

## Annual Breeding Program Assessment Report for 2011

### Selection of top Instrumental Insemination Queen in each line Queen to head up its particular line for next season 2012

The aim of this exercise was to have 5 sister AI queens competing for top queen in each line. The program currently has 14 Italian lines in the program. The trail was not designed to determine which was the best line. But, one cannot help noticing outstanding hives.

The Papworth family were given 5 open mated queens from each line. These queens were coded differently to the original straight lines. This was done deliberately to take favouritism out of the equation. Hopefully the Papworth figures will show the best lines.

All the inseminated lines were a pleasure to work. The best of Line 7 had good hygienic behaviour but produced slightly less honey.

All over wintered well. There was 10 supersedure's on the canola. This brought the number in the trial back to 60 x 8 frame hives.

After the canola honey was removed and up until the end of December 2011 the load was robbed 4 times. Each rob had the supers plugged with honey.

The top queens from each line produced 12 supers of honey except for line 7 which produced 11-11 ½ supers. The average kg of extracted honey per super was 20.3kg.

The outstanding lines were lines 2; 5; 8; 10 and 14 (in my opinion).

The committee has approved that all lines be replicated and the evaluation be ongoing.

Note: Line 6 was removed from the program on advice of Peter Oxley and Ben Oldroyd.

*Laurie Dewar*