

# Gongs for peninsula delicacies

Rod Bennett

IT'S the first time Paradise Beach Purveyors has dipped into the realm of awards ceremonies but the company has walked away from Royal Sydney with a host of gongs.

The four-year-old Manly Vale foods manufacturer has picked up two gold, two silver, and two champion awards at the Sydney Royal Fine Foods Show, presented earlier this month.

Owners Steve Ingram and Anmarie Dabinet, both of Avalon, were surprised at the medal haul.

"It's the biggest competition in the country," he said.

"We thought it would be nice to get something. You don't expect to sweep the board."

The company won gold for its pesto swirl and tzatziki; silver for its smoked trout and red pepper pesto; the Champion Dip or Dairy Dessert; and Most

Successful Dip and Dairy Dessert Exhibitor.

Sydney Royal called Paradise Beach Purveyors and asked the company to enter.

"When the announcements were made I think we had a glass of champagne and said, 'Whoopee'," Mr Ingram said.

"The blood rushed to my head and I almost fainted.

"We've never entered awards before. We've always been focused on making food that we enjoy and that we like to serve to our friends."

Paradise Beach Purveyors is named after the tiny beach next to Clareville Beach, where the company started.

The other northern beaches establishment to be recognised at Sydney Royal was Michael's Fine Foods, from Cromer Heights, which won 11 silver medals.

Michael's specialty was also the dips and dairy section and it recorded accolades for its dips, butters and mousse.



Dip-maker Steve

PHOTO: JOE MURPHY

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## Award winners

Trophy winners in the Sydney Royal Fine Food Awards have been announced. They include the Bega Co-operative (most successful cheddar cheese exhibitor); Serendipity of Marrickville (champion ice cream) and Paradise Beach Purveyors of Manly Vale (champion dip). Anmarie Dabinet and Steve Ingram (pictured) of Paradise Beach are former advertising art directors who had a sea change to become food producers. High Trees Estate of Alstonville, on the NSW north coast, was the only company to take out a champion award for coffee. It had won gold for its Rainforest Single Origin espresso. Tathra Oysters from the NSW south coast was champion Sydney rock oyster exhibitor.