



# Monthly NEWS

To: The Australian Honey Industry

From: Trevor Weatherhead – Executive Director

## JANUARY 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 February 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  
Bliss, Stephen  
Bourke, Lindsay  
Buntine, Robert  
Bush Honey - (Midgley Family)  
Capilano Honey Ltd  
Cotton, A J &  
Cutts, Neville  
Davey, Bob  
Daybreak Apiaries  
Dewar Apiaries  
Dunlop, PG & RD  
Enslin, Darren  
Ewington, P & M  
Faithfull, Mark  
Gells Honey

Glasby, Garry  
Green, Lionel  
Hoskinson, HL & HM  
Ipswich/West Moreton  
Beekeepers Assoc  
Jones, Daniel  
Kennett, JL & KA  
Klingner, Craig  
Lagoutatzis, Nikolaos  
Lees IP & LD  
Leo, Victor  
MacGibbon, Kevin  
McDonald, RG  
Morabito, Bruno  
Morgan, Trevor  
Naicol Pty Ltd  
Nairn, Mal  
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  
Weatherhead, T & M  
Weerona Apiaries  
Wescobee Limited  
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

Information is now available on the AHBIC website. See <http://honeybee.org.au/programs/honey-levy-reform-and-increase/> Over the next few issues of the AHBIC newsletter, there will be published some questions and answers to help beekeepers understand the proposal as AHBIC looks for support for the proposal at the round of beekeeping conferences in May-July 2014.

AHBIC encourages beekeepers to study carefully the proposal being put forward. This is a subject that has been talked about for many years now and the opportunity now exists to put a positive plan into place.

- **What is the honey levy?**

Australian honey producer levies are set at 2.3c/kg for annual honey sales greater than 600kg. These levies fund:

- 1) Research and Development (R&D) – a levy of 1.5c/kg is matched by the Australian Government and managed by the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation (RIRDC). Honey bee R&D targets pest and disease research, productivity, profitability, the role of flora in honey bee management, extension, communication and capacity building.
- 2) EADRA Biosecurity – a levy of 0.7c/kg provides resources for the Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement (EADRA) and is also used to meet industry's contribution to the National Bee Pest Surveillance Program.
- 3) National Residue Survey (NRS) – a levy of 0.1c/kg manages the risk of chemical residues and environmental contaminants in Australian food products including honey. This is a requirement for Australian honey to be exported to the European Union.

- **Who pays and submits the returns?**

The producer, or the person who owned the honey immediately before sale, or the person who uses the honey in the production of other goods is liable to pay the levy. Where the producer sells the honey to a buying/selling agent (e.g. Capilano), processor or shopkeeper, it is the buyer's responsibility to lodge a quarterly return, on behalf of the producer.

Where the producer sells the honey directly via markets or other retail opportunities, it is their responsibility to pay the levy via an annual return.

The exporter of honey is liable to pay the export charge and lodge a quarterly return for honey exported if the levy has not previously been paid on that honey.

- **Are there exemptions in the levy payments?**

Exemption from payment of the honey levy only applies when the producer sells less than the 600kg of honey per year. Any producer selling over 600kg annually for honey must pay the honey levy. No other exemptions apply.

The export charge is not payable if levy has already been paid on that honey.

## **STOP PRESS**

**The deadline for submissions to the Senate Inquiry into beekeeping has been extended to 31 March, 2104.**

For details on the Inquiry see

[http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/Senate/Rural\\_and\\_Regional\\_Affairs\\_and\\_Transport/Beekeeping](http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Rural_and_Regional_Affairs_and_Transport/Beekeeping)

### **AHBIC BANKING DETAILS**

AHBIC has established new banking accounts with the Bendigo Bank. You will note on the voluntary contribution form at the end of this newsletter the new details.

The Commonwealth Bank account will be kept open for a while in case people make the voluntary contribution using the forms from previous newsletters. If you have made a contribution recently, it has been received and you should have received a tax invoice.

