



Monthly NEWS

To: The Australian Honey Industry

From: Trevor Weatherhead – Executive Director

FEBRUARY 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 March 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
Cotton, A J &
Davey, Bob
Daybreak Apiaries
Dewar Apiaries
Dunlop, PG & RD
Enslin, Darren
Ewington, P & M
Faithfull, Mark

Gells Honey
Glasby, Garry
Green, Lionel
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
Williams JW & MA
Zadow Apiaries

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LATEST ON HONEY LEVY REFORM AND INCREASE

On Thursday 27 February a meeting of representatives from the Plant Health Committee met in Melbourne to discuss the reforms. The next day beekeeping industry leaders met to also be briefed and to discuss the proposed reforms.

These were two very positive meetings and the Industry Working Group is pleased with the progress made. All is still in draft form and will be amended in line with the suggestions from the two meetings and again circulated to those delegates for further consideration.

Beekeepers are reminded that details can be found on the AHBIC website at <http://honeybee.org.au/programs/honey-levy-reform-and-increase/> Please take the time to read this and if you have any questions, ask.

The second question that will be asked relates to raising the threshold. Why is AHBIC recommending the threshold be lifted? AHBIC is proposing to raise the current threshold of 600kg to 1,500kg. Therefore, producers would be exempt from paying the honey levy if they sold less than 1,500kg of honey per annum. The reason for raising the current honey levy threshold from 600kg to 1,500kg per annum is because the costs of collecting the levy in these lower ranges are far exceeding the revenue raised. These proposed changes are an effort by AHBIC to make the honey levy more cost efficient.

So why are costs so high? All levies are collected nationally by the Department of Agriculture Levies Section. Recently, Levies moved to a full cost recovery model and this has resulted in a large increase per collection cost, which has ultimately meant that the fees to collect the honey levy have been rising over the last few years. These proposed changes in the honey levy threshold are an effort by AHBIC to make the honey levy more cost efficient.

There is also the proposal to establish a PHA levy. Why do we need this? AHBIC is currently a member of both Animal Health Australia (AHA) and Plant Health Australia (PHA), as well as a signatory to each of the respective deeds, the Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement (EADRA) which is managed by AHA, and the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed (EPPRD) which is managed by PHA.

Over the last few years, AHBIC have been transitioning to become a sole member of PHA and the EPPRD. This is because bee pests and pest bees are now managed on a national basis by plant biosecurity, not animal biosecurity. This transition will also attempt to resolve the confusion amongst industry and government surrounding AHBIC's dual membership and signatory status. This change will result in AHBIC not having to pay membership to both AHA and PHA, roughly saving AHBIC \$10,000 per year (and freeing these funds up for industry biosecurity investment).

In recognition of these proposed changes, AHBIC is proposing to change the current EADRA biosecurity component to an EPPRD biosecurity component. AHBIC is also proposing to transfer 0.1c/kg from the newly established EPPRD biosecurity component to establish a 0.1c/kg PHA levy to pay for AHBIC's annual subscription to PHA. This 0.1c/kg will raise \$20,000 a year and will pay for PHA membership and administration fees which on average are about \$5000 per year, with the remaining funds to be spent on biosecurity initiatives (such as training, workshops, manuals etc.).

AHBIC AGM

Information has been given in previous Newsletters previously about the AHBIC AGM being held in Melbourne on 9 July, 2014 at the Mantra Hotel, Tullamarine, Melbourne.

The accommodation details are also in previous newsletters. The later you leave to book, the more expensive it gets.

Registration forms will be available soon. Observers are most welcome at the AHBIC AGM but you will need to fill out a form once it comes out. Catering numbers need to be with the hotel well in advance.

This year we will need to have elections for:-

Chairman – Ian Zadow was elected last year to fill the one year left in Lindsay Bourke’s term. Nominations need to be with the Executive Director 28 days before the meeting. See the part in the AHBIC constitution at <http://honeybee.org.au/pdf/Constitution%202012.pdf> Ian Zadow is eligible for re-election.

Two Executive members need to be elected – Trevor Morgan’s two year term expires and Ken Gell was elected last AGM to fill the remainder of the term of Trevor Weatherhead who had resigned. Both Trevor and Ken are eligible for re-election.

