

AROUND THE SHOWS: *Toowoomba*

Rain not a show dampener

rain did not put a stop to the 26th Stud Meat Show this year's Toowoomba Royal Show, with two judging rings going at the same time. There were 13 head exhibited by 16 studs, including the ASSBA breeds; Suffolks, Southdowns, Border Leicesters, Dorset Horns.

Judge Jeff Sutton, Temora, said he was pleased to judge in the mud and rain as he had seen first-hand how hard Queensland had been hit with the drought.

"The quality of sheep was very high and I thought quite a few of the sheep would do very well at Sydney or Melbourne. The exhibits were well prepared and in great show condition. The students from Scots PGC College were willing to listen and learn, which was very encouraging," Mr Sutton said.

"The QCAS young judges were of the highest standard and I was very impressed with Georgia Lee and the way in which she spoke about the sheep."

Fellow judge, Andrea van Niekerk from Moama, NSW, said, "It is very important to know why your sheep ended up in the position they were because then you know more

about what the qualities are needed to better your position and how to improve your sheep," explaining the feedback she gave exhibitors.

Ms van Niekerk, who is from South Africa, said she was impressed with the quality, presentation and showmanship of all sheep exhibited and it was very hard to choose a winner.

"The Suffolk ewe exhibited by Josh Milton was the most magnificent Suffolk ewe I have ever seen", she said.

Ms van Niekerk said she was impressed with the quality of meat sheep shown in Toowoomba.