

October 31, 2022

Oh my gourd! Giant reward for a giant Ekka pumpkin

The Royal Queensland Show (Ekka) is paying tribute to the pumpkin on Halloween, by opening entries for its iconic Giant Pumpkin Competition supported by Pillow Talk.

The competition offers more than \$3,400 in prize money, with a new bonus \$1,000 for the heaviest pumpkin over a whopping 500kg.

Pumpkin patches across southeast Queensland will be packing on the pounds, as growers try to cash in by carving out a win.

The prize money on offer for the Open and Youth classes is \$600 for first place, \$400 for second and \$300 for third.

All pumpkins over 80kg are eligible for the coveted title of Champion Heaviest Pumpkin of Show and \$850.

Minden grower Geoff Frohloff has seen his fair share of prize money over the years and still holds the Ekka giant pumpkin record of 261.5kg set in 2015.

Geoff and son Tony Frohloff have confirmed they'll be entering the competition again, hoping to crush their rivals – and that includes each other.

School students will also join the veggie patch heavyweights, with the competition curriculum-aligned for Foundation to Grade 8, planting the seed of knowledge about the importance of agriculture.

The minimum weight for entry into the Youth/School class has been lowered to 10kg to encourage more students to get their green thumbs on.

Farmers, gardeners, schools and students can request their FREE Giant Atlantic pumpkin seeds and an information pack through the Ekka website at www.ekka.com.au/competitions/education/giant-pumpkin

The giant gourds will roll into the Brisbane Showgrounds on Saturday 29 April 2023 for judging, with the competition held outside of the August Ekka dates to take advantage of the premium pumpkin growing season.

Entries close Friday 21 April.

For the latest updates, follow us on social media @TheEkka





ROYAL QUEENSLAND SHOW

MEDIA RELEASE

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