



MEDIA RELEASE

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WA wines keep shining

A Cape Mentelle shiraz has scooped the pool to win five trophies at the 2009 Perth Royal Wine Show.

The best West Australian wine was a 2007 shiraz from Cape Mentelle which also won prizes for best WA dry red table wine, best 2007 vintage dry red table wine, best shiraz and best red table wine

Overall, Houghton flew the flag for WA to win the most successful WA exhibitor trophy with a swag of gold, silver and bronze medals.

The most successful WA exhibitor processing under 300 tonnes was Yallingup-based winery Deep Woods Estate.

The two most prestigious trophies at the Perth Royal Wine Show went to McWilliams Wines for most successful exhibitor and Leasingham for the best wine of the show for its Classic Clare Riesling 2005 Vintage.

Chief Judge Louisa Rose said once again West Australian wines showed their best side but the quality of wine across the board was excellent.

"We saw a really good quality of wines across different varieties," says Louisa, chief winemaker of Yalumba. "Also within those varieties there was also a good range of different styles."

"It means that people are looking at new and traditional ways of expressing varieties and doing a good job of it. This means there's a wider range of wines for consumers to enjoy too."

Louisa agrees winemakers have shown a sense of adventure in being willing to try new things.

"The quality and diversity of wines from WA shone," she says. "The fact that a number of top wines came from WA is indicative of the quality and there were lots of contenders."

There were 2259 entries from 357 wine producers in Australia and New Zealand.

Other WA winners include Caversham's Pinelli Wines (Pinelli Family Reserve Verdelho 2009) for best dry white varietal; best WA white table wine to Plantagenet Wines for a 2004 Riesling; Vasse Felix for best cabernet sauvignon, best dry red table wine (Heytesbury Cabernet Sauvignon Malbec Petit Verdot 2007) and the trophy for the highest average points for five or more entries.

Louisa says the length of the competition meant the judges were able to give a good amount of time to each wine. Each of the 24 judges moved through between 120 and 140 glasses a day.

Twenty-nine trophies were presented during a breakfast at Claremont Showground this morning followed by the much-anticipated exhibitor tasting.

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The Smoke Free Perth Royal Show is presented by The Royal Agricultural Society of Western Australia



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