

LambEx²⁰¹⁶

AUGUST 10-12 ALBURY, NEW SOUTH WALES

Media release

Tuesday, August 16, 2016

LambEx celebrates record crowd numbers at 2016 event

THE NATION'S largest lamb-focused event, LambEx 2016, ended on a high on Friday, with a record crowd of 1050 people registering to attend over the two-and-a-half-days it was held in Albury, New South Wales.

Delegates were treated to a great line-up of speakers that ranged from United States Chef Neil Doherty, Sysco Corporation and New Zealand Merino's Dave Maslen to producers Vicky Geddes, Holbrook, NSW; Matt Browning, Borambil, NSW and 2015 NSW Farmer of the Year Ed Fagan.

Indigenous Marathon Foundation Founder and Director Robert de Castella; Riverina Bluebell's Chris Wilson, Wantabadgery, NSW and former RIRDC National Rural Woman of the Year Pip Job, Geurie, NSW, also struck a chord with the audience with their stories of depression, courage, self-belief, and succession planning.

Darren Cameron, Victoria, was the lucky winner of the Fairfax Agricultural Media, Roseville Park and NSW Stud Merino Breeders Association prize of 50 Roseville Park ewes, while Thomas Hooke, Wanganella, NSW, took home the Waddy's Collies started Border Collie sheepdog pup.

"I've only been back at home on the farm for two years, and have only just started building a team of dogs so to have this great pup means a lot," Thomas said.

The Australian White Suffolk Association Young Guns Competition also attracted a record number of entries, with 12 outstanding finalists addressing the 1000-strong crowd on Thursday, winners in the Early Career Professional section were Elise Bowen, Sheep Data Management, NSW; Post Graduate Student section Steve Connaughton, Murdoch University, WA and High School/Undergraduate Student section Laura Wishart, Marcus Oldham College, Victoria. A special Highly Commended award also went to Year 10 student Charlie Shadwell, Farrer Memorial Agricultural High School, NSW.

Winners of the Sheepmeat Council of Australia stockTAKE Photo Muster competition included:

- Open section winner Kelly Kirkland, Kiraba, Balaklava, SA and runner-up Caris Waite, Windmere, Coorow, WA
- Student Section Winner Navanka Fletcher, Bonnie Best, Glenn Innes, NSW, and runner-up Kira Batterbee, Kirrie Farm, Boddington, WA
- People's Choice Award Wendy Ellis, Duchembegarra, Vic

LambEx 2016 Chairman Rodney Watt thanked all who had attended the event.

"You've helped make this year's LambEx the best and biggest event ever," he said.

"I particularly want to thank the sponsors, without you we would not have been able to hold such a successful event. I would also like to thank the speakers, and the committee, in particular Tracy

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Lamb, who took on an enormous job with helping to manage the event and ensuring everything ran smoothly. Tracy did an incredible job and the event would not have been successful without her and the support of the New South Wales Department of Primary Industries. I look forward to attending LambEx 2018!”

Major sponsors included the NSW DPI, Meat & Livestock Australia, JBS Australia – Great Southern, WAMMCO International – Southern Meats, Fletchers International and Fairfax Agricultural Media.

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[For a high resolution photo of Rodney Watt click here](#)