

Thursday, 21 May 2009

## PARINGA ESTATE TAKES 2009 PRESIDENT'S MEDAL

Mornington Peninsula winery Paringa Estate has beaten some of Australia's most famous farming dynasties to be named the best agricultural producer for 2009 by the Royal Agricultural Society (RAS) of NSW.

Paringa Estate was presented with \$10,000 in cash and the prestigious silver heritage President's Medal at a gala dinner with Australia's top food and wine aficionados at the Four Seasons Hotel, Sydney.

Paringa Estate was nominated for its 2006 Estate Shiraz, which received the Macquarie Group Perpetual Trophy for Best Wine of the Show at the 2009 Macquarie Group Sydney Royal Wine Show.

The President's Medal judges award winning producers from the food and wine industries on a whole-of-company approach to the production and marketing of a Champion product from the RAS' Sydney Royal Wine, Dairy and Fine Food Shows.

Glenn Dudley, President of the RAS, congratulated Paringa Estate on being named the 'best of the best' in Australian agricultural production.

"The President's Medal recognises Australian producers that create the highest quality products by sustainable means, which is an outstanding achievement."

"Paringa Estate has surpassed incredible competition from 5,500 entries from around Australia in the Sydney Royal Wine, Dairy and Fine Food Shows, including 73 Champion products," Mr Dudley said.

Simon Marnie, ABC 702 Weekends presenter who uses his segment to pursue a gourmet passion, has been a member of the judging panel since the first President's Medal was awarded in 2006.

"This year's finalists were exactly the type of producers the President's Medal was designed to recognise. Every producer had an understanding of their place within their social, environmental and commercial settings.

"Paringa Estate impressed the judges with all aspects of their triple bottom line impact, but also with their enthusiasm and skills for the craft. Paringa's winemaker Lindsay McCall pursues his passion from the soil to the bottle."

The other five finalists in 2009 were Bulla Dairy Foods (VIC), Gold Coast Marine Aquaculture (QLD), Gundowring Fine Foods (VIC), Richard Gunner's Fine Meats (SA) and wine giant Tyrrell's Vineyards Pty Ltd (NSW).

Mr Marnie and Department of Primary Industries Chief Economist Scott Davenport visited each producer to review operations and observe their production practices to gather economic, environmental and local information on the production of each Champion product.

The President's Medal is proudly supported and sponsored by the NSW Department of Primary Industries and Woolworths Ltd.

### **About Paringa Estate**

Paringa Estate winery was established on a once derelict orchard in 1985 by owner and winemaker Lindsay McCall. The first vintage was produced in 1988 with 3 tonnes of fruit. Paringa Estate now manages over 55 acres of vineyard and processes more than 220 tonnes of fruit, or 16,000 cases of wine.

Paringa Estate is predominately known for Pinot Noir, however in recent years Paringa's Shiraz has been heavily awarded. At the 2009 Sydney Royal Wine Show Paringa Estate won five trophies including Best Pinot Noir, Best Shiraz and Best Wine of the Show with their 2006 Estate Shiraz, which was also named *Macquarie Group Perpetual Trophy for Best Wine of the Show* at the 2009 Macquarie Group Sydney Royal Wine Show.

### **Further media information:**

Ashleigh Killingly, Cox Inall Communications

P (02) 8204 3877 M 0427 427 533 E [ashleighk@coxinall.com.au](mailto:ashleighk@coxinall.com.au)

REWARDING EXCELLENCE IN AUSTRALIAN AGRICULTURE

A division of the **Royal Agricultural Society of NSW** ABN 69 793 644 351  
Sydney Showground, 1 Showground Road, Sydney Olympic Park NSW 2127 t 02 9704 1111 f 02 9704 1122  
[www.svdnevrovalshows.com.au](http://www.svdnevrovalshows.com.au)