

WELSH CIDER WINS INTERNATIONAL ACCOLADE

A Welsh cider took top honours at the International Cider Competition held at Hereford Museum last month.

Gwynt Y Ddraig's Black Dragon draught cider was judged CHAMPION CIDER of the Competition. This followed a **Silver Medal** for Black Dragon at the CAMRA UK Competition the previous week and was followed by Black Dragon winning Cider of the Festival at the Welsh Beer & Cider Festival held in Cardiff this month!

Understandably excited by their wins cider makers Andy Gronow and Bill George said "The award of Champion Cider at Hereford is equivalent to winning the World Cup and so we feel this really puts Welsh cider on the map showing we can produce cider that is equal to any produced in the UK.

Our Silver Medal from CAMRA demonstrates that our cider continues to appeal to the 'real cider' market and this is confirmed by our win at the Welsh Beer & Cider Festival."

The Pontypridd-based company launched Black Dragon three years ago and it has proved to be their most popular draught cider. It is an oak conditioned, medium dry cider with an alcohol content of 7.2% abv. It is a special reserve cider that has been hand crafted exclusively from cider apples grown by traditional methods in ageing orchards in Wales and Somerset. The juice pressed from these apples is fermented and matured in oak to produce a cider rich in colour, body and flavour with a fresh fruity aroma.

These awards will be added to an already bulging trophy cabinet at Gwynt y Ddraig that since beginning life on a farm in Llantwit Fardre in 2001 has won dozens of awards. These include three UK Great Taste Gold Star Awards during 2009 and 2008 for their bottles of Vintage '06, Yarlinton Mill and Orchard Gold ciders.

They produce a wide selection of draught and bottled ciders and perries, which are proving popular not only in Wales but across the UK.

Their full range of cider and perry including Black Dragon (10L and 20L) can be purchased direct from the farm or on line at www.gwyntcider.com

21st June 2010