Thank you to all who make the voluntary contributions. It is the only way AHBIC can continue to effectively represent the interest of beekeepers Australia wide.

### **FIRES IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA AND VICTORIA**



Ngarkat Fire – Photo Ian Zadow

Most would be aware of the recent fires in South Australia and Victoria. A lot of these fires were started by lightning strikes from dry storms.

I have had a report out of South Australia of 28 hives being lost. A lot of sites were burnt out with reports of at least half of Ngarkat being lost.

In Victoria there is a report of around 400 hives being lost by one beekeeper. Some of the tea tree areas that had just recovered from previous fires have again been burnt out.

Many beekeepers are members of their local rural fire brigades so spend a lot of time out fighting fires.

## CONFERENCE DATES

These are the dates as I have them at present.

Queensland Beekeepers Association	12 – 13 June	Toowoomba
New South Wales Apiarists Association	8 - 9 May	Narrabri
Tasmanian Beekeepers Association	30 - 31 May	Launceston
WA Farmers Federation - Beekeeping Section	6 June	Perth
South Australian Apiarists Association	19-20 June	Old Reynella
Victorian Apiarists Association	7 – 8 July	Melbourne
Honey Packers and Marketers Association	TBA	
National Council of Crop Pollination Associations	TBA	
Australian Queen Bee Breeders Association	TBA	
Federal Council of Australian Apiarists' Association	9 July	Melbourne
Australian Honey Bee Industry Council	9 July	Melbourne

## NEW CHEMICAL REGISTRATIONS

**Product Name:** Titan Fipronil 200SC Insecticide

**Active Constituent/s:** 200 g/L fipronil

**Applicant Name:** Titan Ag Pty Ltd

**Applicant ACN:** 122 081 574

**Summary of Use:** For the control of various insect pests in asparagus, bananas, brassicas, cotton, forestry, ginger, wine grapevines, mushrooms, pasture, potatoes, sorghum, sugarcane and swede

**Date of Registration:** 13 December 2013

**Label Approval No:** 68315/59110

**Product Name:** Fokus 800 Insecticide

**Active Constituent/s:** 800 g/L omethoate (an anticholinesterase compound)

**Applicant Name:** Hextar Chemicals Pty Ltd

**Applicant ACN:** 114 525 709

**Summary of Use:** For control of certain pests on cotton, apples, bananas, citrus, lupins, onions, pears, potatoes and ornamentals

**Date of Registration:** 18 December 2013

**Label Approval No:** 69636/61297

Label can be viewed at <http://www.infopest.com.au/extra/asp/infopest/nra/labels.asp?prodcode=69636>

**Product Name:** Conquest Ovid 290 Insecticide

**Active Constituent/s:** 290 g/L omethoate (an anticholinesterase compound)

**Applicant Name:** Conquest Crop Protection Pty Ltd

**Applicant ACN:** 098 814 932

**Summary of Use:** For the control of redlegged earth mite, blue oat mite and lucerne flea on pastures, cereals, oilseed and legume crops, and bluegreen aphid and cowpea aphid on pasture legumes, lucerne, faba beans and vetch

**Date of Registration:** 19 December 2013

**Label Approval No:** 69703/61468

**Product Name:** Agrocn Imidacloprid 350 SC Insecticide

**Active Constituent/s:** 350 g/L imidacloprid

**Applicant Name:** Shanghai AgroChina Chemical Co Ltd

**Applicant ACN:** N/A

**Summary of Use:** For use as a soil insecticide to control greyback and Childers canegrubs in sugarcane and silverleaf whitefly in a range of vegetable crops

**Date of Registration:** 18 December 2013

**Label Approval No:** 69670/61399

**Product Name:** Conquest Imidah 350 SC Insecticide

**Active Constituent/s:** 350 g/L imidacloprid

**Applicant Name:** Conquest Crop Protection Pty Ltd

**Applicant ACN:** 098 814 932

**Summary of Use:** For the control of greyback and childers canegrub in sugarcane and silverleaf whitefly in various vegetable crops

