



Monthly NEWS

To: The Australian Honey Industry

From: Trevor Weatherhead – Executive Director

FEBRUARY 2013

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(S) OR QUEENBEE SUPPLIER'S NAME APPEAR ON THIS LIST? IF NOT, THEN ASK 'WHY NOT?' AHBIC WORKS FOR YOU!

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2012-2013 GRATEFULLY RECEIVED

ABS Honey	Dawes, Chris John	Kininmonth, Ian	Schard, Peter
Adams, Richard	Davey, RE	Lagoutatzis, Nikolaos	Siacci, Colin
Ashby, KP & MA	Den Hollander, JE	Langan, Marg	Sinclair, Dr Nigel
Ashelfor Pure Aussie Honey	Dewar Apiaries	Lees IP & LD	Smit, J & C
Auckett, John	Dinh Vu, Long	Lockley, Beverley	Smith, RD & WW
Barson, Jillian	Doncaster Bee Club	McAlister, Ross	Spencer Family
Baumholzer, RK	Doyle, Anthony	McDonald, M A	Stokes, Peter
Beechworth Honey P/L	Droustas, Bill	McDonald P & M	Sutherland, Karen
Beswick Bees	Edmonds, John	McDonald, RG	Tasmanian Beekeepers
Billington, Steven	Ellis, Declan	McDonald, R & M	Association
Blair-Hickman, R & R	Enslin, Darren	McGlew, GC	Thompson, G
Blake, Barry	Ewington, P & M	McLaren, Jane	Triantafillopoulos, Stavros
Bliss, Stephen	Faithfull, Mark	Merrett, Anthony J	Trigg, Margaret
Bole, Peter	FCAAA	Miller, Clem	Ulek Honey
Brennan, John	Fountain, Peter	Milne, HL & PA	Vu, Long & Kim
Brooks, Graham	Geelong Honey Pty Ltd	Nairn, Mal	Vaile, Graham
Buntine, Robert	Geelong Beekeepers Club	Niacol Pty Ltd	Van derWoode, Lowie
Bush Honey, (Midgley Family)	Gillies, Hugh	Norcic, John	Van Essen, K
Buzzies Bee Juice	Glasby, Garry	Ophion Pty Ltd	Watson, James
Camelite Monastery	Grosso, Joe	Pluschke, Doug	Watson, Maurice
Camilleri, Michael	Hartje, MM	Pobke, Barry	Weatherhead, T & M
Capilano Honey Ltd	Hobday, David	Pritchett, Bruce	Weerona Apiaries
Clarke, Zoe	Hoskinson, HL& HM	Proebstl,Investments	Wescobee Limited
Clifford, Ray	Howard, LP & PJ	Richter, Phil	Williams JW & MA
Constantelos, Stan	Ipswich/West Moreton Beekeepers Association	Ringin, Bill	Wisken, Ian
Cotton, A J &	Jeremenko, Steve	Roberts, Glenn	Wythe, EC & HS
Crabb, David	Kee, Michael	Roberts, I J & J H	Zadow Apiaries
Cutts, Neville	Kelly, AV	Rose, Doug	Zuchowski, Janusz
D'Amico, John	Kennett, JL & KA	Saxonbee Enterprises-Rod Pavy	

The above list recognises contributions received since 1 May 2012

Thank you to all our beekeeper contributors some of whom have asked to remain anonymous.
AHBIC appreciates your ongoing support.

All rights reserved. This publication is copyright and may not be resold or reproduced in any manner (except excerpts for bona fide study purposes in accordance with the Copyright Act) without the prior consent of the Publisher. Every effort has been made to ensure that this newsletter is free from error or omissions. However, the Publisher, or its respective employees or agents, shall not accept responsibility for injuries, loss or damage occasioned to any person acting or referring from action as a result of the material in this newsletter whether or not such injury, loss or damage is in any way due to any negligent act or omission, breach of duty or default on the part of the Publisher, or its respective employees or agents.

EMAIL PROBLEMS

If you have sent AHBIC an email in the past two (2) months and did not get a reply it was not because I am ignoring you. It is because we have been having big problems receiving emails. I am now informed that this problem has been fixed.

So if you need information, please send your email again and ask for a “read reply”. That way you will know that I have received the email.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

Many thanks to all those who have been sending in voluntary contributions to AHBIC. In many cases it is by direct debit and I have no way of being able to acknowledge you, if that is your wish, or sending you a newsletter.

If you wish to be acknowledged in the newsletter, please send me an email with your details when you make the contribution. If you know beekeepers who have made a contribution and might not be getting the newsletter, please pass this information on to them.

EXECUTIVE MEETING

The next Executive meeting is scheduled for 13 March, the day before the AFB workshop in Canberra. If there is an issue you would like to raise please let me know.

IMPORT FIGURES

Eddy Planken has kindly furnished the following import and export figures.

AUSTRALIAN IMPORTS AND EXPORTS ANALYSIS								
Period	Combined Imports Tonnes	Combined Exports Tonnes	Packed Exports Tonnes	Bulk Exports Tonnes	Packed Exports Tonnes	Packed Exports %	Bulk Exports Tonnes	Bulk Exports %
Mar-13								
Dec-12	652	1,065	576	489				
Sep-12	1113	1,036	626	410				
Jun-12	1049	1,157	609	548				
Total	2,814	3,258			1,811	56%	1,447	44%
Mar-12	975	1,305	544	761				
Dec-11	782	1,501	543	957				
Sep-11	831	961	422	539				
Jun-11	658	1,104	529	575				
Total	3,246	4,871			2,038	42%	2,832	58%

CONGRATULATIONS LEILANI

Congratulations to Leilani Leyland on being announced runner up in the 2013 Western Australian RIRDC Rural Women's Award ceremony. The announcement was made last week.



