



Gippsland Food and Fibre Awards 2024

Showcasing industry excellence

Food & Fibre Gippsland are pleased to be supporting the Gippsland Food and Fibre Awards, a program that pays tribute to regional excellence in collaboration and innovation.

Recognised as a leading industry event, the Gippsland Food and Fibre Awards showcase the region's \$7 billion agricultural sector by acknowledging, celebrating and rewarding our food and fibre leaders. With a broad focus across the whole of the supply chain, the awards are an important vehicle for recognising success, sharing achievements, and inspiring others.

The competition adopts a two-tiered approach, with three premier awards and five category awards which are representative of the food and fibre supply chain. Awards will be presented to category winners at a celebratory dinner at Maffco Brewery and Taphouse on Friday 31 May. Tickets will be available for the event, which promises to be an evening not to be missed. Award entries can be submitted online up until Sunday 14 April at 11:59pm.

Premier Awards

Gippsland Agribusiness of the Year (all entries)

This award is the centrepiece and the highest accolade of the Gippsland Food and Fibre Awards program. The prize will offer the winner an opportunity to attend an international agribusiness study tour. All eligible entries will be considered for this prestigious award.



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Young Agribusiness Leader of the Year

This award category is open to entries from agribusiness leaders in the region who are 35 years or younger; have achieved excellence in their field; and have demonstrated leadership, courage, passion and foresight while contributing to the agribusiness industry and region. The winner will be provided with an opportunity to complete an industry-recognised leadership program.

Female Agribusiness Leader of the Year

This award category invites entries from female Gippsland leaders who have achieved excellence in their fields – demonstrated leadership, courage, passion and foresight while contributing to our food and fibre industry and region. The recipient will be awarded a scholarship to participate in a career-building and outcomes-focused women’s leadership program.

Category Awards

Excellence in Collaborative Partnerships

In recognition of the value of our industry’s many productive partnerships, this category invites entries from businesses that utilise collaboration as a means to enhance their offering; generate improved business outcomes; and operate in a manner that results in mutual benefit for their partners and the industry. Whilst this category will focus on businesses who consistently demonstrate partnering and collaboration as a core principle of their operation, consideration will also be given to entries highlighting specific projects or short-term activations that utilise a partnership approach.

Innovation

Innovation plays a key role in Gippsland’s food and fibre industry, contributing to the success of many established – and startup – businesses across our region. This category is open to entries from businesses who have demonstrated their willingness to adopt and utilise new technology; establish novel business models; employ innovative systems to improve efficiency and best practices for their operation; or who have demonstrated excellence in research and development.



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Sustainability

The food and fibre industry's reliance on the natural environment to ensure our ongoing productive capacities is surpassed by no other industry. This award category celebrates good environmental stewardship and is open to businesses that demonstrate sustainable farming practices; production methods; and water usage techniques that are profitable, environmentally sound and beneficial for the Gippsland region.

Adaption To Change

In an ever-changing environment, food and fibre businesses are often confronted by the necessity of change in order to remain viable; achieve business and personal goals; and to retain market share. This award category invites entries from businesses who have demonstrated how they have adapted to external or internal changes in order to maintain – or improve upon – their existing offerings; have utilised change as a catalyst to diversify within their businesses; have engaged in entrepreneurial activities to solve the challenges associated with change; or who have stayed ahead of the curve through a proactive, forward-thinking approach.

Service to the Food and Fibre Industry

Primary production is only one part of our region's \$7bn food and fibre value chain – supported considerably by the many businesses and individuals who provide specialist services, products and advice to our industry's producers. This award category invites entries from businesses who have demonstrated a commitment to the Gippsland food and fibre industry, whether that be through the provision of valued products and services; development of innovations that complement production; or the establishment of ventures specifically to service the varied needs of our food and fibre industry.

If you have any questions about the awards, please contact Deanne Kennedy, Jaydee Events PL, on 0419 878 055 or deanne@jaydee.net.au.

To enter the awards, scan the QR code below. For more information, visit [**foodandfibregippsland.com.au/awards**](http://foodandfibregippsland.com.au/awards)



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