



Monthly NEWS

To: The Australian Honey Industry

From: Trevor Weatherhead – Executive Director

March 2015

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 April 2014

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

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

Gells Honey
Hooper, Ben
Hoskinson, HL & HM
Ipswich/West Moreton
Beekeepers Assoc
Jones, Daniel
Kennett, JL & KA
Klingner, Craig
Lees, Ian
MacGibbon, Kevin
McDonald, RG
McLaren, Jane
Magor, RR
Masters, N & S
Morgan, Trevor
Naicol Pty Ltd
Nairn, Mal
Heritage Honey
Panda Honey – honey buyers
Pobke, Barry
Pure Bendigo Gold Honey

R. Stephens
Ringin, Bill
Roberts, Glenn
Roberts, I J & J H
Rotary Club of Caulfield Inc
Saxonbee Enterprises - Rod Pavy
Squire, Gary
Stokes, Peter
Superbee Honey Factory
Trigg, M
Watson, James
Weatherhead, T & M
Weerona Apiaries
Willemsen, Dale
Williams JW & MA
Witz, Ron
Zadow Apiaries

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

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LATEST ON BEE BIOSECURITY PROGRAM AND CODE OF PRACTICE

The Industry Working Group of Ian Zadow, Craig Klingner and Sam Malfroy have been attending or are to attend meetings of the Executives of the various State beekeeping associations plus beekeeper meetings over the coming months. They have also been meeting with State Departments, and will continue to do so in the next few months.

Thank you to those who have submitted comments on the Code of Practice and Bee Biosecurity Program. These will now be considered and the next version of the Biosecurity Code of Practice and the National Bee Biosecurity Program will be placed on the AHBIC website by the end of April 2015. AHBIC will also provide a summary list of changes which have been made to the Code and Program.

Please continue to read your AHBIC newsletter and state newsletters/journals for details about any upcoming meetings in your state.

MEETINGS IN CANBERRA

Recently, Ian Zadow, Peter McDonald and Trevor Weatherhead attended a series of meetings in Canberra on 17, 18 and 19 March.

Meetings were held with the Department of Agriculture Import Section re the checking of honey coming into Australia. We were informed that the Department is reviewing their honey import protocol. We are encouraged by this and will be keeping up our liaison with the Department.

A meeting with the National Residue Survey (NRS) staff revealed that the testing program for this coming year will be at the same level as last year. This is a good outcome for our industry as the NRS survey is a crucial part of our export capability.

We then met with the Assistant Health Minister, Senator Fiona Nash, re the attitude of State Departments of Health to enforcing the current Australian New Zealand Food Standard Code for honey. We also raised the issue of a new standard for honey in Australia. Senator Nash was very receptive to our submissions and we will be following up with her. Our thanks to Senator John Williams and his staff who made the meeting possible.

We then met with the Department of Agriculture staff who had authored the Government response to the Senate Committee's report on the beekeeping and pollination industries which is mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter. AHBIC will be making a formal response to the Government's response.

A meeting with Plant Health Australia (PHA) was held to discuss the Memorandum of Understanding that is being drafted for the servicing of the PHA levy, which is needed to run the Contingency Fund, which will be transferred over from Animal Health Australia. A final draft will be ready soon to send out to member bodies for their consideration.

Discussions were also held re the categorisation of three bee pests. This is detailed elsewhere in the newsletter.

The Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation (RIRDC) had called a Roundtable meeting on RD&E to increase the prosperity of beekeepers. This was attended by the full Honey Bee and Pollination Advisory Committee (HBAPAC) plus the Honey Packers and Marketers Association of Australia, Capilano plus Doug Somerville for the New South Wales Department of Primary Industries who acted as moderator for one of the sessions. The HBAPAC were meeting the next day to consider the applications for the coming year.

On 19 March AHBIC had been invited to a Horticulture Industry Day at Parliament House. This was attended by Trevor Weatherhead as Chairman Ian had pressing needs to shift bees. The meeting was sponsored by Horticulture Innovation Australia Limited (HIA) which has taken over from Horticulture Australia Limited. There were several presentations on how HIA works plus a new lobby group, Voice of Horticulture, see <http://voiceofhorticulture.org.au/>

Minister Joyce and the Parliamentary Secretary for Agriculture, Senator Colbeck, also addressed the meeting. Interestingly, Minister Joyce, when asked if the new Country of Origin labelling would include truth in labelling, said the beekeeping industry had been on to him about labelling of honey that was not honey. It is good to see that this issue we raised with the Minister is still on his agenda.

