



Monthly NEWS

To: The Australian Honey Industry

From: Trevor Weatherhead – Executive Director

May 2016

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 QUEEN BEE SUPPLIER appear on this list?
If not, then ask “Why not?” AHBIC WORKS FOR YOU!**

The following list recognises contributions received since 1 June 2015

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
Badger Head Bees
Beechworth Honey
Bees Neez Apiaries
Blue Hills Honey
Bliss, Stephen
Bourke, Lindsay
Bush Honey - (Midgley Family)
Buntine, Robert
Capilano Honey Ltd
Clifford, David
Clifford, Ray
Cotton, Allan & Michelle
Covey Bees
Dale's Honey Bees
Davies Apiaries
Dewar Apiaries
Dinsdale, Julie
Enslin, Darren
Gells Honey

Glasby, Garry
Gold Coast Amateur Beekeepers
Society Inc.
Green, Lionel
Heritage Honey
Honeylife Australia
Hooper, Ben
Hoskinson, HL & HM
Ipswich/West Moreton
Beekeepers Assoc
Jones, Bryn and Warren
Jones, Daniel
Kennett, JL & KA
Klingner, Craig
Lyneham, Matthew
MacGibbon, Kevin
McLaren, Jane
Masters, N & S
Morgan, Trevor
Naicol Pty Ltd
Nairn, Mal
Northside Beekeepers Association Inc.

Panda Honey – honey buyers
Pavy, Rodney & Gail
Pure Bendigo Gold Honey
R. Stephens
Rotary Club of Caulfield
Ruge Honey
Smith, Bruce & Carolyn
Squire, Gary
Stokes, Peter
Superbee Honey Factory
Tasmanian Honey Company
Trigg, Margaret
Watson, James
Weatherhead, T & M
Weerona Apiaries
Williams JW & MA
Zadow Apiaries

Thank you to all our contributors. 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 purpose 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.

AHBIC Award of Excellence – Sam Malfroy

The Australian Honey Bee Industry Council is pleased to present the 2016 AHBIC Award of Excellence to Sam Malfroy.

Sam worked for 4 years as a project officer at Plant Health Australia. During this time he was the main person working on bee projects at PHA and he has led and coordinated many projects for our industry.

Some of these projects were-

- Management and coordination of the National Bee Pest Surveillance Program

Since PHA took over the management of this program in 2011, sentinel hive numbers have increased from around 25, to now over 160 nationally. Other improvements include surveillance for regionalised pests, as well as incorporation of other surveillance methods such as floral sweep netting, hobby beekeeper involvement and new technologies such as the remote surveillance hive, which was recently profiled on a “60 Minutes” episode with Sam featuring as a movie star.



Sam receiving his award from AHBIC Chair, Ian Zadow. *Photo courtesy of Frank Lindsay*

Sam has also facilitated the program moving from a fully funded program by the Department of Agriculture, to a cost shared funding model, with financial contributions for the program now coming from the honey bee industry, horticultural pollinator-reliant industries along with continued investment by the Department of Agriculture.

- Sam Chaired the Department of Agriculture’s National Varroa Strategy and led many follow up projects with industry and R&D agencies.
- Sam led the development of the BeeAware website (www.beeaware.org.au). This website is now the national hub of information for beekeepers and growers about honey bee biosecurity and pollination of agricultural and horticultural crops. The site contains an extensive range of information about exotic and established pests and diseases of honey bees, and helps beekeepers to identify and respond to these pest threats. It also contains information about the pollination of crops and how beekeepers and growers can work together to provide and receive best practice pollination services. It contains a monthly newsletter service, now with over 700 subscribers. Google analytic reports demonstrate that this website is receiving many thousands of sessions every month.
- Sam led the development of the honey bee biosecurity manual which was produced in 2012 and coordinated the printing of over 13,000 manuals and postage to every registered beekeeper in Australia. Sam also led the review of this document at the end of last year with another 11,000 copies printed for distribution.
- One of the major initiatives over the past 3 years has been the development of the Honey Bee Industry Biosecurity Code of Practice and National Bee Biosecurity Program. Sam has been a member of the Industry Working Group for the development of this code and program and has

worked closely with government and industry through its development and has been a key driver to its establishment.

