



# Monthly NEWS

To: The Australian Honey Industry

From: Trevor Weatherhead – Executive Director

## June 2014

### VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS to AHBIC are GRATEFULLY RECEIVED

AHBIC acknowledges the **beekeeper suppliers** who contribute via their packer/queen bee supplier to AHBIC.

We urge beekeepers to support those Packers/Queen Bee Breeders who contribute to AHBIC.

**Does your HONEY BUYER or QUEENBEE SUPPLIER appear on this list?  
If not, then ask “Why not?” AHBIC WORKS FOR YOU!**

**The following list recognises contributions received since 1 July 2013**

*There are a few other contributors – some wishing to remain anonymous and some not indicating their wishes*

AB'S Honey  
Australian Queen Bee Exporters  
Barnes Apiaries  
Bayside Beekeepers Association Inc  
Beechworth Honey  
Bees Neez Apiaries  
Beswick Bees  
Bliss, Stephen  
Bourke, Lindsay  
Bush Honey - (Midgley Family)  
Capilano Honey Ltd  
Dr Nicholas Chantler AM  
Clifford, Ray  
Cotton, A J & McDonald, MA  
Davey, Bob  
Daybreak Apiaries  
Dewar Apiaries  
Dunlop, PG & RD  
Enslin, Darren  
Ewington, Peter and Maxine  
Faithfull, Mark

Gells Honey  
Glasby, Garry  
Hooper, Ben  
Hoskinson, HL & HM  
Ipswich/West Moreton  
Beekeepers Assoc  
Jones, Daniel  
Kennett, JL & KA  
Klingner, Craig  
Lagoutatzis, Nikolaos  
Lees IP & LD  
MacGibbon, Kevin  
McDonald, RG  
Morgan, Trevor  
Naicol Pty Ltd  
Nairn, Mal  
Heritage Honey  
Panda Honey – honey buyers  
Papworth, F & E  
Pobke, Barry  
Pure Bendigo Gold Honey

R. Stephens  
Ringin, Bill  
Roberts, Glenn  
Roberts, I J & J H  
Rotary Club of Caulfield Inc  
Ruge, RJ & VA  
Saxonbee Enterprises - Rod Pavy  
Squire, Gary  
Stokes, Peter  
Superbee  
Triantafillopoulos, Stavros  
Watson, James  
Weatherhead, T & M  
Weerona Apiaries  
Williams JW & MA  
Zadow Apiaries

**Thank you to all our contributors. AHBIC appreciates your ongoing support.**

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## **LATEST ON HONEY LEVY REFORM AND INCREASE**

Presentations by the Industry Working Group (IWG) were well received at each of the state conferences to date, with many industry representatives realising the benefits that the proposed industry coordinated biosecurity programs could deliver to beekeepers. Results (at a national level) will be made known at the AHBIC conference on 9 July 2014 in Melbourne.

It was explained at the conferences that this program is owned by the industry and, in particular, States have a big stake in this program. With further consultation taking place after the final poll results are known, States have a further opportunity to have input into this program.

The Victorian conference will be the last vote so, if there are any beekeepers who will be attending conference who have any questions, make sure you contact one of the IWG team of Craig Klingner, Ian Zadow or Sam Malfroy. They are only too willing to answer any questions you may have.

## **AHBIC PLEASED WITH RESULTS OF FAKE HONEY COMPLAINTS**

The Australian Honey Bee Industry Council (AHBIC) is pleased that the results of its complaints to the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) have resulted in the fining of the distributors of Victoria Honey. The ACCC press release was sent out previously.

AHBIC first complained back in September, 2012 about the labelling and in 2013, after having the honey analysed in Germany, complained to the Victorian Department of Health who, after their investigations, passed it over to the ACCC.

Members of the AHBIC Food Safety and Prevention of Residues Committee have been to the forefront in pursuing these fake honeys. Also AHBIC would thank those beekeepers who have alerted us and have supplied samples. The cost of the analyses have been borne by AHBIC.

AHBIC still has a further five (5) complaints with ACCC about fake or adulterated honey. ACCC are now progressing these complaints.

In light of these imported products that are not honey or adulterated with C4 sugar, AHBIC has made representations to the Department of Agriculture to have the inspection protocol for imported honey lifted from its current 5% level.

## **AHBIC AGM**

The AHBIC AGM is on 9 July, 2014 at the Mantra Hotel in Melbourne.

Please note that observers are welcome at the AGM but you need to register for catering purposes. That form is on the second last page of this newsletter. It needs to be in well before the AGM. If you just turn up on the day, we will not be able to cater for you because the Hotel wants numbers well before the day.

Agenda paperwork has been mailed out to all the delegates. No doubt there will be other items for consideration that will come up prior to the meeting that will need to be dealt with. Remember there are vacancies for two members on the Executive.

## **QUEEN BEE LEVY**

Advice has been received from the Department of Agriculture that the queen bee levy will be set at zero from 1 August 2104. Those queen bee breeders who are currently paying the levy will be advised by the levies collection unit about the process for finalising the returns currently outstanding.

