



Monthly NEWS

To: The Australian Honey Industry

From: Trevor Weatherhead – Executive Director

July 2017

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 August 2016

There are a few other contributors – some wishing to remain anonymous and some not indicating their wishes

AB's Honey
Abbott, Brian & Robin Proudford
Amateur Beekeepers Asn of NSW Inc
Anderson, Cedar
Australian Organic Honey Company
Ayrleigh Apiaries
Badger Head Bees
Bayside Beekeepers Association
Beechworth Honey
Bees Neez Apiaries
Bejo Tasmania P/L
Blair, Shona
Bluebees Producers
Blue Hills Honey
Bliss, Stephen
Bourke, Lindsay
Brenton, Daryl
Bush Honey - (Midgley Family)
Capilano Honey Ltd
Clifford, David
Clifford, Ray
Cooper, Barry
Cooper, Casey
Cotton, Allan & Michelle
Covey Bees

Davey, Robin
Dyer, Craig
Enslin, Darren
Faithfull, Mark
Flow Hive
Gells Honey Maryborough
Glasby, Garry
Gold Coast Amateur Beekeepers
Society
Gold Coast Regional Beekeepers Inc.
Green, Lionel
Gustare Honey Australia
Heritage Honey
Honeylife Australia
Honeyworks Pty Ltd
Hooper, Ben
Hoskinson, HL & HM
Ipswich/West Moreton
Beekeepers Assoc
Jones, Bryn
Jones, Daniel
Kennett, Joshua
Klingner, Craig
Le Feuvre, Danny
Masters, Neil & Sharon

MacGibbon, Kevin
Morgan, Trevor
Naicol Pty Ltd
Nairn, Mal
Northside Beekeepers Association Inc.
NT Bees (Aust)
Panda Honey – honey buyers
Pure Bendigo Gold Honey
R. Stephens
Saxonbee Enterprises
RL Dewar- Bee Build
Rohrlach, T & A
Rotary Club of Caulfield
Ruge Honey
Shaw, Robert
Squire, Gary
Stokes, Peter
Superbee Honey Factory
The House of Honey
Watson, James
Weatherhead, T & M
Weerona Apiaries
Western Honey Supplies Pty Ltd
Zadow, Ian and Mel

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

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WARNING

It has been brought to my attention that canola may soon be sprayed for insects. I am told the chemical of choice is dimethoate.

Dimethoate is very deadly to bees and has a reasonable residual time. So if you are on canola check to see if the farmers are going to spray.

AHBIC AGM



The AHBIC AGM was held in Adelaide on 8 July, 2017.

The results of the elections were:-

Deputy Chairperson – Peter McDonald

As Peter was on the Executive and had a year to run on his appointment there now existed three (3) vacancies on the Executive. Those elected were:-

Leilani Leyland (two years)

Jodie Goldsworthy (two years)

Phillip McHugh (one year which is the remainder of Peter McDonald's term)

The remainder of the Executive are Chairperson Lindsay Bourke, Executive member Ian Zadow, whose terms expire next year, and Executive Director Trevor Weatherhead

Thanks to Craig Klingner, Casey Cooper and Neil Bingley for their service to the previous Executive.

There were many decisions made at the AGM. For more information contact your State AHBIC delegate.

CHANGE IN HONEY LEVY

One decision taken at the AGM was to ask Minister Joyce to re-arrange the current honey levy by increasing the NRS component to 0.3 cents per kilogram and reduce the EPPR component to 2.7 cents per kilogram. This is in line with motions agreed to at all the State conferences.

A letter has been sent to Minister Joyce to ask him to put this in place.

VALE NOEL BINGLEY

Noel Bingley, Neil Bingley's father, passed away on 19 July, 2017. His funeral was held on 27 July. Our thoughts are with his family. Noel had been very active within the New South Wales Apiarists Association under the previous name of Commercial Apiarists Association of New South Wales.

THIRD AUSTRALIAN BEE CONGRESS

Planning is well underway for the Third Australian Bee Congress to be held on the Gold Coast from 27 to 30 June 2018. The website is <http://australianbeecongress.com.au/> You can register on the website to receive updates as they come out.

Please make sure you put this down in your diary for next year. We will have an exciting range of speakers on various subjects around the theme of the Congress "Pollination and beekeeping for the future".

AGM

Annual conferences for 2018, in chronological order, as I currently have them are:-

WA Farmers Federation – Beekeepers Section	4 May -
South Australian Apiarists Association	17 May -
Tasmanian Beekeepers Association	26 May -
Victorian Apiarists Association	31 May – 1 June -
Australian Honey Bee Industry Council	1 July – Gold Coast
New South Wales Apiarists Association	TBA
Queensland Beekeepers Association	TBA
Honey and Packers Marketers Association	TBA
National Council of Crop Pollination Associations	TBA
Australian Queen Bee Breeders Association	TBA

UPDATE ON TOWNSVILLE INCURSION

With the *National Response Plan for the Eradication of Varroa jacobsoni from Queensland* now in the 'proof of freedom' stage, the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (QDAF) is continuing its strong focus on Asian honey bee (AHB - *Apis cerana*) surveillance in the Townsville City Council local government area, including destruction and testing of any AHB that are found for *V. jacobsoni*. QDAF are also continuing to work with industry to provide the necessary confidence that *V. jacobsoni* is not present in managed hives in the Townsville region.

AHB have not been detected in the Townsville region since November 2016, despite extensive surveillance and public promotion in the area. However, the search for any possible remaining

colonies of *A. cerana* which could be harbouring *V. jacobsoni* remains a strong focus of the National Varroa Mite Eradication Program (NVMEP).