During Sam's time working at PHA he has put a huge amount of time and effort into projects for our industry. Through his work, Sam developed a large network of contacts throughout industry and government and was always up to date with issues affecting our industry and knew where to go when he needed information or assistance with his work. Sam has also attended many beekeeping conferences to present information on projects he has been working on.

Sam left PHA in February and this award is presented in appreciation of the effort Sam put into his job above his call of duty.

APIS FLOREA INTERCEPTION

On 11 May 2016 a nest of *Apis florea* was detected on a container which had been unloaded in Brisbane. The bees were destroyed and checks showed no mites present.

Another good find.

HONEY EXPORTS TO SAUDI ARABIA

AHBIC has been advised that Saudi Arabia has stopped the importation of honey from countries which have small hive beetle. AHBIC has been in conversation with the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources on this and their staff are following this up.

Saudi Arabia is an important market for Australian honey so it is crucial that access for Australian honey be maintained.

LIVE BEE EXPORTS TO THE USA

The Department of Agriculture and Water Resources has written to the United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service with information on the findings of the 2013 report on the disease status of *A. cerana* in the Cairns region and the 2013-15 survey of honey bee pathogens in *A. mellifera* across the country.

These two reports address issues raised by the US and would show that there is now no reason for the US to maintain their ban on imports of live bees from Australia.

We await the response from the US.

TRANSFER OF NON-PRESCRIBED GOODS

I have received the following information:-

The Non-Prescribed Good Program has recently published two template 'transfer certificates' on the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources web site.

<http://www.agriculture.gov.au/export/controlled-goods/non-prescribed-goods/transfer-certificates-npg>

A 'transfer certificate' is a document which is completed by an establishment who is despatching product to another establishment within Australia, possibly for further processing. A completed transfer certificate ensures that information about the product being transferred is maintained throughout the export chain, and provides evidence to the receiving establishment, and assurance to international trading partners, that importing country requirements have been met.

Some importing countries require very precise traceability and assurances, for certain animal by-products. The department has created two templates which can be used to trace the transfer of products from one establishment to another. One is a general transfer certificate which can be used for any non-prescribed good or animal by-product, the other has been created more specifically for the transfer of blood serum.

These templates can be used as they are, or modified to best meet the needs of a particular business (including additional declarations for other specific markets, as required).

If you have any queries, please contact the [NPG team](#).

EDIBLE BEE PRODUCT EXPORTS TO NEW CALEDONIA

I have received the following information from the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources re export of edible bee products to New Caledonia.

At the request of French Polynesian authorities, the Department has developed certification for honey and other products into French Polynesia. The link below to our MICoR website sets out the certification requirements.

http://micor.agriculture.gov.au/Eggs/Pages/french_polynesia/french_polynesia.aspx

THE INAUGURAL AUSTRALIAN FOOD AWARDS TO LAUNCH IN 2016

The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria (RASV) has announced a new opportunity for Australian food producers with the launch of the Australian Food Awards. Commencing in 2016, the Australian Food Awards celebrates excellence and recognises the best producers of fine food in Australia.

In the Pantry class there is a specific class for honey.

Entries for the 2016 Australian Food Awards will open on Tuesday, 24 May, with producers encouraged to enter online via <http://food.rasv.com.au>.

For more information about Australian Food Awards, please visit <http://food.rasv.com.au>.

KOREAN MARKET ACCESS ADVICE

I have received a market access advice from the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources from the Republic of Korea – Special Act on Imported Food Safety Management – new food safety requirements for exported Australian agricultural products. It includes honey.

If you want a copy please let me know and I will forward it to you.

HONEY MONTH

There have been many activities during May to celebrate Honey Month. It is hoped to have some of these on the AHBIC website as soon as they are received.

AGM

Annual conferences for 2016 as I have them are:-

Queensland Beekeepers Association	13 & 14 July, Townsville
South Australian Apiarists Association	16 – 17 June, Kangaroo Island
Victorian Apiarists Association	8 – 9 June, Wangaratta
Honey Packers and Marketers Association	TBA
National Council of Pollination Associations	TBA
Australian Queen Bee Breeders Association	TBA
Australian Honey Bee Industry Council	15 July, Townsville

AHBIC AGM IN TOWNSVILLE

As has been previously advised the AHBIC AGM is being held in Townsville on Friday 15 July, 2016. Observers are welcomed at the AHBIC AGM. You will need to register as we have to give numbers for catering purposes beforehand. There is a form in this newsletter to register.