LEVY COLLECTION COSTS

In an effort to see how we can reduce the collection costs for the honey levy, examination of the legislation shows that if you believe you will pay less than \$2,000 in levies in the year, you may apply to do an annual return instead of a quarterly return.

So if you are currently submitting quarterly returns and you believe that you will be paying less than \$2,000 for the year, please apply to the Department of Agriculture Levies Collection Unit for an exemption from paying quarterly returns and ask to pay the levy annually. This way there will be fewer returns to process and thus savings can be made on the collection costs which will then be able to be allocated to research.

ADVERSE EXPERIENCE REPORTS

With the recent reports of losses of bee hives due to pesticide poisoning, beekeepers are reminded that they should report these events to the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) as an “adverse experience report”.

The APVMA keeps a log of these reports and then looks to see if labels need to be altered or some other action is warranted. It is important that you do make the effort to put in the report. Remember **IF YOU DO NOT REPORT IT, IT DID NOT HAPPEN.**

FREE TRADE AGREEMENT WITH SOUTH KOREA

The recently announced Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with South Korea did not include honey in it. This was very disappointing from an industry point of view.

AHBIC has been advised that “Australia was able to secure outcomes on honey bees and some honey and royal jelly related products. Korea will phase out its tariffs on our high trade value tariff line HS2106909099 (essentially a variety of health supplements and some skin care products – which includes some honey and royal jelly related products), and also for HS3003909 (medicaments – preparations containing royal jelly) and for HS0106902010 (honey bees).”

The inclusion of the royal jelly will not be of much help to Australian beekeepers as royal jelly is not produced in Australia due to the cheap imports of royal jelly from China. Live bees may be a possibility but it will all depend on what is required in the certification.

AHBIC is hoping to meet with Department of Trade Minister Andrew Robb or his staff in Canberra in April to discuss the inclusion of honey on the FTA's with China and Japan.

NSW DPI JOB VACANCY

Doug Somerville has passed on the following. Nick Annand is taking 12 months leave starting at the end of March, thus the vacancy.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST.

12 Months employment at NSW DPI

Development Officer - Honey Bees

CONTACT: Doug Somerville

NSW Department of Primary Industries

PO Box 389, Goulburn NSW 2580

Phone (02) 4828 6619 Fax: (02) 4822 3261

Mobile: 0427 311 410

doug.somerville@dpi.nsw.gov.au

CROP REPORTS

From Mal Porter in Central West NSW

Here we are into February and still with very dry conditions with very high fire dangers, and no honey production. A lot of bees had been moved onto the River Red Gum in the Central West with next to no honey produced. There have been reports that some hives had melted down while on the River Gum, and there has been another report a couple of beekeepers had their hives sprayed from cotton spraying while on River Gum.

It appears that the EPA Authority still doesn't want to take any action against the cotton industry, so beekeepers should be a bit more proactive when placing hives when near where cotton is being ground.

Some of the honey packers have increased their honey and wax prices due to the lack of honey production and honey on hand in beekeepers sheds.

There are a few trees putting bud on for Autumn but with no rain in site and still very hot conditions they could grow too quickly and flower early or drop its bud. This report doesn't seem very encouraging, but may be by the end of February we may see the weather pattern start to change with some rain by the time I do my next report.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN CROP REPORT - Keith Gibbs

It was even too hot for the *irrigated* Lucerne!... it yielded some honey in the good areas and none in marginal areas. Most hives have lost a super of bees or more and have very poor brood to replace them.

Some patches of *Euc. leucoxyton* (blue gum) yielded good honey - others quite close yielded much less... it's just been the 'luck of the draw' this year. Most ground flora petered out early... it came to head and yielded minimal honey and then died, not lasting long enough to breed good bees.