This means that there will now be more money available for research by the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation because the queen bee levy was costing more to collect than it actually collected.

By having the levy set at zero, it can be re-introduced in the future, after consultation with likely levy payers.

## **QUEEN BEES THROUGH AUSTRALIA POST**

In the past year or so there have been many problems with the delivery of queen bees through the post. Queen bees must go Express Post and there are guarantee deliveries that have not been met. This resulted in delays in the queen bees getting to the beekeepers.

Recently I went with two queen bee breeders from Queensland to the Australia Post Sorting Centre in Brisbane to talk with them about the problems. This was after about six (6) months of correspondence with Australia Post.

From talking with the staff it would seem that a tightening of regulations by the airlines was possibly the reason for the delays. We discussed how we could overcome these problems.

From the Queensland end, the queen bee breeders will advise Australia Post, by email, of how many packages there are coming to the sorting centre. This by State of destination. This way Australia Post can put in place the necessary paperwork with the airline pilots to ensure that there are no holdups with the queen bees getting away on time.

If there are still problems then Australia Post will need to look further down the line to see what is happening.

I know there have been problems in sending from New South Wales. I would suspect that it may be the same sort of problem as has been happening in Queensland. If this new system proves to be successful, it can be applied in other States.

## **TRADE MISSION TO CHINA**

I have received a notice from the Australian International Trade and Association regarding a trade mission to China in September, 2014. If anyone is interested let me know and I can forward the information on to you.

## **SENATE INQUIRY INTO BEEKEEPING**

The Senate Inquiry into the beekeeping and pollination service industries was to table its report on 25 June but this has been deferred till 16 July.

## **INQUIRY INTO COUNTRY OF ORIGIN FOOD LABELLING**

I will be appearing on behalf of AHBIC at the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Agriculture into Country of Origin Food Labelling. This is to be in Brisbane on Thursday 3 July 2014.

### **HONEY MONTH –MAY**

You would have received the Honey Month Special newsletter. Planning for next year will be discussed at the AHBIC AGM on 9 July.

### **GROWERS RELY ON FERAL BEES FOR POLLINATION**

Something that beekeepers have known for years has been confirmed by a survey by Mark Leech. Many orchardists rely on feral bees for pollination. You can find the story at:-

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-06-26/crop-pollination-survey-finds-overreliance-on-feral-bees/5550850>

### **ASIAN BEES FOUND ON HORN ISLAND**

Since the discovery of the Asian bees on Horn Island, the Queensland Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (QDAFF) had staff go to Horn Island looking for the nests. Unfortunately the weather was not kind and no nests were found. More foraging bees were found.

QDAFF staff and Dr David Guez, who is currently doing a project funded as part of the beekeeping industry's contribution to the Transition to Management Plan (T2M) on the attractants for the Asian bees, will be on Horn Island again next week and hopefully they will be successful in finding nests. For details on Dr. Guez's project see [http://www.rirdc.gov.au/research-project-details/custr10\\_HBE/PRJ-008429](http://www.rirdc.gov.au/research-project-details/custr10_HBE/PRJ-008429)

I have raised with the Department the possibility of using some remote destruction of the nests once some have been found and examined. It would be good to rid Horn Island of Asian bees if at all possible.

### **CHANGES AT RIRDC**

The Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation (RIRDC) had the Honey Advisory Committee (HAC) and the Pollination Advisory Committee (PAC) under its wing. With RIRDC moving towards full cost recovery for their programs, the two (2) programs have been merged into one.

The number of people on the Advisory Committee has been reduced in total from the total numbers on the two (2) previous Committees. The format is to take effect from July this year. I will be able to report more in the next newsletter.

## NEW CHEMICAL REGISTRATIONS

**Product Name:** Macro Protect Imidacloprid 600 SC Insecticide  
**Active Constituent/s:** 600 g/L imidacloprid  
**Applicant Name:** Louis Dreyfus Commodities Australia Pty. Ltd  
**Applicant ACN:** 004 088 000  
**Summary of Use:** For the control of various insect pests in a range of crops and the protection of spread of barley yellow dwarf virus in cereal crops  
**Date of Registration:** 19 May 2014  
**Label Approval No:** 69838/61862

**Product Name:** Macro Protect Abamectin 18 EC Insecticide/Miticide  
**Active Constituent/s:** 18 g/L abamectin  
**Applicant Name:** Louis Dreyfus Commodities Australia Pty. Ltd  
**Applicant ACN:** 004 088 000  
**Summary of Use:** For the control of pest mites on pears, apples, tomatoes, citrus, hops, strawberries and ornamentals and for the control of pest mites in native budworm on cotton  
**Date of Registration:** 21 May 2014  
**Label Approval No:** 69791/61743

