

Jack Kefford Award 2024

BACKGROUND

This award recognises the contribution to food science and technology of Institute members who publish original research papers. The Award is named in honour of Mr. Jack Kefford who provided enormous input to the science and technology of food as Officer-in-Charge of the CSIRO Food Research Laboratory; Assistant Chief of the CSIRO Division of Food Research; as a scientist of international repute; as AIFST President (1971-73) and Technical Editor of *food australia*.

The prize is awarded annually (at the discretion of AIFST).

CRITERIA FOR NOMINATION

The Jack Kefford Award is for the best nominated food science and technology paper published in a peer-reviewed journal (print or electronic). Eligibility for consideration for the Award is contingent upon the paper meeting the following criteria:

- I. It must have been published in a peer-reviewed journal (print or electronic) during the two calendar years preceding the year of the Award
- II. It must have been published as an original research paper, and
- III. The paper must have been nominated by a current (financial) AIFST member, who is also an author on the paper.

NOMINATION PROCESS

- a) AIFST shall call for nominations for the Award via channels deemed appropriate and aligned with the overall AIFST awards program. The call for nominations shall outline the closing date of entries; provide the award guidelines and nomination form; and details for return nominations.
- b) Nominations are to be completed via the AIFST Nomination Form which includes a statement, not exceeding 500 words, outlining the importance of the paper to food science and technology. Each nomination shall be accompanied by an electronic copy of the nominated paper.
- c) For multi-author papers, nominations must also include a statement, endorsed by all authors, which clearly outlines the nature of the nominating author's contribution to the paper.
- d) No late submissions shall be accepted, although AIFST reserves the right to extend, or change the closing dates for entries at its discretion and without prior notice.
- e) Each entrant shall give an undertaking to attend (in person or by video link) at the time and place designated by AIFST to receive the award.

JUDGING CRITERIA

Eligible papers shall be assessed by the Judging Panel for each of the following criteria:

- a) Originality of content & findings presented in the nominated paper (40%)
- b) Demonstrated importance to the field of food science and technology (40%), and
- c) Overall quality of paper in terms of writing style, language, and readability (20%).

For multi-authored papers, the Judging Panel will also consider the individual contribution of the nominating author. A majority decision by the panel will determine the winner of the Award. If the Panel cannot reach a majority decision, the AIFST CEO or delegate shall make the final decision.

JUDGING PROCESS

- a) AIFST shall invite three appropriately experienced members of the food industry or food science community to act as the Award Judging Panel. The members of this Panel shall not be members of the AIFST Board and shall not be professional or personal associates of the nominee/s. AIFST shall act as Convener of the Award Panel but have no primary voting rights.
- b) Should a Judging Panel member withdraw at any stage, the AIFST CEO or nominated delegate shall appoint a substitute panelist.
- c) AIFST shall acknowledge each nominee with receipt of the nomination.
- d) AIFST shall provide the Judging Panel copies of each nomination, together with the judging guidelines which outline the scoring system for assessing nominations. The Judging Panel shall read the nominations for the award and select the nomination of greatest merit based on these guidelines.
- e) If the Judging Panel determines there are no nominations of sufficient merit, the Judging Panel shall recommend to AIFST that no award be made that year. AIFST's decision on whether an award shall be made is final.
- f) AIFST shall notify the successful author(s) as determined by the Judging Panel in line with the award timelines. AIFST shall also notify unsuccessful nominees at this time.

AWARD PRIZE

The sole author of a paper that wins the Award shall receive a certificate and a cash award as determined on an annual basis by AIFST. Where two or more of the authors are members of the Institute, individual certificates will be awarded for each AIFST member author, and the cash award shared equally among those members by AIFST. The prize will be presented at the Annual AIFST Convention.

AWARD TIMELINE

Date	Action	Responsible
25 March 2024	Call for nominations	AIFST
20 May 2024	Close of nominations	AIFST
21 May - 7 June 2024	Judging of awards	Judging panel
17 June 2024	Nominees advised of outcome	AIFST
6 August 2024	Awards Ceremony @ AIFST24	AIFST