It is usual for AHBIC delegates to attend the State conference in which State the AHBIC AGM is being held. This way it allows AHBIC delegates to see what happens in that State and also for the State beekeepers to be able to talk with their interstate counterparts.

The registration form and details for the QBA conference are now available on the QBA website <http://qbabees.org.au/events/coming-events/> All AHBIC delegates who will be attending the Queensland conference need to fill this out. Please note that this has to be in by **30 June, 2016** to obtain the early bird registration. Also note that the dinner on the Thursday night needs to be pre booked by Thursday 7 July. Registering at conference will mean you will miss out on the dinner.

Accommodation for conference can be made with the Mercure direct. Phone 07 4759 4900. It is \$129 per room per night which includes a buffet breakfast. Booking reference number to quote is **BEE070716**.

NEW CHEMICAL REGISTRATIONS

Application no.:	103284
Product name:	Campbell Cobra 480SC Insecticide
Active constituent/s:	480 g/L thiacloprid
Applicant name:	Colin Campbell (Chemicals) Pty Ltd
Applicant ACN:	000 045 590
Summary of use	For the control of codling moth in pome fruit, oriental fruit moth in pome fruit and stone fruit, and apple dimpling bug in apples
Date of registration/approval:	4 May 2016
Product registration no.:	81523
Label approval no.:	81523/103284

Application no.: 102445
Product name: Surefire Macromite Miticide
Active constituent/s: 480 g/L bifenthrin
Applicant name: PCT Holdings Pty Ltd
Applicant ACN: 099 023 962
Summary of use: For the control of mites in pome and stone fruit
Date of registration/approval: 17 May 2016
Product registration no.: 81158
Label approval no.: 81158/102445

Application no: 101239
Product name: Success Neo Insecticide
Active constituent/s: 120 g/L spinetoram
Applicant name: Dow Agrosiences Australia Limited
Applicant ACN: 003 771 659
Summary of variation: To amend the WHP statements with regard to forage brassica, to add an export animal feed interval (EAFI) and to extend use into pulses and cotton
Date of variation: 20 May 2016
Product registration no.: 64109
Label approval no.: 64109/101239

BUMBLE BEE INQUIRY

I have received the following information.

Inquiry into the risks and opportunities associated with the use of the bumblebee population in Tasmania for commercial purposes

As a result of the dissolution of the Senate for the election, the Environment and Communications Committee no longer exists and the above inquiry has lapsed.

It is possible that, after the election, the Senate may refer this inquiry back to the committee in the new Parliament. If that occurs, details about the inquiry will be available on the Committee's website: www.aph.gov.au/senate_ec.

CARIBBEAN BEEKEEPING CONGRESS

I have received information on the 8th Caribbean beekeeping congress.

Dates are:-

8th Caribbean Beekeeping Congress 12-16th September 2016
Pre Congress Queen Rearing Course 9th-11th September 2016
Post Congress Africanised Bee Tour of Trinidad 17th-18th September 2016

Their website is <http://www.acboonline.com/> for more information.

QUEENSLAND BIOSECURITY ACT INFORMATION

I have received the following information from the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries regarding the new Biosecurity Act which replaces the Apiaries Act of 1982.

New laws for Queensland beekeepers

New biosecurity laws will take effect in Queensland from 1 July 2016. Beekeepers should ensure they are aware of the changes and what they mean for beekeeping in Queensland.

Managing biosecurity risks

The new legislation introduces the general biosecurity obligation. This means beekeepers will need to take an active role in managing biosecurity risks under their control and ensure their activities do not spread pests, diseases or contaminants. Beekeepers will need to:

- take all reasonable and practical steps to prevent or minimise each biosecurity risk;
- minimise the likelihood of the risk causing a biosecurity event and limit the consequences of such an event; and
- prevent or minimise the adverse effects the risk could have and refrain from doing anything that might exacerbate the adverse effects.

You can choose to follow the national biosecurity code of practice for beekeepers as one way to demonstrate you are meeting your general biosecurity obligation. This is available from the Australian Honeybee Industry Council at www.honeybee.org.au

Beekeeper registration

Anyone who keeps at least one hive must still register their details with Biosecurity Queensland. Individuals, groups of people, or businesses can register, depending on who owns the hive.

From 1 July 2016, beekeepers will be registered as biosecurity entities and receive a hive identification number. The registration period will be three years.