**Date of Registration:** 3 January 2014

**Label Approval No:** 69702/61467

**Product Name:** Genfarm Fipronil 200 Insecticide  
**Active Constituent/s:** 200 g/L fipronil  
**Applicant Name:** Landmark Operations Limited  
**Applicant ACN:** 008 743 217  
**Summary of Use:** For the control of various insect pests in asparagus, bananas, brassicas, cotton, forest ry, ginger, wine grapevines, mushrooms, pasture, potatoes, sorghum, sugarcane and swede  
**Date of Registration:** 20 December 2013  
**Label Approval No:** 67546/59326

**Product Name:** Conquest Lambda 250 CS Insecticide  
**Active Constituent/s:** 250 g/L lambda-cyhalothrin  
**Applicant Name:** Conquest Crop Protection Pty Ltd  
**Applicant ACN:** 098 814 932  
**Summary of Use:** For the control of certain insect pests in cotton, barley, wheat and various field crops  
**Date of Registration:** 3 January 2014  
**Label Approval No:** 69701/61466

Information on lambda-cyhalothrin can be found at [http://npic.orst.edu/factsheets/l\\_cyhalotech.pdf](http://npic.orst.edu/factsheets/l_cyhalotech.pdf)

**Product Name:** Agrocn Abamectin 18 EC Insecticide/Miticide  
**Active Constituent/s:** 18 g/L abamectin  
**Applicant Name:** Shanghai AgroChina Chemical Co Ltd  
**Applicant ACN:** NA  
**Summary of Use:** For the control of certain mites on apples, capsicums, citrus, cotton, hops, ornamentals, pears, tomatoes and strawberries and native budworm on cotton  
**Date of Registration:** 3 January 2014  
**Label Approval No:** 69669/61397

Information on abamectin ca be found at <http://pmep.cce.cornell.edu/profiles/extoxnet/24d-captan/abamectin-ext.html>

**Product Name:** Imtrade Dimethoate 400 EC Insecticide  
**Active Constituent/s:** 400 g/L dimethoate (an anticholinesterase compound)  
**Applicant Name:** Imtrade Australia Pty Ltd  
**Applicant ACN:** 090 151 134  
**Summary of Use:** For the control of a wide range of insect pests on fruit trees, vegetables, citrus, pastures, cotton, lucerne, peanuts and ornamentals  
**Date of Registration:** 13 January 2014  
**Label Approval No:** 69555/61124

**Product Name:** Couraze Classic Insecticide  
**Applicant Name:** Ospray Pty Ltd  
**Applicant ACN:** 110 199 169  
**Summary of Variation:** To extend use to include banana varieties and additional pests in citrus and sugar cane  
**Date of Variation:** 7 January 2014  
**Label Approval No:** 61591/61393

This is imidacloprid

**Product Name:** Nufarm Nuprid 700WG Insecticide  
**Applicant Name:** Nufarm Australia Limited  
**Applicant ACN:** 004 377 780  
**Summary of Variation:** To extend use to include control of various pests in a range of crops  
**Date of Variation:** 16 January 2014  
**Label Approval No:** 65887/59650

This is imidacloprid

### THIRD WORLD SYMPOSIUM OF ORGANIC BEEKEEPING

A notice has been sent out regarding the above to be held in Castel San Pietro Terme (Bologna - Italy), from the 4th to the 7th of March 2014.

Details can be found at [www.apibio.org](http://www.apibio.org)

## SEEKING EMPLOYMENT

I have received the following enquiries. If you are interested, please contact directly.

