

Colony of Natal: Royal Agricultural Society of Natal Award

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Form: Circular

By: Arthur Fenwick (obv.) & James Fenton & Co., (rev.) both of Birmingham

Date: 1909

Ref: Laidlaw: 0618;

Variations:

Size	Metal Mass	Value
31.9 mm	Silver 13.6 gm	\$45

Edge: Plain.

Obverse: Raised reeded rim. Pastoral scene with horse, cattle, pig, sheep, duck and chickens in a field. Bridge over stream with trees on left, trees on right, Cape Dutch farmhouse behind and hills in the distance.

Reverse: Raised reeded rim. Across with spaces for engraving: "(space) / AWARDED TO / (space) / FOR / (space)". This medal engraved: "1909 / W. VICKERS / BULL TERRIER / DOG" Legend: "ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF NATAL". S at the foot with the maker's mark: "J.F." and the Birmingham sterling silver hallmarks for 1909-10 (k).

Notes: The obverse design is after Arthur Fenwick. On an earlier medal for the Pietermaritzburg Agricultural Society (Laidlaw 1906) the design has his name.

The Royal Agricultural Society of Natal originated in the Pietermaritzburg Agricultural Society which was formed in 1851. After the Boer War it became the Agricultural Society of Natal and in 1904 the Society was granted Royal status by King Edward VII. The show grounds are 1.5 km north of the center of Pietermaritzburg. Apart from 1906, the year of the Natal Rebellion, the Royal Show has been held annually. At present the Royal Show is held over 10 days from late May to early June with a total of 220 000 visitors.