

June 25, 2019

Santas shine in Paddock to Palate weight gain

Santa Gertrudis has again proven to be the highest performing breed in the first phase of the RNA's prestigious Paddock to Palate Competition presented by Mort & Co at Grassdale Feedlot in Dalby this morning.

Yulgilbar Pastoral Company from Baryulgil in New South Wales was the standout entrant in the nation's richest beef competition of its kind, with their Santas leading them to three wins including in the new 120 day Hormone Growth Promotant (HGP) free export class (Class 40).

Their pen of six cattle recorded an average daily weight gain (ADG) of 2.226kg to win Class 40 and a share in the almost \$65,000 in prize money on offer, while the company managed by Rob and Lorraine Sinnamon also claimed the highest individual weight gain award for the same class at 2.559kg.

To secure a hat trick, Yulgilbar Pastoral Company took out the highest individual weight gain award for the 70 day trade class (Class 38), with one of their cows recording an ADG of 3.610kg.

Alastair and Andrew Bassingthwaighte also excelled with their Santa Gertrudis cattle, placing in three of the four Paddock to Palate Competition classes.

The fourth generation beef cattle family won the highest individual weight gain award for the export 100 day class (Class 37) with an ADG of 3.614kg and placed second in Class 40 behind Yulgilbar Pastoral Company with an ADG of 2.172kg.

The Bassingthwaightes also picked up a third in Class 38, which was dominated by fellow Queensland producers, with their pen of six recording an ADG of 2.910kg.

McNicholl Family Trust from Dulacca won the class with their Angus Shorthorn Cross tipping the scales with an ADG of 2.951kg, while Godfrey Morgan from Condamine came a close second with his Shorthorn recording an ADG of 2.946kg.

A Queensland producer also claimed first place in Class 37, with Palgrove Pastoral Company's Charolais from Dalveen weighing in with an ADG of 3.095kg. Russell Pastoral Company from Moree in New South Wales was hot on their hooves, with their Angus Cross recording an ADG of 3.003kg to claim second place.

It was a New South Wales cattle producer's time to shine in the 2018/19 370 day Wagyu Challenge (Class 39), with Jerome Hayden from Glen Innes taking out first and second place with ADGs of 1.213kg (F1 Angus) and 1.204kg (F1 Shorthorn) respectively. He also won the highest individual weight gain for Class 39 with his F1 Angus, with an ADG of 1.422kg.

RNA Beef Cattle Committee Chair Gary Noller said it was pleasing to see 889 head of cattle entered in the competition this year, despite the drought.

“Our entry numbers are the highest they’ve been since 2015, which shows just how resilient and determined our beef cattle producers are and how valuable the data from this competition is for their breeding programs,” he said.

“We were thrilled to see more than 200 head of those cattle entered in our new HGP free export class, especially with consumer demand for HGP free beef rising.

“It was no surprise to see the Santa Gertrudis breed do well, as they often feature heavily in the top places in the weight gain phase - but they also have to perform well in the next phases in order to win overall.”

Both the Paddock to Palate Competition and Wagyu Challenge will now move onto the second phase - a carcass competition.

Paddock to Palate is three phased comprising best aggregate weight gain; a carcass competition and an MSA eating quality competition, while the 2018/19 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 an awards presentation dinner during the Royal Queensland Show (Ekka)’s Beef Week on Wednesday 7 August.

Proud sponsors of the Paddock to Palate Competition include Mort & Co; JBS Australia; Rabobank Australia; Zoetis; Elanco Animal Health; Grant Daniel Long; Super Butcher; Performance Feeds; Thompson Longhorn; the Australian Wagyu Association; Queensland Country Life; Australian Brahman Breeders Association; Edwin and Madeleine Cooke; Virbac; and Zee Tags.

RESULTS

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

1st - Palgrove Pastoral Company - Charolais - ADG 3.095kg - Dalveen QLD
2nd - Russell Pastoral Company - Angus Cross - ADG 3.003kg - Moree NSW
3rd - Jabinda Pastoral Company - Santa Gertrudis - ADG 2.958kg - Tambo QLD

Class 37 - Zoetis Highest Individual Weight Gain

1st - D & AD Bassingthwaighe - Santa Gertrudis - ADG 3.614kg - Wallumbilla QLD

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

1st - McNicholl Family Trust - Angus Shorthorn Cross - ADG 2.951kg - Dulacca QLD
2nd - Godfrey Morgan - Shorthorn - ADG 2.946kg - Condamine QLD
3rd - A & AD Bassingthwaighe - Santa Gertrudis - ADG 2.910kg - Wallumbilla QLD

Class 38 - Elanco Animal Health Highest Individual Weight Gain

1st - Yulgilbar Pastoral Company - Santa Gertrudis - ADG 3.610kg - Baryulgil NSW

Class 39 (Wagyu Challenge) - Zoetis Best Weight Gain for Pen of Six Grain Fed Steers (370 Day)

1st - JE Hayden - F1 Angus - ADG 1.213kg - Glen Innes NSW

2nd - JE Hayden - F1 Shorthorn - ADG 1.204kg - Glen Innes NSW

3rd - Tom Kirkness - F1 Angus - ADG 1.111kg - Cudal NSW

Class 39 (Wagyu Challenge) - Performance Feeds Highest Individual Weight Gain

1st - JE Hayden - F1 Angus - ADG 1.422kg - Glen Innes NSW

Class 40 - Best Weight Gain for Pen of Six Grain-Fed Steers (120 Day HGP Free)

1st - Yulgilbar Pastoral Company - Santa Gertrudis - ADG 2.226kg - Baryulgil NSW

2nd - A & AD Bassingthwaighe - Santa Gertrudis - ADG 2.172kg - Wallumbilla QLD

3rd - G Morgan & Co – Shorthorn - ADG 2.171kg - Condamine QLD

Class 40 - Highest Individual Weight Gain

1st - Yulgilbar Pastoral Company - Santa Gertrudis - ADG 2.559kg - Baryulgil NSW

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