



Monthly NEWS

To: The Australian Honey Industry

From: Trevor Weatherhead – Executive Director

November 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 December 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
Ayrleigh Apiaries
Badger Head Bees
Beechworth Honey
Bees Neez Apiaries
Bejo Tasmania P/L
Bluebees Producers
Blue Hills Honey
Bliss, Stephen
Bourke, Lindsay
Bush Honey - (Midgley Family)
Buntine, Robert
Capilano Honey Ltd
Clifford, David
Clifford, Ray
Cooper, Barry
Cooper, Casey
Costa, Paul
Cotton, Allan & Michelle
Covey Bees
Dale's Honey Bees

Davey, Robin
Davies Apiaries
Dewar Apiaries
Dewar, Robert
Dyer, Craig
Enslin, Darren
Faithfull, Mark
Gells Honey
Glasby, Garry
Gold Coast Amateur Beekeepers
Society
Gold Coast Regional Beekeepers 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

Le Feuvre, Danny
Lyneham, Matthew
Masters, Neil & Sharon
MacGibbon, Kevin
Morgan, Trevor
Naicol Pty Ltd
Nairn, Mal
Northside Beekeepers Association Inc.
Panda Honey – honey buyers
Pavy, Rodney & Gail
Pure Bendigo Gold Honey
Rotary Club of Caulfield
Ruge Honey
Squire, Gary
Stokes, Peter
Superbee Honey Factory
Tasmanian Honey Company
Watson, James
Weatherhead, T & M
Weerona Apiaries
Williams JW & MA
Zadow, Ian and Mel

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

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WINNER - AGRIBUSINESS AWARD

At the 54th Australian Export Awards category winners, Lindsay and Yeonsoon Bourke from Australian Honey Products in Launceston, won the Agribusiness Award. Congratulations to Lindsay and Yeonsoon. The citation said:-

Lindsay Bourke started his apiary business with 200 hives while working as a firefighter. Today, Australian Honey Products (AHP) exports 65 per cent of its award-winning products to Asia, Europe and North America.



AHP's honey is cultivated from leatherwood trees in Tasmania's pristine Tarkine rainforest. In addition to its active and organic honey, AHP offers ales, meads, honey nectar concentrates and a honey mead whisky. The company also provides a pollination service for the Tasmanian agricultural sector and exports live bees to Canada.

In 2015, AHP's leatherwood honey was judged the World's Best Honey at the World Beekeeping Awards in Seoul. Its honey meads and ales also received medals.

AHP's biggest export markets include China, Hong Kong, Canada, Oman, Korea, Japan and Taiwan. In 2015-16, it increased exports by 18 per cent, achieved through direct sales and selling to Australian honey exporters.

To keep up with demand for its products, AHP opened a new state-of-the-art production facility in Launceston in 2016. The facility will allow the company to expand its production capacity, as well as develop health food products in the future.

A strong advocate for the honey industry, AHP launched a Certificate III beekeeping training program in 2014. The first three beekeepers graduated from the program in 2016. Bourke was also named the Biosecurity Farmer of the Year at the 2015 Farmer of the Year awards for his efforts to safeguard beehives against the varroa mite.

Judges praised Australian Honey Products for its inspiring development of international markets for a unique product that is utilising its environmental credential and personal approach very effectively.

Plant Health Australia Media Release

BEECONNECTED

Have you downloaded and put your sites on the BeeConnected app? With the cotton season almost upon us it is crucial that you take advantage of this app to allow farmers and applicators to know where your bees are. This way there should not be accidental spraying of bees.

DRONE BEE SEMEN IMPORTATION

At this time we have not had a satisfactory result from the Department. We are still working to have an acceptable protocol in place which does not jeopardise our industry biosecurity.

HONEY EXPORTS TO SAUDI ARABIA

Still no joy here.

In fact the situation is getting worse with the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) putting out a Guide for the Control of Imported Food which requires honey and bee products to be from countries that do not have varroa, European foulbrood or American foulbrood. This would rule out all countries in the world. Also, as most of the countries in the GCC have at least one of the above, it would seem that this is in contravention of the WTO Rules.

LIVE BEE EXPORTS TO THE USA

Still no reply in this regard.