Photo courtesy of Linda Manning

listen to the full interview at <http://www.abc.net.au/rural/content/2013/s3689358.htm> Leilani makes some very valid points about pollination and also the age old problem of declining resources.

Leilani's success should encourage other women in the beekeeping industry to enter the award next year. Entering can only raise the profile of our industry. Details can be found at <http://www.rirc.gov.au/rural-women-s-award>

If she had won the award, there was a \$10,000 prize which Leilani had intended to put towards the Honey Week celebrations in Western Australia later this year. Leilani said that it was "fantastic" that she had received the runner up award.

The publicity created by her being a finalist is good for the beekeeping industry in the west. An example of this publicity was the interview on the Western Australian Country Hour which was made a feature on the ABC Rural's national page. You can read part of or



Photo courtesy of Leilani Leyland

AusAID developing agriculture program

The latest copy of “Tendrils” from Plant Health Australia had the following article.

“PHA Project Officer Sam Malfroy visited Sisophon in northern Cambodia during the first week of February as part of an AusAID developing agriculture program.

Researchers from the lead Australian agency, the University of Sydney, ran a workshop with staff from universities of Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam to provide ideas for new courses to be included in their curricula that are relevant to the development of agriculture in the region. Sam was invited as a beekeeping and pollination specialist to assist with implementing practical beekeeping experiments into their agricultural curricula.”

WORTH A LOOK

A beekeeper friend in Chile posted this link.

<https://www.webdepot.umontreal.ca/Usagers/geitmana/MonDepotPublic/geitmannlab/valentine.htm>

Everything you always wanted to know about (plant) sex and were afraid to ask

There is a loop in the email address so you will need to make sure you get the full address.

NEONICOTINOIDS

There have been some developments in the debate on whether neonicotinoids are responsible for the decline in bee populations worldwide. I have put down two (2) links that have come to my attention in recent months.

<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/3068.htm>

<http://www.producer.com/daily/ontario-field-study-finds-no-link-between-seed-treatments-bee-deaths/>

There is a loop in the email address so you will need to make sure you get the full address.

BEE LOSSES

In recent times we have had bush fires and floods in different parts of Australia.

From reports I have received and read, there have not been any significant losses in Victoria. South Australia, whilst suffering from the dry weather, did not seem to have any losses. New South Wales are reporting minimal losses but there has been a big loss of resources in the fires.

Tasmania had minimal losses from the fires there although some had to put in an effort to protect hives. At this stage, Western Australia seems to be enjoying reasonable conditions.

In Queensland, reports so far are that over 700 hives and nucs were lost in the floods. Many were inundation from back up water and the hive material has been recovered. If you have ever had hives flooded, you will know that it is not a pleasant job cleaning the material. Not sure if this will be the final figure.

CONFERENCE DATES - 2013

New South Wales	22-24 May (Merimbula)
Victorian Apiarists Association	5-6 June (Bendigo)
Tasmanian Apiarists Association	31 May – 1 June
South Australian Apiarists Association	20-21 June
WA Farmers Federation – Beekeeping Section	5 July (Perth)
Queensland Beekeepers Association	13-14 June (Warwick)
Australian Queen Bee Breeders Association	TBA
Honey Packers and Marketers Association	June
National Council of Crop Pollination Associations	TBA
Federal Council of Australian Apiarists' Associations	TBA
Australian Honey Bee Industry Council	6 July (Perth)

Please note the WA conference has changed from 4 to 5 July and the AHBIC meeting from 5 to 6 July.

More details on the AHBIC meeting in the next newsletter.

LIVE BEE EXPORTS

I am currently having discussions with the Queensland Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (QDAFF) on what we can put in place to ensure that our industry does not lose export markets of live bees.

There are noises coming out of Canada that if we lift the Restricted Area (RA) on 1 July, 2013 and do not have some sort of control program for the Asian bee in its place, they may ban all exports of live bees from Australia. This is the last thing we want to happen.

The Transition to Management Plan (T2M) finishes on 30 June, 2013 at which stage Governments walk away.

We have the industry funded research being carried out on what hopefully will provide an answer to the barrier that the USA has in place for imports from Australia. The barrier is what diseases are present in both the European and Asian bees in the Cairns area. This is not to say that if we answer this question they will not come up with another excuse.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2012-2013 GRATEFULLY RECEIVED

AUSTRALIAN HONEY BEE INDUSTRY COUNCIL

ABN 63 939 614 424

**PO Box 4253
Raceview Qld 4305**

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

TAX INVOICE/RECEIPT

Yes I wish to support my industry

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

Name:

Address:

.....

Email:

Phone: Date:

Please circle

yes / no

Please publicise my name on the front of the AHBIC Newsletter

yes / no

I would like to receive the AHBIC Annual Report

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

CHEQUE \$ Please include this form with your Cheque or Money Order.

DIRECT DEPOSIT:

Account: Australian Honey Bee Industry Council

Bank: Commonwealth Bank, Maroubra Junction, NSW.

BSB: 062 198

Account No. 1022 2090

When paying by Direct Deposit

please * **quote your Company / Name as the Reference**
and * **email your details** (as above) to: ahbic@honeybee.org.au

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