NATIVE TITLE CLAIM

AHBIC has been advised of native title claims that have been lodged over areas in the Scone, Muswellbrook, Maitland and Singleton areas. If anyone wants more detail they can email me and I can provide an electronic copy.

INQUIRY INTO THE BEEKEEPING AND POLLINATION INDUSTRIES

The Government has made a response to the Senate report. The AHBIC Executive will be studying this response and met with the Department in Canberra about the response and implementation of the recommendations.

The response can be found at <http://www.agriculture.gov.au/about/obligations/government-responses/aus-gov-res-srratrc-rep-future-beekeeping-service>

NEW CHEMICAL REGISTRATIONS

Application no.:	100665
Product name:	Surefire Spectrum Public Health 200SC Insecticide
Active constituent/s:	200 g/L imidacloprid
Applicant name:	PCT Holdings Pty Ltd
Applicant ACN:	099 023 962
Summary of use	For the control of insect pests in various crops and ornamentals and for the management of subterranean termites as per the directions for use
Date of registration/approval:	10 February 2015
Product registration no.:	80348
Label approval no.:	80348/100665
Application no.:	62846
Product name:	Wellfarm Imidacloprid 350 SC Insecticide
Active constituent/s:	350 g/L imidacloprid
Applicant name:	Wellfarm Pty Ltd
Applicant ACN:	158 518 551
Summary of use	For the control of greyback and childers canegrub in sugarcane and silverleaf whitefly in various vegetables as specified in the directions for use
Date of registration/approval:	13 February 2015
Product registration no.:	70263
Label approval no.:	70263/62846

Application no.: 100659
Product name: Brunnings Triple Action Bug Kill
Active constituent/s: 0.167 g/L difenoconazole, 0.100 g/L thiamethoxam, 0.015 g/L abamectin
Applicant name: Syngenta Australia Pty Ltd
Applicant ACN: 002 933 717
Summary of use: For the control of insects, fungus and mites
Date of registration/approval: 23 February 2015
Product registration no.: 80345
Label approval no.: 80345/100659

Application no.: 101505
Product name: Legion Insecticidal Seed Treatment
Active constituent/s: 500 g/L fipronil
Applicant name: Crop Care Australasia Pty Ltd
Applicant ACN: 061 362 347
Summary of variation: To change the product name from 'PROTEGE INSECTICIDAL SEED TREATMENT' to 'LEGION INSECTICIDAL SEED TREATMENT'
Date of variation: 29 January 2015
Product registration no.: 70278
Label approval no.: 70278/101505

Application no.: 63456
Product name: Vantal Upgrade Miticide/Insecticide
Active constituent/s: 36 g/L abamectin
Applicant name: Cheminova Australia Pty Limited
Applicant ACN: 110 199 169
Summary of variation: To extend the use to include almonds and add an additional pack size range
Date of variation: 27 February 2015
Product registration no.: 67524
Label approval no.: 67524/63456

Application no.: 62349
Product name: Oracle Insecticide
Active constituent/s: 17 g/L emamectin present as emamectin benzoate
Applicant name: Adama Australia Pty Limited
Applicant ACN: 050 328 973
Summary of use: For the control of heliothis and suppression of green mirids in cotton
Date of registration/approval: 18 March 2015
Product registration no.: 70039
Label approval no.: 70039/62349

ANNUAL MEETINGS

AHBIC will be holding its AGM on Saturday 4 July 2015 at the Penrith Panthers Leagues Club at Penrith. This will follow the NSWAA conference. More details on the AHBIC AGM later. Annual conferences for 2015 as I have them are:-

Queensland Beekeepers Association	11 & 12 June - Cleveland
New South Wales Apiarists Association	2 & 3 July - Penrith
Tasmanian Beekeepers Association	29 & 30 May - Smithton
WA Farmers Federation - Beekeeping Section	2 May - Perth
South Australian Apiarists Association	18 & 19 June - Nuriootpa
Victorian Apiarists Association	10 & 11 June - Bairnsdale
Honey Packers and Marketers Association	TBA
National Council of Pollination Associations	2 July - Penrith
Australian Queen Bee Breeders Association	TBA
Australian Honey Bee Industry Council	4 July - Penrith

PASSING OF NOELENE AYTON

Harold Ayton advised me that his wife, Noelene, had passed away on Sunday 8 March. There was a public church service held on Wednesday 11 March.

Noelene was a past Secretary of the Tasmanian Beekeepers Association. She was a regular with Harold at beekeeping meetings in various States. In recent years, Noelene had not enjoyed the best of health.