### Name

NEIL Galang

### Email

[ngalang88@yahoo.com](mailto:ngalang88@yahoo.com)

### Message

We have beekeepers from the Philippines wants to work in Australia  
Please kindly connect me to the right Person

My name NEIL G.Galang 0415129298  
or @ MY OFFICE Skill & Education Agency Australia  
On 02 8075 4763

Looking forward to hear from you soon!

cheer  
neil

### Name

Peter Paul Rafosala

### Email

[peterpaulrafosala@yahoo.com](mailto:peterpaulrafosala@yahoo.com)

### Message

465 A. L. Wakan Viewhomes,  
Lower Apokon, Tagum City  
Davao del Norte  
Philippines  
January 27, 2014

Sir:

Beekeepers around the globe are slowly declining, year by year that number is decreasing; it's a fact that we cannot deny especially for those countries that depends most of its pollination from the bees. Experienced beekeepers now become basic commodities in world leading apiaries.

I am a trained Filipino beekeeper in the Philippines with relatively sufficient beekeeping training and experienced in our country. The recent chains of calamities that befell the Philippines have left great devastations in some apiaries especially in the Visayas and Mindanao area.

In view of this, may I inquire from your good office for any available job vacancies in the beekeeping field in your country. Also if there is any program sponsored by any organization or company that enables us foreign beekeepers to work in your country in an Employer Assisted Working Visa. I shall be very grateful for any information and assistance your office can provide toward this end.

I can provide you with my recent resume and reference if you are interested.  
Thank you so much for your kind consideration on the matter. More power and God bless.

Very truly yours,  
PETER PAUL S. RAFOSALA  
Beekeeper  
(+63)920 6317 800  
Email: [peterpaulrafosala@yahoo.com](mailto:peterpaulrafosala@yahoo.com)

## **PESTICIDE KILLS**

Bryn Jones has reported on the loss of 500 beehives in the Warren area just after Christmas. Fipronil is suspected as the culprit and bees were near cotton. It again brings into question the warnings on labels and the ability to be able to enforce these labels.

There is an increasing awareness of the role of honey bees in agriculture and horticulture and AHBIC is continually looking at ways to have the pesticide applicators consider the honey bees when spraying.

## **NEW VIRUS FOUND IN HONEY BEES**

There is a paper recently published about a new virus, tobacco ringspot virus, which it seems would be spread by the varroa mite. As we do not have *Varroa destructor* here in Australia we may be spared this virus for a long time. Details can be found at [http://mbio.asm.org/content/5/1/e00898-13?goback=.gde\\_147964\\_member\\_5831775768748785665](http://mbio.asm.org/content/5/1/e00898-13?goback=.gde_147964_member_5831775768748785665)

With modern technology I wonder how many of these “new” viruses have been there all the time. It is just that we did not have the ability to identify them.

## **CONTROLLING VARROA MITES**

The use of RNAi to control varroa mites is again making the news in the USA. There is a patent out on which says “An isolated nucleic acid agent is disclosed comprising a nucleic acid sequence which down regulates expression of a gene product of a Varro destructor mite.” It will be interesting to see how this work progresses.

The main problems with varroa mites are the viruses they vector. So, control the mite and control the virus.

## **MEETING WITH MINISTER JOYCE**

On 12 February, 2014 a meeting has been arranged in Canberra with the Agriculture Minister, Barnaby Joyce. This will be the first opportunity for us to be able to meet with the Minister and give him an outline of our industry.

Whilst in Canberra the opportunity will be taken to meet with various Government Departments and Plant Health Australia. It is crucial that we meet regularly with these organisations as it can only benefit our industry in the long term.

A report on the meeting with the Minister in the next newsletter.



VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2013-2014 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](mailto: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 circle your preference**

yes / no

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

yes / no

I would like to receive the AHBIC Annual Report

yes / no

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

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:** \$.....

**When paying by Direct Deposit** please -

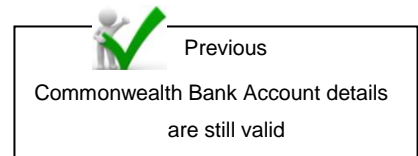
- ♦ quote your Name as the Reference
- ♦ email your details (as above) to [ahbic@honeybee.org.au](mailto:ahbic@honeybee.org.au)

Account Name: Australian Honey Bee Industry Council Inc

Bank: Bendigo Bank

BSB: 633 108

Account No: 150 976 405



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

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