**Product Name:** Senator 700WG Insecticide  
**Applicant Name:** Crop Care Australasia Pty Ltd  
**Applicant ACN:** 061 362 347  
**Summary of Variation:** To approve additional uses for foliar application, stem injection and soil application for various crops  
**Date of Variation:** 22 May 2014  
**Label Approval No:** 68192/62041

**Product Name:** Sinochem Seeker 200SC Insecticide  
**Active Constituent/s:** 200 g/L fipronil  
**Applicant Name:** Sinochem Agro Co., Ltd  
**Applicant ACN:** N/A  
**Summary of Use:** For the control of various insect pests in asparagus, bananas, brassicas, cotton, forestry, ginger, wine grapes, mushrooms, pasture, potatoes, sorghum, sugarcane, swede and turnips  
**Date of Registration:** 27 May 2014  
**Label Approval No:** 69450/60817

**Product Name:** Nufarm Maestro 200SC Insecticide  
**Active Constituent/s:** 200 g/L fipronil  
**Applicant Name:** Nufarm Australia Limited  
**Applicant ACN:** 004 377 780  
**Summary of Use:** For control of various insect pests in brassicas, cotton, wine grapevines, potatoes and sugar cane  
**Date of Registration:** 4 June 2014  
**Label Approval No:** 69919/62056

**Product Name:** DuPont Altacor Hort Insecticide  
**Active Constituent/s:** 350 g/kg chlorantraniliprole  
**Applicant Name:** Du Pont (Australia) Pty Ltd  
**Applicant ACN:** 000 716 469  
**Summary of Use:** For the control of certain species of insect pests in fruit crops  
**Date of Registration:** 6 June 2014  
**Label Approval No:** 69957/62169

**Product Name:** Sumitomo Samurai Systemic Insecticide  
**Applicant Name:** Sumitomo Chemical Australia Pty Limited  
**Applicant ACN:** 081 096 255  
**Summary of Variation:** To add application through micro-irrigation systems to control a range of pests in apples and grapes  
**Date of Variation:** 4 June 2014  
**Label Approval No:** 60687/60863

# Australian Honey Bee Industry Council Inc

ABN 63 939 614 424



P.O. Box 4253  
Raceview Qld 4305

Phone: 07 5457 2265  
Email: ahbic@honeybee.org.au

## 2014 Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2014

Mantra Tullamarine Hotel  
Cnr. Melrose & Trade Park Drive, Tullamarine Vic 3043

### Registration Form

(for Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July ONLY)

*Registration includes - Morning & Afternoon Tea and Lunch*

*Please circle*

<b>AHBIC Delegate</b>	<b>Cost: Free</b>
<b>Non Delegate</b>	<b>Cost: \$50.00 (includes GST)</b>

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please have AHBIC Registration and Payment to AHBIC  
by **24<sup>th</sup> June 2014**

#### Payment by Cheque

*(please include this form)*

*Please make cheque payable to AHBIC  
and post to:*

**P.O. Box 4253  
Raceview Qld 4305**

#### Payment by Direct Deposit

*(please post OR email this form to AHBIC)*

**Bank: Bendigo Bank  
Account Name: AHBIC  
BSB No: 633 000  
Account No: 150 976 405  
Please use your NAME as REFERENCE**

### Registration & Payment:

- **Victorian Apiarists Association AGM and Industry Dinner** (at above venue)  
on Monday and Tuesday 7 & 8<sup>th</sup> July requires a **VAA registration form & payment to:**  
VAA – Phone: 03 5446 1455 Email: vaa@vicbeekeepers.com.au

- **AHBIC Meeting** on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July, requires **this** registration & payment to AHBIC

# AUSTRALIAN HONEY BEE INDUSTRY COUNCIL INC (AHBIC)

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## TAX INVOICE/RECEIPT

Name: .....

Address: .....

.....

Email: (Please PRINT clearly).....

Phone: ..... Date:.....

### Yes I wish to support my industry

Up to 50 hives = \$50.00     51 and over hives = \$1.00 per hive

Please indicate YES or NO

1. Please publicise my name (as a contributor) on the front of the AHBIC Newsletter

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. I would like to receive the AHBIC Annual Report

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. Please acknowledge this voluntary contribution with a receipt (email preferred)

3. \_\_\_\_\_

Your contribution can be paid by **CHEQUE** (or Money Order) or **DIRECT DEPOSIT**

**CHEQUE** \$ .....

**DIRECT DEPOSIT:** \$.....

**Please return this form to AHBIC - by post or email  
so your contribution can be recorded correctly**

### When paying by Direct Deposit please -

- ◆ quote *your Name as the Reference*
- ◆ email your details (as above) to [ahbic@honeybee.org.au](mailto:ahbic@honeybee.org.au)

Account Name: Australian Honey Bee Industry Council Inc  
 Bank: Bendigo Bank  
 BSB: 633 000  
 Account No: 150 976 405



Previous  
 Commonwealth Bank Account details  
 are still valid

**Thank you for supporting AHBIC to continue supporting your industry at a national level.  
It is gratefully appreciated.**