As you all know, the State has been hit with massive bushfires most of which was good beekeeping country. 94,000ha in Ngarkat was burnt (a large slice of our wintering sites), approx. 50,000ha in the Southern Flinders (Bangor). 25,000ha of *Euc.camaldulensis* (red gum) and *Euc.leucoxyton* (blue gum) were lost in the Eden Valley fire. Billiatt in the Southern Mallee, Calperum in the Northern Mallee and some West Coast scrub was also burnt. Being so widespread, the fires will have some impact on almost all SA beekeepers for many years to come. Talks have been held with Dept of Environment regarding the availability of replacement sites.

The *Mel.lanceolata* (tea tree) is flowering heavily, the buds are opening very quickly and the flower is holding a beautiful white colour (it goes brown very quickly if conditions are not suitable). It should yield some honey but it will definitely breed some very good bees.

Euc.odorata (peppermint box) is budded in some areas... it will possibly produce a little honey, but bees could go backwards on it as the pollen is poor.

The State, in general, has been very hot and dry since October last year. There has been very little honey produced, so any surplus honey is going straight to packers for cash flow.

At this stage, nothing is a real stand-out for autumn and winter, or even into the next honey season, but as we all know with beekeeping – things can change very quickly.

QUEENSLAND FEBRUARY CROP REPORT – Bill Winner

Queensland is in a bad way for short term honey prospects.

In the immediate future crops like Gum Topped Box, Coastal Tea Tree, Bloodwood (Flowering coming to an end) and a little Red Ash are the only crops being reported.

Mallee Box towards the NSW border is not likely to produce a crop.

The south of the State remains critically dry. Honey producers are looking anxiously at long term weather forecasts hoping the strong Highs will move away and allow Lows to bring much needed rain to have trees grow and set bud.

Where some rain has fallen eucalypts have put on growth. Grey Ironbark has new growth and will hopefully set bud. Narrow Leaved Ironbark has potential if it rains.

Rain may see growth on Spotted Gum for next year.

The Channel Country is reported to be in the grip of a big dry. Some rivers have run but rain will be needed to produce wildflowers for breeding condition in the late autumn.

Dry weather and lack of breeding conditions has beekeepers are struggling to maintain hive strength. Many “regular” honey flows in Queensland need wet feet to yield; the key for the coming months is rain! Given rain prospects will quickly improve.

North NSW Crop Report – Casey Cooper

Little to no rain has seen most of the state declared a Natural Disaster.

Because of this the industry is able to claim Transport Subsidy.

Reports of Coastal Bloodwood have given good honey and pollen in most areas.

Grey and Blue Gums have some bud.

Tee Tree looking good with bees moved on early doing well.

Some Stringy Barks have bud but with the dry weather it is not sure they will produce.

Without substantial rain there are no prospects for the coming year.

VICTORIAN SEASONAL REPORT January/February 2014 From Bob McDonald.

January weather was hot with an extreme heat wave over several days during mid-month. A rain band passing through the State towards the end of the month brought some heavy rain in places through the Northern Plains and the Lower North East.

February weather has moderated a little, turning more into normal summer temperatures, with some dewy nights towards the end of the month. A big rain during mid February delivered 50 to 100 mm across a large area of the North West Mallee, but it was too late to help honey production. Some Acorn Mallee (*Euc. oleosa*) is still flowering, but bees are doing very little. The main Acorn Mallee flow fizzled out in the last burst of heat.

During the January heat wave Victoria had several dry lightning storms which created many fires. The worst of the fires, as far as beekeeping is concerned, was in the Northern Grampians which extended out into private property and in Wyperfeld National Park, extending well out into the Big Desert.

Besides burning a large area of the Northern Grampians, there were at least three loads of bees burnt and many old hollow Red Gum and Yellow Box trees through the private property. The flora through the Park that was destroyed will grow back in time and be useful as bee sites. The Red Gum and Yellow Box in the private property have been destroyed forever.

It is interesting to note that including the large 2006 fire, the December 2013 fire, and this January 2014 fire, out of a total of 167,200 hectares in the Grampians National Park that has been burnt, there are only two small areas which have not been burnt. Some of the burns have happened twice in the last 7 to 8 years.

