

Food finalists full to brim with talent



IN THE RUNNING: Kris Lloyd from Woodside Cheese Wrights is a finalist in this year's Food SA awards.
Picture: Kelly Barnes

ARTISAN Adelaide Hills cheesemaker Kris Lloyd is in the running for this year's Food SA leadership award.

Ms Lloyd, a national Telstra Business Women's Awards winner and I Choose SA ambassador, which *The Advertiser* is a partner of, is up against Sam Tucker from Tucker's Natural and Tony Ceravolo from Ceravolo Orchards in the prestigious category.

In their 19th year, the Food SA awards recognise success, innovation and vision in one of the state's brightest industries.

"Often, in our industry, the most creative and successful businesses see their achievements as simply part of doing business," Food SA chief executive Catherine Sayer said. "It's important for every business to take time to reflect and review what they've done, and where they are going."

ASX-listed Beston Global Food has made the cut in three categories (primary producer, business excellence, export), while Hahndorf's Beerenberg Farm is also a finalist for three awards, including the people's choice category. There are 11 categories, with the most competitive being the business excellence award.

The companies competing with Beston include Beerenberg, Haigh's Chocolates, Gelista, Golden North, Ashton Valley Fresh, and Wakefield Grange.

"The food and beverage industry employs nearly one in five working South Australians and is vital to the state's economic future," Ms Sayer said.

"These businesses are important contributors to the state's continuing growth, and we are very proud to be able to recognise their success."

The "breakthrough" theme of this year's awards recognises the significant level of innovation in the food and beverage industry, Ms Sayer said.

The full list of the finalists can be viewed at [adelaidenow.com.au/business](https://www.adelaidenow.com.au/business)

A panel of judges have conducted site visits and interviews, with winners announced at a November 24 gala dinner at the Adelaide Convention Centre.