Beekeepers who were registered between March and June 2016 will remain registered until March 2017, at which time they will then need to register under the new *Biosecurity Act 2014* (the Act).

Beekeepers who register from 1 July 2016 will be registered for three years from the date of registration.

A registration fee will still apply for beekeepers who are commercial producers and must be paid at the time of application. Beekeepers are commercial producers if they claim primary producer status on their annual tax return.

Contact your local Department of Agriculture and Fisheries office or visit www.biosecurity.qld.gov.au for an application form from 1 July 2016.

Distance between sites

It is proposed that from 1 July 2016 new minimum distances will be required between hives. This will support commercial beekeepers and allow them to work their hives without robbing.

Number of hives	Proposed distance apart (radius) – from 1 July 2016
Less than 40 hives	Not specified
More than 40 hives	0.8km
Queen bee breeding apiaries	2km

Regulated bees and pests of bees

From 1 July 2016, a number of pests and carriers are classed as prohibited matter. It is a serious offence to keep, possess, distribute, or transport these pests and carriers. This includes moving hives, bee products, and beekeeping appliances that are potentially carrying these pests and carriers.

The following pests and carriers must be reported to Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23 or the Exotic Plant Pest hotline on 1800 084 881:

- Asian honey bee (*Apis dorsata*, *A. florea*, *A. cerana* other than *A. cerana javana*)
- bumblebee (*Bombus spp.*)
- Africanised bee (*Apis mellifera scutellata*)
- tracheal mite (*Acarapis woodi*)
- tropilaelaps mite (*Tropilaelaps clareae* and *T. mercedesae*)
- varroa mite (*Varroa destructor*)
- varroa mite (*Varroa jacobsoni*).

Asian honey bee

From 1 July 2016, Asian honey bee (*Apis cerana javana*) will be category 1 restricted matter. Steps should be taken to minimise the risk posed by Asian honey bee. It will be an offence to move or keep the pest.

Asian honey bee outside the known infested area around Cairns must be reported to Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23 or the Exotic Plant Pest hotline on 1800 084 881.

Braula fly (bee louse)

Braula fly are currently only found in Tasmania and are not present on mainland Australia. It is a pest of concern to the industry. From 1 July 2016, braula fly will be prohibited matter and as such it is an offence to deal with it. The movement of associated risk materials is also considered to be high risk. As such, from 1 July 2016, if you bring carriers (queen bees and escort bees, comb honey, wax) from Tasmania or another infested place without meeting the requirements of the Queensland Biosecurity Manual you will be in breach of your general biosecurity obligation. This is similar to the previous requirement to have a health certificate for carriers brought into Queensland from Tasmania. From 1 July 2016, the Queensland Biosecurity Manual will be available at www.biosecurity.qld.gov.au.

American foulbrood disease

From 1 July 2016, American foulbrood disease will no longer be classed as a quarantine pest of bees. Beekeepers must take reasonable and practical measures to prevent or minimise the biosecurity risk posed by American foulbrood disease as part of their general biosecurity obligation.

Small hive beetle

There is no requirement to notify Biosecurity Queensland if hives are infested with small hive beetle. Beekeepers are encouraged to manage small hive beetle as part of their general biosecurity obligation, as far as is reasonable and practical.

More information

Visit www.biosecurity.qld.gov.au or call 13 25 23.

CHALKBROOD IN NT

Chalkbrood has now been found at Alice Springs in the Northern Territory. Where it came from is not known at this time. There was a report that it came via potting mix but that is incorrect.

As there is little interaction between beekeepers in Alice Springs and the beekeepers further north in the NT, those beekeepers further north should be able to remain free of chalkbrood.

NEW INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF BIOSECURITY

Dr. Helen Scott-Orr PSM has been appointed as the new Inspector-General of Biosecurity. She replaces Dr. Mike Bond who had been the Interim Inspector-General.

Helen is an Australian veterinarian and epidemiologist. She is a former Chief Veterinary Officer of New South Wales and Executive Director within the NSW Department of Primary Industries. She retired in 2009. She was appointed as a Director on the Animal Health Australia Board (AHA) in 2010.

Mike Bond was previously the CEO at AHA and our industry had a good working relationship with Mike at AHA and in his role as interim Inspector-General. We wish Mike all the best for the future.