MALLEE FIRES –

Telopea Downs – Red Bluff fire burned through from the South Australian border for approximately 16km eastwards of all of the Red Bluff Reserve, and approximately 10-12km northward into the Big Desert Wilderness. **In all, just under 30,000 hectares 13 bee sites along the southern boundary have been burnt out.**

Bronzewing Fire, south of Ouyen Burnt some freehold land east of the Sunraysia Highway, and the bulk of the public land travelling westwards for approximately 12-13km towards Patchewollock-Underbool Road; being controlled approximately 5km east of the Road. **This fire burnt 14,000 hectares.** I don't know how many bee sites are involved, but there could be quite a few, and possibly more than at Telopea Downs.

Danyo Fire, east of Murrayville burnt 4,668 hectares approximately 8km east to west and northerly for approximately 8km, burning all of the Danyo Reference Area.

Rocket Lake Fire, approximately 4km east of Rocket Lake burnt 1,153 hectares. The southern boundary of the fire being along the old Nowingi-Rocket Lake Railway line. Again, I don't know how many bee sites might be involved.

Wyperfeld Fire started near Lake Albercutya, burned around the Lake, and burning small areas of freehold, joining up with a couple of smaller lightning strikes and then heading out into the Big Desert, heading northerly on a narrow front. Finally spreading out easterly across Pine Plains and finally being controlled along the northern edge of the Big Desert, being approximately 15km wide east and west.

This fire burnt over 55,000 hectares.

The number of bee sites involved in this fire is unclear at this stage. There are 5 bee sites on the northern end, some bee sites in eastern Pine Plains, and an unknown (to me) number in the Yapeet/Rainbow area.

As a point of interest, the Wyperfeld fire travelled from south to north over 50km. During February the fires have continued in the first half of the month with the East Gippsland fires burning up to 200,000 hectares. With the exception of the Gippsland fires, most of the other fires have started in dry grassland and burnt mostly in freehold property, with a lesser extent effecting bee sites.

Black Box (*Euc. largiflorens*) flowering adjacent to some of the Red Gum country in North West Victoria has been yielding a little honey and some beekeepers have stayed closer to the river instead of moving into the Mallee.

Irrigated Seed Lucerne in South West Victoria was doing very little during the cooler weather before the onset of the heat wave, but has picked up since and appears to be yielding some surplus.

The southern pockets of Red Gum and Yellow Box have yielded a little surplus honey as the summer weather became warmer, but it is well finished.

As a point of interest, December weather was generally too cold for good honey production, and January weather has been a little too hot.

Narrow Leaf Peppermint (*Euc. radiata*) is flowering in North Eastern Victoria and there is a general movement of bees into the mountains. At the time of writing, it is yielding honey. The recent rain that moved through the area was cause for a little worry, but mostly where the bloom is, it was not as heavy as was forecast.

There is also reasonable bloom on the Blue Gum (*Euc. stjohnii*) in some of the higher elevations, but this is not widespread.

The late January rains knocked most of this blossom off, with bees still breeding on pockets of late Messmate and Manna Gum.

Overall, summer honey production has been disappointing.

River Red Gum (*Euc. camaldulensis*) yielded a reasonable crop along the Murrumbidgee and some of the Anna-Branch Rivers across the Western Riverina plains; with Red Gum along the Murray River generally only yielding good breeding conditions, with very little surplus.

Acorn Mallee in the North West started yielding honey in early January, but ceased during the heat wave, improved a little as the weather cooled down, but the second heat wave in early February finished up any hope of it yielding surplus honey.

Honey Market – Honey production in the four Eastern Mainland States is well down and all of the major Buyers have firmed up their prices.

LIVE BEE EXPORTS TO CANADA

The new certification for the export of live bees to Canada has been received. It would seem that there are no obstacles to exporting queen bees from the eastern States or packages from Western Australia and Tasmania.

B-QUAL

B-Qual Chairman, Barry Pobke, is pleased to advise that Wayne Fuller has been appointed as a Director of B-Qual. Wayne is welcomed to the Board.

Barry also wishes to remind beekeepers that B-Qual is an industry owned QA program and you are encouraged to look at adopting B-Qual if you have not already. Some packers do pay a bonus for being B-Qual certified so the costs involved will be more than recouped by this bonus.

AUSTRALIAN-CHINA AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT PROGRAM

This email was received, For your information.

