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Free range, sustainable and profitable

A free range piggery that's also environmentally sustainable and profitable is one of the top three finalists in the NSW Farmer of the Year Award sponsored by the NSW Farmers' Association and the NSW DPI.

Owners Stephen and Kim Roberts from Temora started their outdoor piggery in 1994 when most pigs tended to be housed indoors in large sheds. However the family thought free range farming suited their lifestyle needs, the size of their property and their feelings about how livestock should be raised. The family made a commitment to provide a natural environment for stock.

"Our goal is to provide a natural stress-free habitat for our stock, while ensuring their health and welfare. Born and bred free range, all of our pigs are free to express their natural behaviour.

"This type of environment makes for happier pigs but also makes the meat taste better. Our meat boasts a sweet, succulent flavour," Ms Roberts said.

You may encounter Bundawarra Free Range piggery's products at the Farmers Market in Canberra. The Roberts family also use sustainable farming techniques to

provide a natural environment for their sheep, and sell their meat branded Bundawarra Free Range Pork and Saltbush Lamb.

Kim Roberts said there is a growing need from consumers for more knowledge about where and how their meat is grown, raised and treated.

The need to tell customers about their products resulted in the Roberts family selling their produce at the Capital Region Farmers Market each Saturday morning.

Ms Roberts said the Market gives them a regular cash flow and a most important chance to talk to their customers and educate them as to why their free range pork is so special. They have also developed friendships with regular customers and stallholders.

It is held every Saturday from 8 am to 11 am at the Exhibition Park (EPIC) in Canberra.

All funds generated from the Market are fed back into regional communities and other projects chosen by the Rotary Club of Hall which founded the Market in 2004.

Visit www.bundawarrapork.com.au.



- Kim and Steve Roberts have won an award in the NSW Farmer of the Year competition.