AHBIC had sent a card to Harold and family and we have received a very nice reply card.

LETTER FROM THE WHEEN BEE FOUNDATION

Wheen Bee Foundation Limited

PO Box 223

Richmond NSW 2752

www.wheenbeefoundation.org.au

ABN: 84 139 073 082

25 March 2015

Re: Restructure of the Wheen Bee Foundation

The Wheen Bee Foundation has established itself as Australia's premiere, not-for-profit organisation that has been created to support honey bee research and development. After its initial establishment phase the Foundation is now embarking on its next stage of development to ensure that it is sustainable into the future. This process involves the development of a new structure for the Foundation. Discussions between the Board of Directors and the CEO have jointly resolved to implement a new Management and Board structure to ensure a broader skill set and ongoing viability. Consequently, by mutual agreement between the Board and Dr Shona Blair, the current CEO role is being made redundant.

Dr Shona Blair has been in this role for the past two years and leaves the Foundation with good will between herself and the Board. Shona hopes to remain closely engaged with the beekeeping industry and involved in research. She is also looking forward to maintaining a positive relationship with the Foundation, and engaging with it in the future to work towards common goals. The Wheen Bee Foundation will be actively working to attract significant donations to enable it to support research and innovation projects to achieve its mission of food security through bee security.



Dr Max Whitten AM, FAA
Chairman of the Board of the Wheen Bee Foundation

CATEGORISATION

AHBIC has formally submitted three categorisation papers. They are for:-

Varroa destructor
Varroa jacobsoni
Tropilaelaps clareae and T. mercedesae

The affected industries now have a period of time to make comment before a formal meeting is held to discuss the categorisation of these pests.

ASIAN BEES FOUND IN BRISBANE

On 24 March, 2015 Asian bees (*Apis cerana*) were detected in a Quarantine Approved Premises in Carole Park, which is a suburb of Brisbane. They were found in a reel of cables which had been containerised and had come from Malaysia. The container was fumigated and 700 dead bees were recovered which, upon examination, showed no external or internal mites.

The reel was subsequently opened and comb was found plus more dead bees. The queen was found amongst these dead bees. The bees have been sent to the Queensland Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry for further analysis and verification.

So this was a good find. I would suspect the bees will be the Java genotype but we await that information.

WORLDS LARGEST EUROPEAN WASP NEST?

A report from ABC Rural has an article on what could be the world's largest European wasp net. See <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-04-02/world-biggest-wasp-nest-found-on-a-property-in-northern-tas/6367536>

As these wasps can be a pest of our honey bees and cause problems around extracting sheds, let us hope this is a one off.

ROYAL EASTER SHOW

The Royal Easter Show is on at the moment in Sydney so if you have time and can go, make sure you go along to the New South Wales Apiarist's Association stand.

They have been receiving some publicity re the competitive section in the media of late.

Bet they get lots of questions from the public re the flow hive.

So go along and support the New South Wales Apiarist's Association. If you cannot go, tell your friends, if they are going, to go and have a look and, of course, buy some honey.

BeeAware

Stay up-to-date with the latest news and information about beekeeping and pollination



Subscribe to win

Subscribe to the BeeAware e-newsletter before 3 July 2015 and go into the draw to win a book of your choice. Winners can choose one of the following RIRDC publications:

- Australian Beekeeping Guide (R. Goodman, 2015)
- Fat Bees Skinny Bees (D. Somerville, 2005)
- Bee Friendly (M. Leech, 2012)
- Pollination of Crops in Australia and New Zealand (M. Goodwin, 2012)

Five copies of each book are available to win

BeeAware monthly e-newsletter updates include:

- Bee news and events from Australia and around the world
- Information on honey bee pests and diseases
- The latest research on crop pollination
- Pollinators and pesticides in agriculture
- Alerts of new pest detections and incursions affecting honey bees.

To subscribe, go to beeaware.org.au/subscribe



RURAL INDUSTRIES
Research & Development Corporation

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2014-2015 GRATEFULLY RECEIVED

AUSTRALIAN HONEY BEE INDUSTRY COUNCIL INC (AHBIC)

ABN: 63 939 614 424



PO Box 4253
Raceview Qld 4305

Phone: (07) 5467 2265
Email: ahbic@honeybee.org.au

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

2. I would like to receive the AHBIC Annual Report

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

1. _____
2. _____
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**

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♦ email your details (as above) to ahbic@honeybee.org.au

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



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