



# Berry Show Society Inc.

Proudly showcasing agricultural excellence in the local community for over 130 years

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## **The Berry Show Committee has decided to not conduct the 2021 Berry Show due to the ongoing threat of the Covid-19 Pandemic**

In Australia we are lucky to have very low levels of Covid-19 due to good policy guided by science, good people who abide by this governance and also some good luck in there too.

Berry Show Society is grateful for this and grateful for the health of those in our Committee, Auxiliary and broader community. We are grateful we are in a position to have the choice whether to proceed with our Berry Show. We do not take this for granted.

In making our decision about the 2021 Berry Show we cannot ignore what other countries around the world, and ours, are facing as Covid-19 spreads and causes disease and loss of life.

Trying to plan an event like the show during the Coronavirus pandemic has been like trying to set up stock camp in a cyclone. Over the past few months our Committee, Auxiliary and Executive have met and spoken many times to try and tackle this new challenge. We had a robust Covid Safe Plan ready to action, spoke with Council, NSW Police and NSW Health, were ready to launch online ticketing for the first time, were equipped to go cashless at the show, had a committed group of volunteers ready to assist and as always our sponsors and exhibitors were standing there supporting us. We waited until as close to the show dates as possible to make a final decision to give ourselves every opportunity to try and run this Agricultural, Horticultural and Community Judging Event.

After the recent clusters and community transmission we saw a decline in exhibitors across four of the six sections we had planned for this years show. This drop in exhibitor numbers coupled with our Covid caution, the uncertainty of the day to day community transmission and the lack of vaccine protection or adequate treatment has led to our decision to not proceed with the Berry Show in 2021.

We send our thanks to our members, sponsors, exhibitors, competitors and patrons for your support and understanding over the past 12 months. We continue to be committed to showcasing the best of our local agriculture and we look forward to the future and the new ways in which we might be able to do this along with our annual Berry Show. We remain optimistic that we will get to invite you to our Berry Show in 2022, The Greatest Show in Town!

Sincerely,

The Berry Show Committee & Auxiliary

19th January 2021

*Berry Show in the 'Town of Trees'*