The Australian Government Department of Agriculture is now accepting applications for the revised Australian-China Agricultural Cooperation Agreement Programme (ACACA programme). Australian individuals, organisations or businesses seeking to enhance cooperation between Australia and China relating to agriculture, fisheries and forestry are encouraged to apply.

The ACACA programme has been established to enhance agricultural cooperation between Australia and China and provide funding for a broad range activities including, but not limited to:

- Technical exchanges
- Training programs
- Conferences
- Missions
- Workshops
- Information exchanges and/or programs
- Officer Secondments
- Industry scoping missions
- Feasibility studies

If you have an idea for a project that will contribute to the Australia-China agricultural relationship and provide flow-on benefits to you and your broader industry or sector, we would like to hear from you; particularly if your proposed activity falls within a subcategory of the funding round priorities:

- Science and Technology cooperation
- Two-way investment cooperation
- Trade cooperation

Please visit our website to download a copy of the ACACA Programme Guidelines and application form.

Website: www.daff.gov.au/acaca
Email: acaca@daff.gov.au
Phone: 1800 019 193

Applications must be received by 28 March 2014.

We thank you for your interest in the programme and look forward to receiving your applications soon!

Kind regards

ACACA

AHBIC EXECUTIVE MEETING

The Executive of AHBIC met in Melbourne on Thursday night, 27 February, 2014. There were many issues covered.

One of the points that came out was a recommendation for beekeepers to phase out the use of galvanised drums for honey storage. In recent times there have been two rejections of honey exported to China due to high zinc levels. It is most likely these arose from honey from galvanised drums. Capilano is willing to sell some of the PVC drums they use. This is one alternative.

NEW CHEMICAL REGISTRATIONS

Product Name: Forward Imidacloprid 600 Seed Dressing Insecticide
Active Constituent/s: 600 g/L imidacloprid
Applicant Name: Forward Australia Pty Ltd
Applicant ACN: 112 532 395
Summary of Use: For the control of thrips, aphids, brown flea beetle and wireworms on cotton, protection of canola, pastures and lupins from damage by redlegged earth mite and blue oat mite; control of aphids and prevention of spread of barley yellow dwarf virus in cereal crops; control of some soil pests of summer crops
Date of Registration: 28 January 2014
Label Approval No: 69184/60158

Product Name: EuroChem METRO 250 WP Insecticide
Active Constituent/s: 250 g/kg pymetrozine
Applicant Name: TGAC Australia Pty. Ltd.
Applicant ACN: 134 570 700
Summary of Use: For the control of aphids in brassica vegetables, potatoes and stone fruit
Date of Registration: 31 January 2014
Label Approval No: 67124/55267

See http://www.epa.gov/opp00001/chem_search/reg_actions/registration/fs_PC-101103_01-Aug-00.pdf

Product Name: eChem Chlorothalonil 720 SC Fungicide
Active Constituent/s: 720 g/L chlorothalonil
Applicant Name: eChem (Aust) Pty Limited
Applicant ACN: 089 133 095
Summary of Use: For the control of fungal diseases on almonds, apricots, bananas, carrots, celery, cherries, faba beans, grapes, onions, peaches, peanuts, peas, plums, potatoes, tomatoes, turf and vegetables
Date of Registration: 13 February 2014
Label Approval No: 69546/6109

Put this in as it has been suggested from overseas this may affect bees.

Product Name: Accensi Bifenthrin 100 EC Insecticide/Miticide
Applicant Name: Accensi Pty Ltd
Applicant ACN: 079 875 184
Summary of Variation: To change the product name from 'COUNTRY BIFENTHRIN 100 EC INSECTICIDE/MITICIDE' to 'ACCENSI BIFENTHRIN 100 EC INSECTICIDE/MITICIDE'
Date of Variation: 6 February 2014
Label Approval No: 62588/59921

Product Name: Accensi Abamectin Insecticide
Applicant Name: Accensi Pty Ltd
Applicant ACN: 079 875 184
Summary of Variation: To change the product name from 'COUNTRY ABAMECTIN INSECTICIDE' to 'ACCENSI ABAMECTIN INSECTICIDE'
Date of Variation: 6 February 2014
Label Approval No: 53080/59860