FAILING IMPORTED FOOD

As part of the random inspection of imported honey in June 2016 organic honey from India failed due to adulteration with C4 sugar. Enquiries by AHBIC revealed this honey was destroyed.

NEW NSWAA SECRETARY/TREASURER

New South Wales Apiarists' Association has a new Secretary/Treasurer. It is Ros Riggs. We welcome Ros to the beekeeping family.

Thanks to Kate McGilvray for her time in the role of Secretary/Treasurer.

AGM

Annual conferences for 2017, in chronological order, as I currently have them are:-

WA Farmers Federation – Beekeeping Section	13 May - Perth
New South Wales Apiarists Association	18 & 19 May - Ballina
Tasmanian Beekeepers Association	26 & 27 May - Hobart
Victorian Apiarists Association	7 & 8 June - Warrnambool
Honey Packers and Marketers Association of Aust.	23 June
Queensland Beekeepers Association	29 June – 1 July - Gympie
South Australian Apiarists Association	6 & 7 July- Adelaide
Australian Honey Bee Industry Council	8 July - Adelaide
National Council of Crop Pollination Associations	TBA
Australian Queen Bee Breeders Association	TBA

NEW CHEMICAL REGISTRATIONS

Application no: 104351
Product name: Expedite Full Insecticide
Active constituent/s: 500 g/kg sulfoxaflor
Applicant name: Dow Agrosiences Australia Limited
Applicant ACN: 003 771 659
Summary of variation: To extend use to control a range of aphid species in pulses (adzuki bean, navy bean and mungbean), sweetcorn and tree nuts
Date of variation: 31 October 2016
Product registration no.: 65464
Label approval no.: 65464/104351

Application no: 104345
Product name: Transform Insecticide
Active constituent/s: 240 g/L sulfoxaflor
Applicant name: Dow Agrosiences Australia Limited
Applicant ACN: 003 771 659
Summary of variation: To extend use to control a range of aphid species in pulses (adzuki bean, navy bean and mungbean), sweetcorn and tree nuts
Date of variation: 31 October 2016
Product registration no.: 64101
Label approval no.: 64101/104345

Application no: 101896
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 extend the use to control of various pests in pistachio and macadamia
Date of variation: 4 November 2016
Product registration no.: 64109
Label approval no.: 64109/101896

Application no.: 104420
Product name: Voliam Targo Insecticide
Active constituent/s: 18 g/L abamectin, 45 g/L chlorantraniliprole
Applicant name: Syngenta Australia Pty Ltd
Applicant ACN: 002 933 717
Summary of use: For control of certain mite and insect pests on pome fruit
Date of registration: 14 November 2016
Product registration no.: 81921
Label approval no.: 81921/104420

Application no.:	103465
Product name:	Accensi Acetamiprid RTU Insecticide
Active constituent/s:	0.05 g/L acetamiprid
Applicant name:	Accensi Pty Ltd
Applicant ACN:	079 875 184
Summary of use	For the control of various pests with a ready to use contact, systemic and residual insecticide
Date of registration:	18 November 2016
Product registration no.:	81616
Label approval no.:	81616/103465

APVMA has before it an application for a new product Novaluron. Part of the screed says *“Novaluron is not toxic to adult worker bees; however, a field study indicates transient effects on bee brood can occur when novaluron is applied during bloom and as such, application of Cormoran Insecticide is not permitted during bloom or when bees are actively foraging.”*

APVMA also has an application for clitoria ternatea in the product Sero-X Insecticide for use on cotton. The supporting documentation said *“However an LD50 could not be established and it may be concluded that clitoria ternatea extract is virtually non-toxic to bees, on an acute contact basis.”*

CATEGORISATION

AHBIC had to answer two questions for the PHA Board in their consideration of the Categorisation of *Varroa destructor*. We await the decision of the Board.

EUROPEAN FOULBROOD FOUND IN THE NT

Reports out of the Northern Territory report the first find of European foulbrood (EFB) in the NT at Katherine.

PROBLEMS IN THE LAND OF THE LONG WHITE CLOUD

Catch the Buzz has reported on problems in New Zealand under the heading, “Honey Wars: Crime and Killings in New Zealand’s Booming Manuka Industry.” To read the full article go to <http://www.bee-culture.com/catch-buzz-honey-wars-crime-killings-new-zealands-booming-manuka-industry/>

NEW CERTIFICATION FOR HONEY AND BEE PRODUCTS TO THE EU

Advice has been received from Canberra that there are changes to the certification for honey and bee products for human consumption to the European Union (EU). They come into effect on 3 December, 2016.

