

# Cover Story

## Well, what a year 2020 was!

In Queensland, the Annual Kid and Goatling Show was held just as pre-Covid restrictions became the norm and all shows were cancelled. The cancellation included the Royal Brisbane Show (Ekka), but as restrictions lifted late in the year, a combined Central Queensland / North Queensland Branch Kid and Goatling Show and a Country Branch Show were held in Clermont in mid-December.

However, I am incredibly pleased to say that the Ekka Show cancellation did not disappoint us totally. The organisation was very keen to keep its profile active and so set up virtual judging of several animal breeds. The competition featured seven categories; Stud Beef, Led Steer, Dairy Cattle, Stud Sheep, **Dairy Goats**, Horses and Poultry.

It was great to see big companies get behind the Young Judges Competition with Arrow Energy being the key sponsors of the whole of the program. In so doing they gave aspiring judges the opportunity to showcase their budding talents.

Datadoo Stud have been sponsors of the dairy goat young judges competition for several years and again sponsored the virtual show, in order to encourage young people to take up dairy goats and to become involved in agriculture and judging.

Entry was free and open to people aged 25 years and under, with the competition featuring a Junior Class for under 15-year-olds and a Senior Class for 15- to 25-year-olds.

Despite the cancellation of the 2020 Ekka, the Young Judges Competition was able to run in a modified format as part of Ekka 2020 Online. The young judges were required to view the images and videos, ranking the animals from 1-4 based on specific criteria and provide a three-minute video outlining their reasoning for the order.

The chosen breed in the dairy goat section was Anglo Nubian.

The link is still alive at the following address, if you are keen to see the virtual show in both video format and still photos: <https://www.ekka.com.au/competitions/agriculture/virtual-young-judges/>

It was my pleasure to be invited to judge the virtual show, with exceptional organisation and support given by the Ekka team looking after this section, my job was made easy.

I am also pleased to present to you, the AGW readers, the three outstanding young judges, who are also members of the DGSA. Queensland Branch is immensely proud of the achievement of these three judges of the future and excited to have them featured on the cover of the April AGW.

Congratulations to Torino Brodie, Jasmine Wilson, and Chloe Wilson. Your job was not easy, and you were up against some very articulate, confident and well-practiced young judges. The class of four Anglo Nubian does was a challenge to judge as well, as the does varied in age and stage of gestation. All does were good representatives of their breed. All being dry disadvantaged them a little, as the udder is often the critical factor in placing one over the other. It was also challenging in that competitors were viewing the does on a screen and not in real time, so to get shortlisted was a great effort. Once shortlisted the junior judges went onto do their three-minute presentation, which they all did very well.

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Generally, I found that both the junior and senior competitors spoke confidently and with conviction. Those that used a prompt, such as the still photos, a computer screen showing the four does, or even having real goats behind them while giving explanations to justify placings, did better than those that just spoke to the camera. This could be a good point of information for future virtual competitions. All participants made a good effort to justify placings. And although there was only a short time allowed for the presentations, those young judges that did not hurry their comments were able to give more than one reason as to why one goat was placed over another and scored better.

My feedback to Torino, Jasmine and Chloe, follows:

Congratulations to first place junior judge, **Torino Brodie**.

My comments about Torino's judging were:

- Torino, you confidently and logically presented valid reasons for your placings, acknowledging superior and inferior points of each doe. Although your placings differed to mine, your reasonings were very acceptable.
- You were a very well-presented young judge and have enormous potential.
- A particularly good effort!



Congratulations to first place senior judge, **Jasmine Wilson**.

My comments about Jasmine's judging were:

- Good use of terminology and you explained clearly why one goat was placed above the other.
- Your assessment was quite accurate, although mentioning the mammary system when making comparisons would have enhanced your presentation.
- I like the positive comments throughout your judging of the class.
- You gave a genuinely nice summation at the conclusion of your judging.
- A particularly good job Jasmine.



Congratulations to **Chloe Wilson** who was placed third in the senior competition.

My comments about Chloe's judging were:

- Accurate observations and clear explanation as to why the first-placed doe was selected.
- Comparisons were very succinct.
- However, I would have liked one or two other conformation or breed type characteristics to be used when justifying your placings.
- This would have strengthened it, never-the-less you did a very good job and it was great to watch your presentation.
- Well done!



*Tom Byrne, Australian Judge's Panel*

## **2019 Queensland Dairy Buck of the Year – Killara Ram Raza** (Photo – Page 2)

Here at Diamond stud I was very proud to receive the message telling me that Killara-Ram Raza is Queensland Dairy Buck of the Year for 2019. Firstly, I would like to give a big thank you to Sandy & John Green for breeding Raza. I was lucky to attend The Hobart Royal Show in 2017 where he won Champion Kid of the show. Later Raza went on to win Tasmanian Dairy Kid of the Year 2017/2018. Now he is in Queensland and loves going to shows and enjoys all the attention from the public, therefore promoting the Anglo-Nubian breed. Raza has a beautiful temperament and enjoys going in the show ring and strutting around. Here at Diamond stud, we are honoured to have a buck of his quality in the herd. We look forward to continuing showing Raza and his progeny in the near future.

*Elizabeth Rowe, Diamond Stud. (Reprinted from July / September Qld Branch Newsletter)*