

22 April 2014

2014 “Golden Stencil”

National Graduate Woolclasser Competition

The 2014 AWEX/TAFE National Graduate Woolclasser Competition was held at the Sydney Royal Easter Show on Wednesday 16th April. The competition brings together the best graduate woolclassers from across Australia to compete for the “Golden Stencil”.

“The competition first became a national completion in 2012 and has proven to be a showcase for woolclassing and the wool industry at an iconic Australian agricultural event, the Royal Easter Show.” said Mark Grave, AWEX CEO.

This year competitors travelled from West Australia, Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria to vie for the coveted “Golden Stencil”. This year’s winner of the “Golden Stencil” is Ally Horan from Goulburn, NSW. Ally completed the tasks of classing crossbred, medium merino and fine merino wool as well as exercises in AWEX-ID, valuation and an oral presentation to the judges. Ally demonstrated her all-round ability to class wool and perform under the pressure of the competition.

Ally graduated from NSW TAFE Illawarra and was trained by Greg Bush and Alex Willson.

TAFE Illawarra and Greg Bush & Alex Willson received the Dennis Teasdale Perpetual Trophy awarded to the training organisation and trainer(s) of the competition winner. The Dennis Teasdale Trophy recognizes the valuable contribution that education plays in the wool industry and in particular made by trainers and TAFE. This is the first time that a NSW graduate and training organisation have taken out the coveted titles.

Ally was also the winner of the DAS Campbell prize for the top NSW graduate. This is the 41st year of the DAS Campbell award.

Second place and “Silver Stencil” was awarded to Shireen Monds, Bathurst, NSW.

Third place and “Bronze Stencil” was awarded to Clare Price, Broadwater, VIC.



L to R: Emily Bowler, Catherine Worner, Shireen Monds (2nd), Scott Austen (5th), Ally Horan (1st), Jake Walkom (4th), Clare Price (3rd), Lester Poultney, Rachel Wood, Stevie-Ray Paul, Justine Douglas

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The judges of this year's competition were Mr. Rowan Woods, Jemalong Wool, Mr. John Mills, NSW TAFE and Mr. Peter Sudholz, AWEX. Judges commented on the evenness of the competition this year and said that all graduates had strengths that they will hold them in good stead for their future in wool.

The RAS Royal Easter Show is a world class and iconic event in Australian agriculture. The sustained pressure of the competition over 5 hours is what sets this competition apart from anything else on the industry calendar.

The aim of the competition is to recognize excellence in woolclassing and education and to lift woolclassing's profile as a profession and career opportunity.

The competition would not be possible without the support and encouragement of AWEX, NSW TAFE and the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW. NSW TAFE has been integral in developing the competition with AWEX from a state based competition to a competition at a National level.

Each year TAFE organisation is asked to nominate their best graduate from the previous year. To be nominated is an honour that has been earned and we congratulate each of the competitors who took part in the competition. Each competitor gains valuable experience and feedback on how to improve their skills as they progress through the wool industry

Placing	Competitors	From
	Lester POULTNEY	MUKINBUDIN, WA
	Stevie-Ray PAUL	BROKEN HILL, NSW
3 rd & Bronze Stencil \$200.00 Prize money	Clare PRICE	BROADWATER, VIC
	Rachel WOOD	GOLDEN SQUARE, VIC
	Justine DOUGLAS	ARARAT, VIC
	Catherine WORNER	WEST WYALONG, NSW
1 st & Golden Stencil \$500.00 Prize money DAS Campbell Prize	Ally HORAN	GOULBURN, NSW
4 th Place	Jake WALKOM	BLAYNEY, NSW
	Emily BOWLER	TAMWORTH, NSW
5 th Place	Scott AUSTEN	TARANA, NSW
2 nd & Silver Stencil \$300.00 Prize money	Shireen MONDS	BATHURST, NSW

"AWEX has been a proud sponsor of woolclassing competitions since they commenced in 2007. The national competition which started in 2012 has created additional enthusiasm and profile for wool and the skills of woolclassing. This is positive for woolclassing and the wool industry" said Mr Grave

For more information on the National Graduate Woolclassing Competition please contact:

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