If you want a copy let me know and I will send the information.

COMMERCIALISATION OF BUMBLE BEES IN TASMANIA

The push is still on to have the commercialisation of bumble bees in Tasmania for tomato pollination to go ahead. See <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-11-27/senate-probes-commercial-bumblebee-pollination/8061554>

Whilst it may seem innocuous in the first instance, because the population is inbred in Tasmania, the situation would most likely arise where the next push will be to introduce better genetic stock. This is where there is a risk to our industry. We know that bumble bees vector varroa and the countries from where the new genetic material would be sourced have *Varroa destructor*.

MEETINGS WITH ALMOND INDUSTRY

Ian Zadow went to the Almond Growers conference in Melbourne in November and presented a paper from the beekeepers perspective. It was well received.

As a follow up to the conference Ian was invited to attend a meeting of the Almond Board of Australia. Discussion took place on producing a brochure for growers on production plus also the possibility of having joint field days with almond growers and beekeepers so each can understand the others industry.

More information on these and other aspects of the co-operation between our industries as they come to hand.

NEW HONEY BEE PEST IN THE USA

Reports from the USA list a new pest of honey bees. It is *Brachyepplus basalis* which they call the Australian sap beetle.

The following is an extract from an article that will appear in the December issue of the American Bee Journal:-

*In 2015 the California Department of Food and Agriculture published a pest rating proposal for the Australian beetle **Brachyepplus basalis**, which had been discovered in beehives in four California counties, the earliest discovery taking place in 2010. This CDFA report (Leathers 2015) observed that the beetle had not been collected outside of beehives. Then, in 2013, a report from Montana State University (Schutter Diagnostics Laboratory Annual Report 2013) noted the presence of **B. basalis** in a sample submitted by a Montana beekeeper. In 2015 and 2016 the beetle was identified infesting stored bee equipment in two separate Oregon beekeeping operations. The 2015 sighting constitutes the first record of a **B. basalis** infestation (in bee boxes with frames stored outside) in Oregon. A scientific manuscript pertaining to this sighting is currently under review. A commercial beekeeper of about 8,000 colonies discovered the 2016 infestation in a portion of his stored beekeeping equipment, especially combs containing pollen and/or honey. He estimates that during the summer of 2016 he destroyed*

\$20,000 worth of beetle infested combs. As yet, the beetle has not been documented in active honey bee colonies in Oregon.

Brachypeplus basalis has a reasonably wide distribution in Australia but there have not been reports of it causing any significant problems in Australia, even in stored material. One reason for not causing problems in stored material is that Australian beekeepers take provisions to prevent damage to stored combs from wax moth and small hive beetle and these measures would probably stop any damage by *Brachypeplus basalis*.



(This was sent to me as a word document so the links below will probably not open for you. If you are interested let me know and I will forward the original word document which should allow you to open the links.)

FUNDING GRANTS FOR WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

In 2016 Women & Leadership Australia is administering a national initiative to support the development of female leaders across the agriculture industry.

The initiative is providing women in the agriculture sector with grants for leadership development. More specifically, grant applications are open for women at three levels. Please click on the preferred program link for details. The deadline for expressing your interest for this funding in your sector ends on December 15th.

1. **Senior management and executive level women leaders** can apply for \$8,000 part-scholarships to undertake the [Advanced Leadership Program](#)
2. **Mid-level female managers** and leaders can apply for \$4,000 part-scholarships to undertake the [Executive Ready Program](#)
3. **Aspiring talent** and emerging women managers can apply for \$3,000 part-scholarships to undertake the [Accelerated Leadership Performance Program](#).

Expressions of Interest

Register your interest by simply completing an [Expression of Interest form](#).

Should you wish to discuss the initiative in more detail please contact Ian Johnson at the office of the National Industry Scholarship Program, Women and Leadership Australia on (03) 9270 9016 or via ijohnson@wla.edu.au.

AUSTRALIAN HONEY BEE INDUSTRY COUNCIL INC (AHBIC)

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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.**