

MEDIA

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HORSE ENTHUSIASTS HEAD FOR TOWERS

Charters Towers will be 'talking horses' as the town readies itself for a sizable influx of Challenge competitors, spectators, horse sellers and buyers who will make the centre their headquarters for three full days of horse sport and Sale action from Friday 1st to Sunday 3rd June. It is expected a large crowd of horse enthusiasts will travel from all areas of Queensland to attend the Horse Of The North Challenge competition and the renowned Toomba Invitation Stockhorse Sale.

42 Vendors from as far away as Mt Garnet, Rockhampton, Emerald, Longreach, Cloncurry, Boulia and Capella will be presenting a total of 115 quality lots at the Toomba Sale this year, one of the Sale's biggest offerings of recent years. Over 50 individual sirelines are represented in the catalogue including many of Australia's well known, leading, working horse sires. Sale convenor Ernest Bassingthwaight of Toomba, Charters Towers considers the 3 day Horse of The North and Toomba Sale combination of events, is now one of the premier horse industry fixtures held annually in the State. "The Challenge competition is first class, and gives our Northern competitors the opportunity to compete against many of the leading riders from Southern areas," Ernest said, "and the excellent reputation and genuineness of the Sale draws repeat buyers back every year, as they consider it is the best place to invest in quality horses at competitive prices."

The alignment between the two events is enhanced by the Toomba Sale offering of \$7,000 in must-be-won Buyer Bonuses directed towards the Horse of the North competition, and exclusive to horses purchased out of the Toomba Sale. "These bonuses are contributions made by the Sale Vendors, and Agents Geaney's and McCaffrey's Australian Livestock Marketing, showing their support towards the development of the horse industry in the North," Ernest said.

80 lots in this year's Sale are Ridden Mounts (43 Geldings, 37 Mares & Fillies), 24 are quality, young Led Prospects and 11 are Broodmares.

Sale catalogues and details are available from McCaffrey's Australian Livestock Marketing, Rockhampton 07-4922 6311 or Geaney's 07-4787 4000 or log on to www.toombasale.com for Sale details, catalogues and photos of Sale lots.

For further information contact: Ken McCaffrey 07-4922 6311