's (Ekka) Giant Pumpkin Competition supported by Pillow Talk.

The iconic competition tests the growing skills of farmers, students and gardeners to see who can harvest the heaviest giant pumpkin.

More than \$2,600 in prize money is up for grabs, with entries weighing over 80kg eligible for the coveted Champion Heaviest Pumpkin of Show award of \$800.

The winning schools will also cash in, with \$950 up for grabs - \$450 for the win, \$300 for second place and \$200 for third.

The competition is curriculum-aligned for Years 1, 9 and 10, planting the seed of knowledge about the importance of agriculture and the critical role it plays in our everyday lives.

The competition record is currently held by giant pumpkin veteran Geoff Frohloff, with his 2015 entry crushing the competition, weighing in at 261.5kg.

Judging will take place in the Royal International Convention Centre at the Brisbane Showgrounds on Saturday 24 April 2021, with the competition held outside of the August Ekka dates to take advantage of the premium pumpkin growing season.

It's best to plant the seeds in early December 2020 to give the pumpkins time to pack on the pounds, as the fruit takes around four and a half months to mature.

Growers can request their FREE Giant Atlantic pumpkin seeds and an information pack by emailing education@royalqueenslandshow.com.au.

Entries close Wednesday 21 April 2021. For more information and to enter go to www.ekka.com.au/competitions

Please find attached an image for your consideration. The RNA also has a video available to run alongside your online news story if suitable. It can be downloaded here: <http://bit.ly/giantpumpkinfootage>

Don't forget to follow us on social media @TheEkka





ROYAL QUEENSLAND SHOW

MEDIA RELEASE

Veronica Carew
General Manager Communications
Ph: 07 3253 3930/ 0408 323 631
Email: VCarew@rqa.org.au

Nicole Clifton
Media and Communications Officer
Ph: 07 3253 3931/ 0417 451 775
Email: nclifton@rqa.org.au