

June 22, 2021

Charolais shine in paddock to palate weight gain

Palgrove Pastoral Company has proven the strength of its Charolais genetics in the weight gain phase of the RNA's prestigious Paddock to Palate Competition presented by JBS Australia.

The company based in Dalveen in Queensland's Granite Belt took home three first place awards in the nation's richest beef competition of its kind, sharing in the total prize pool of more than \$54,000.

Palgrove Pastoral Company won the overall pen of six in Class 40 (100 days Hormone Growth Promotant free export), with their Charolais recording an average daily weight gain (ADG) of 2.245kg. They also claimed the highest individual weight gain for Class 40, with one of their cattle weighing in with an ADG of 2.550kg.

To top off their haul, the company won Class 37 (100 day export), with their pen of six Charolais cross recording an ADG of 2.773kg.

Russell Pastoral Operations from Kenmore in Queensland was also a standout in the competition, claiming the highest individual weight gain for Class 37 with one of their Angus cross cattle (ADG 3.310kg). They also won Class 38 (70 day trade), with their pen of six recording an ADG of 2.843kg.

Class 38's individual weight gain award was taken out by the Drynan family from Esk in South-East Queensland, after one of their Charolais and Red Angus cross recorded an ADG of 3.414kg.

Meanwhile Wentworth Cattle Company from Clermont in central Queensland almost took a clean sweep of the Wagyu Challenge (Class 39 - 400 day).

The pens of six 50 per cent Wagyu cross they entered in the competition took out first (ADG 1.159kg) and second (ADG 1.097kg), plus one of their cattle recorded the highest individual weight gain (ADG 1.289kg).

A total of 728 head of cattle were entered in the competition this year, slightly down on last year.

"This year we've seen the effects of the drought over the past two and a half years, with our commercial and long-term exhibitors unable to enter as many cattle," RNA Beef Committee Chair Gary Noller said.

"We also saw new exhibitors enter, as they recognise the benefits in being able to use the results data to promote their seedstock enterprises if they do well.

"Despite the wet and cold conditions this year, cattle health was good and they gained well, especially in Class 38, with more beasts over the three kilograms per day gain."

The Paddock to Palate Competition presented by JBS Australia has now moved into the second phase which is carcass judging. Competition classes 37, 38 and 40 are three phased comprising best aggregate weight gain, carcass and MSA eating quality, while the Wagyu Challenge is four phased finishing in a beef taste off judged by some of Queensland's top chefs.

The exhibitors who poll the highest aggregate scores across all phases of the four classes will be awarded the overall prizes at the Paddock to Palate and Beef Industry Dinner presented by JBS Australia on Wednesday 4 August at the Brisbane Showgrounds.

Proud sponsors of the Paddock to Palate Competition and Wagyu Challenge include JBS Australia; AuctionsPlus; Australian Wagyu Association; Complete Women's Healthcare; Elanco; Mi-Feed; Performance Feeds; Queensland Country Life; Rabobank Australia; Smithfield Cattle Company; Thompson Longhorn; Virbac; Wagyu 3D Genetics; Zee Tags; and Zoetis.

RESULTS

Class 37 - Rabobank Best Weight Gain for Pen of Six Grain Fed Steers (100 Day)

1st - Palgrove Pastoral Company - Charolais X - ADG 2.773kg - Dalveen QLD
2nd - Yulgilbar Pastoral Company - Santa Gertrudis - ADG 2.725kg - Baryulgil NSW
3rd - Womblebank Cattle Co - Womblebank Composite - ADG 2.683kg - Mitchell QLD

Class 37 - Rabobank Highest Individual Weight Gain

1st - Russell Pastoral Operations - Angus X - ADG 3.310kg - Kenmore QLD

Class 38 - Elanco Animal Health Best Weight Gain for Pen of Six Grain Fed Steers (70 Day)

1st - Russell Pastoral Operations - Angus X - ADG 2.843kg - Kenmore QLD
2nd - Nebrean - Santa Gertrudis and Charolais X - ADG 2.807kg - Goondiwindi QLD
3rd - Russell Pastoral Operations - Angus X - ADG 2.802kg - Kenmore QLD

Class 38 - Elanco Animal Health Highest Individual Weight Gain

1st - Drynan Family - Charolais and Red Angus X - ADG 3.414kg - Esk QLD

Class 39 (Wagyu Challenge) - Smithfield Cattle Co Best Weight Gain for Pen of Six Grain Fed Wagyu Steers (400 Day)

1st - Wentworth Cattle Co – 50% Wagyu - ADG 1.159kg - Clermont QLD
2nd - Wentworth Cattle Co – 50% Wagyu - ADG 1.097kg - Clermont QLD
3rd - McIntyre Agriculture – 50% Wagyu - ADG 1.058kg - St George QLD

Class 39 (Wagyu Challenge) - Smithfield Cattle Co Highest Individual Weight Gain

1st - Wentworth Cattle Co – 50% Wagyu - ADG 1.289kg - Clermont QLD

Class 40 - Best Weight Gain for Pen of Six Grain-Fed Steers (100 Day HGP Free)

1st - Palgrove Pastoral Company - Charolais - ADG 2.245kg - Dalveen QLD
2nd - Texas Angus - Angus - ADG 2.180kg - Warialda NSW
3rd - Yulgilbar Pastoral Company - Santa Gertrudis - ADG 2.177kg - Baryulgil NSW

Class 40 - Highest Individual Weight Gain

1st - Palgrove Pastoral Company - Charolais - ADG 2.550kg - Dalveen QLD

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MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

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

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