Product Name: Accensi Cypermethrin 250 EC Insecticide
Applicant Name: Accensi Pty Ltd
Applicant ACN: 079 875 184
Summary of Variation: To change the product name from 'COUNTRY CYPERMETHRIN 250 EC INSECTICIDE' to 'ACCENSI CYPERMETHRIN 250 EC INSECTICIDE'
Date of Variation: 6 February 2014
Label Approval No: 63475/59834

MEETING WITH MINISTER JOYCE AND SENATOR JOHN WILLIAMS

As advised in the last newsletter, a meeting was scheduled with Minister Joyce in the afternoon of 12 February. As the afternoon drew on, there were many divisions called in Parliament and the Minister had to be there for those. Then the Prime Minister summonsed the Minister to meet with him. So in the end we did not get to meet personally with the Minister.

We did meet with his newly appointed advisor and the member for Wright, Scott Buchholz, who is Trevor Weatherhead's local member, also attended. The meeting was an opportunity to raise our issues with the new Advisor and also keep Scott up to date with beekeeping issues. It was a productive meeting and there has been follow up on several of the issues raised. Hopefully we will get to personally meet the Minister at another occasion.

One plus for our trip to Canberra was the opportunity afforded when Craig Klingner arranged, at short notice, a lunch time visit with Senator John Williams. We were able to talk about our industry to John. One of the subjects was the leaving out of honey in the South Korea Free Trade Agreement. Later that afternoon, in a Committee meeting, John raised this issue.



The Hon. Barnaby Joyce MP

MEDIA RELEASE

Minister for Agriculture

Protecting Australian industries from a varroa buzzkill

If varroa mite established in Australia it could cost Australia's crop industries about \$70 million a year.

Minister for Agriculture, Barnaby Joyce, today released a statement outlining the areas where research and development (R&D) could help to better prepare our industries and mitigate the risk.

"Targeting our R&D dollars at emerging risks is just as important as investing in new tools to improve productivity," Minister Joyce said.

"The Australian bee keeping industry is the only one in the world that is free of varroa and we want to keep it that way."

Varroa mites are parasites that live on bees and whose impact can lead to the destruction of whole colonies and hives.

"Our honey bee industry produces about \$90 million worth of honey and beeswax annually and 65 per cent of our agricultural crops rely on honey bee pollination, at least in part.

"The establishment of varroa would devastate the beekeeping and cropping industries.

“Modelling by CSIRO shows that varroa could cost our crop industries about \$70 million a year if it established in Australia.

“Through this statement, the government has outlined a set of priorities to guide scientists and organisations involved in honey bee, varroa mite and crop pollination research developing projects to protect our industries.”

The priorities include improving the efficiency and effectiveness of crop pollination under Australian conditions and keeping managed honey bees healthy by developing new ways to treat varroa mite.

Whilst the R&D statement underlines the need to prepare for the establishment of varroa mite in Australia, efforts are continuing to keep Australia free from the parasite.

“Our robust biosecurity system provides a high level of protection for our primary industries and environment. As an example, when importing bees to Australia, importers need to meet strict biosecurity regulations and standards,” Minister Joyce said.

“This statement is about furthering those efforts – providing guidance on priority areas for additional work, highlighting them to Australia’s scientific community and ensuring we do what we can to prepare industry in case varroa is introduced so it can continue into the future.”

The statement is available on the Department of Agriculture website www.daff.gov.au/honeybees.

For more information on varroa mite visit www.daff.gov.au/animal-plant-health/pests-diseases-weeds/bee_pests_and_diseases/honey-bee-pollination-continuity-strategy/statement-research-development

For a technical expert please contact the Department of Agriculture’s media team on 02 6272 3232.

Joyce media contact: [Gerard McManus](mailto:Gerard.McManus@da.gov.au), 0477 391 580

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

Advice from the Crop Pollination Association that the CPA Annual Conference & AGM will be held on Monday 16th June 2014 at the Sandow Motor Inn, Mildura, Victoria. A tour of an almond cracking plant is planned for Tuesday 17th June 2014.

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

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

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