



KERRYGOLD/LISTOWEL FOOD FAIR CHEESE COMPETITION 2019

Applications are invited for the Kerrygold/Listowel Food Fair Cheese Competition 2019, which will take place as part of Listowel Food Fair which is celebrating 25 years this year and will take place from November 7th to 11th 2019.

The aim of this competition is to provide positive recognition to cheese producers for their achievements in flavour, aroma, texture, and appearance of their product.

ENTRY CRITERIA

1. Cheeses must be made in Ireland, milk source only. As part of the entry process, you will be asked to confirm that all of your entries meet this essential requirement.
2. Send your cheese in its original form. Cheeses may not be plugged and/or resealed. Cheeses must be entered as whole wheels, loaves, or blocks. Exceptions will be made for larger form cheeses. These cheeses must be presented in the form in which they are available for wholesale distribution.
3. Any product may only be entered in the competition once. This includes products that may be marketed under different labels.
4. Entries must be comprised of at least 51% cheese or cultured dairy product.
5. Entrants must provide the name of the original cheesemaker for each entry.
6. Entrants will be required to provide the production date for each product entered.

The Categories for entry are:

1. **MARINATED CHEESES & SMOKED CHEESES:** Entries must identify the type of marinade (Olive oil, safflower oil, vinegar, wine, spirits and liqueur, etc., including additional ingredients). Information about the smoke source (i.e. natural and/or smoke flavourings) must accompany each cheese entry
2. **SHEEP'S MILK & GOAT'S MILK CHEESES:** Open to all shapes and styles of 100% sheep's or goat's milk cheeses
3. **BLUE MOULD CHEESES & FRESH UNRIPENED CHEESES:** All cheeses ripened with *Penicillium roqueforti* or *glaucum* Blue Mould Cheeses with Flavour Added. Cheese Curds, Cottage Cheese, Cream Cheese, Fromage Blanc, Fromage Frais, Impastata, Mascarpone, Quark, Ricotta

4. **CHEDDARS**: All Cheddars, all milks
5. **FARMSTEAD CHEESES**: Limited to cheeses and fermented milk products produced with:
 - Milk from herds on the farm where the cheese is produced
 - Care and attention given to the purity, quality, and flavour of the milk
 - Production primarily accomplished by hand
 - Natural ripening with emphasis on development of characteristic flavour and texture, without the use of shortcuts and techniques to increase yield and shelf life at the expense of quality
 - Respect for the traditions and history of cheese making regardless of the size of the production.

Judging Criteria:

Cheeses will be assessed based on 4 criteria:

1. Taste (30%)
2. Texture (30%)
3. Appearance (30%)
4. Packaging (10%)

Entry Date & Fee:

Entry form must be sent to info@listowelfoodfair.ie and €25 fee (per producer, unlimited number of products) paid by bank transfer by **Tuesday October 15th**. Alternatively, entry form along with the fee must be sent to Asya O'Callaghan, Listowel Food Fair, c/o Listowel Arms Hotel, Listowel, Co.Kerry.

BANK DETAILS: IBAN IE84BOFI90578263325224 BIC BOFIIIE2D Please put **YOUR** name or company name in "Receiving Bank Reference"

Judging will take place on **Thursday October 17th** at the Listowel Arms Hotel. All entries must be delivered to the hotel by 9am on that morning. **Important: When delivering products to the hotel, please ensure that they are clearly marked "Cheese Competition Listowel Food Fair", with CLEAR storage instructions.** If you have any queries on delivery/storage, please contact Asya O'Callaghan at the Listowel Arms Hotel 086 3975432.

Winners will be notified by Monday October 21st. Feedback to all entrants can be provided by email on request. **If you would like to receive the judges' feedback, please provide your email address with your application.**

Prizes

The overall competition winner will receive a prize fund of €1000.

The 5 category winners are awarded €200 each.

Winners' cheeses are incorporated into the 7 course taster menu at our Artisan Food Producers' Celebratory Dinner, held on Saturday November 9th, where prizes will be awarded.

For further information, please email: info@listowelfoodfair.ie