IGAB REVIEW

Biosecurity Advice 2016/18

Intergovernmental Agreement on Biosecurity (IGAB)

Australia's national biosecurity system. Is it fit for the future?

In late 2015, Australian, state and territory governments agreed that a formal review of Australia's biosecurity arrangements, including the underpinning Intergovernmental Agreement on Biosecurity (IGAB), would be undertaken in 2016—the IGAB review.

The IGAB is an important component of the national biosecurity system. It establishes nationally agreed approaches among governments to prevent, prepare for, detect and mitigate biosecurity risks across the system and respond to, manage and recover from biosecurity incidents should they occur. Led by an independent panel comprised of Dr Wendy Craik AM (Chair), Mr David Palmer and Dr Richard Sheldrake AM, the review will assess the capacity of the national biosecurity system to manage increased biosecurity risk in an increasingly complex global environment.

The panel would like stakeholders across Australia to have their say on the national biosecurity system and the IGAB. They want to know what works, what doesn't, what could be done better and how to strengthen partnerships across the system. Your feedback will help identify where improvements can be made.

A discussion paper has been released to guide the review panel's consultation, and help inform discussions on the review. The panel is calling for comments on the topics and questions raised in the discussion paper and encourages interested stakeholders to make a submission.

*Your views on the future of biosecurity are important. Make sure you have your say by **5pm AEST Friday 8 July 2016!***

To find out more about the review:

- visit: <http://www.agriculture.gov.au>
- email: igabreview@agriculture.gov.au
- phone: 1800 833 507

CROP POLLINATION ASSOCIATION AGM AND CONFERENCE

Meeting is open to all beekeepers, growers, pollination brokers and DPI Inspectors

When: Tuesday 16th August 2016

Where: Mirrool Room 1,
Griffith Ex-Servicemen's Club Ltd.
Jondaryan Avenue, Griffith

Time: 8.30am Registration
9.00am AGM/Conference commences,
4.00pm AGM/Conference ends.

Cost: \$65-00 if pre-register (includes lunch)
\$70-00 if registering on the day.

Accommodation: Some rooms have been reserved at Econo Lodge.

Bus Tour of nearby crops and places of interest organised for 17th August at cost.

Please remit to the CPA Secretary no later than 9th August, 2016, for pre- registration making it easier for your committee.

Many items are listed for discussion including pollination contacts, all weather fast hive inspections, labelling changes and misuse of chemicals, reporting bee losses for investigation, a field visit to a local Almond crop in bloom and the work behind the scenes by the CPA committee to help you, the members.

Please visit our website for current updates & conference registration form.
www.aussiepollination.com.au

All enquiries to:

Eric Whitby,
CPA Secretary,
PO BOX 289, Engadine NSW 2233
02 9520 6216 or ericwhitby2@bigpond.com

Australian Honey Bee Industry Council Inc

ABN 63 939 614 424



P.O. Box 4253

Phone: 07 5457 2265

Raceview Qld 4305

Email: ahbic@honeybee.org.au

2016 Annual General Meeting

Friday 15 July 2016

Mercure Hotel

166 Woolcock Street, Townsville

Registration Form

(for Friday 15 July ONLY)

Non-Delegate:

Friday ONLY (includes Morning Tea, Lunch and Afternoon Tea)

Cost:

\$40.00 (GST inclusive)

Name _____ Date: _____

Address _____

Phone No: _____ Email: _____

Please have AHBIC Registration and Payment to AHBIC
by 8 July 2016

Payment by Cheque

Cheque Amount: \$ _____

Please make cheque payable
to AHBIC and post to:

P.O. Box 4253

Raceview Qld 4305

(please include this form with Cheque)

Payment by Direct Deposit

Direct Deposit Amount: \$ _____

Bank: Bendigo Bank

Account Name: AHBIC

BSB No: 633 000

Account No: 150 976 405

Please use your NAME as REFERENCE

(please post OR email this form to AHBIC)

Registration & Payment:

➤ **To attend the Queensland Beekeepers' Association Annual Conference**

(Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th July) **and Conference Dinner** (at above venue on Thursday 14th)

a separate registration & payment is required to:

Queensland Beekeepers' Association Inc

Phone: 07 3466 3542

Website: www.qbabees.org.au

➤ **AHBIC Meeting** on Friday 15 July, requires this registration & payment to AHBIC

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2016-2017 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**

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: 633 000

Account No: 150 976 405



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