The NVMEP will be reviewing the current Response Plan in the near future as a result of the transition from the 'eradication phase' to the 'proof of freedom' phase and in response to any recommendations from the efficiency audit which is nearing finalisation.

Varroa mites have the potential to significantly damage the Australian agricultural sector and the bee industry, disrupting honey production and pollination services.

For more information visit www.daf.qld.gov.au or to report suspicious bee activity please contact the QDAF Customer Service Centre on 13 25 23.

NEW CHEMICAL REGISTRATIONS

Application no.:	109539
Product name:	Ozcrop Methomyl 225 SL Insecticide
Active constituent/s:	225 g/L methomyl (an anti-cholinesterase compound)
Applicant name:	Ozcrop Pty Ltd
Applicant ACN:	160 656 431
Summary of use:	For the control of insect pests in various crops
Date of registration/approval:	4 July 2017
Product registration no.:	84035
Label approval no.:	84035/109539

Application no.:	108332
Active constituent/s:	Lambda-cyhalothrin
Applicant name:	Crystal Crop Protection (Australia) Pty Ltd
Applicant ACN:	604 583 851
Summary of use:	For use in agricultural chemical products
Date of approval:	14 July 2017
Approval no.:	83472

MACADAMIA POLLINATION

This from Catch the Buzz. Beekeepers are currently starting to look at moving hives into macadamia pollination.



For the study – funded by Hort Innovation and Plant & Food Research and the Australian Macadamia Society (AMS) – researchers conducted a trial in a Bundaberg orchard which investigated pollination impacts on four different nut varieties.

The trials showed that, when researchers hand-pollinated flowers along rows of different varieties, in almost all cases (44 of 47 trials), more than double the nuts were produced compared to those not hand pollinated. This suggested that when pollinators, particularly bees, had the opportunity to transfer pollen between different macadamia varieties, similar results could occur.

Hort Innovation chief executive John Lloyd said these findings complement a range of efforts underway through the grower-owned not-for-profit company.

“The consumer appetite for Australian macadamia nuts is insatiable with a trade-focused agenda seeing the export value jumping 66 per cent between 2015 and 2016 to \$253M,” he said.

“Domestically, 19 per cent of households are consuming macadamias, and we are working with industry and the AMS to increase that figure through a three-year \$5.5M marketing campaign being delivered using grower levies. This research, along with a host of other projects, will further support those efforts.”

Lead researcher, Plant and Food Research pollination scientist Dr Brad Howlett, said the project also uncovered important early findings about pollinators.

“Honeybees are the most common macadamia pollinators but we also see stingless bees, lycrid beetles, soldier beetles and flies,” he said.

“Research has shown the more varied the pollinators, the better. This is because pollinators are more likely to complement each other by moving pollen between trees in different ways.”

Dr Howlett said growers needed to choose varieties for planting carefully because pollination from one tree to the next can only occur between varieties that flower at the same time.

AMS chief executive Jolyon Burnett said insect numbers are affected by weather and surrounding habitat, so it is important for growers to know what is happening in their orchard to make the most of surrounding pollination services.

“Monitoring insects visiting flowers will allow growers to adjust their strategies to increase the number and consistency of flower visits across their orchards,” he said. “For example, if flower visits are low, introducing honey bee or stingless bee hives will significantly boost the number of insects visiting flowers.”

PUSH FOR SECURE POLLINATION TO BOOST FARM PRODUCTIVITY

Some of the most important questions and concerns currently facing pollination-dependent industries will be answered in an Australian first, multi-million dollar research project.

The ‘Securing Pollination for More Productive Agriculture: Guidelines for effective pollinator management and stakeholder adoption’ project is supported by funding from the Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources as part of its Rural R&D for Profit programme.

It will support collaboration between Australia’s most knowledgeable bee and pollination researchers to assess the contribution of pollinators to nine Australian crops (apples pears, lucerne, almonds, canola, melons, blueberries, raspberries, mangoes), investigate re-establishing native vegetation to support pollinator food and nesting resources, and use new technologies to communicate the findings to farmers.

Four sub-projects will be carried out under the project, managed by the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation (RIRDC), and co-funded and delivered by Australian National University, University of Adelaide, University of New England and University of Sydney.

The agricultural sector will be represented by project partners including Lucerne Australia, Apple and Pear Growers Australia SA, Almond Board of Australia, Australian Melon Association, Australian Mango Industry Association, and Raspberries and Blackberries Australia.

Paul Blackshaw is RIRDC's Project Manager. He says the outcomes of the four year project will offer multiple benefits to a wide range of sectors.

"From securing productive agricultural environments, to improving vegetation, to future proofing against disease and pests like Varroa and boosting honey bee colonies, this project will help agricultural and horticultural producers to improve yields and rates of pollination," Mr Blackshaw said.

Initial research work has already begun including experiments to assess pollination deficits in apple orchards and pollinator habitats in the Adelaide Hills, as well as pollination field work with the blueberry and raspberry sectors in New South Wales.

Other partners to the project include Horticulture Innovation Australia, Primary Industries and Resources SA, Department of Environment Water and Natural Resources SA, Trees for Life, Greening Australia, Costa, Native Vegetation Council, Natural Resources Northern and Yorke (SA), SA Australian Apiarist Association, O'Connor NRM, Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges NRM Board and TERN Eco-informatics.

Ends

Media contact: Megan Woodward 0487 352 859

This project is supported by Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation, though funding from the Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources as part of its Rural R&D for Profit programme, as well as Horticulture Innovation Australia, Australian National University, University of Adelaide, University of New England, University of Sydney, Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board, Almond Board of Australia, Apple and Pear Growers Association (SA), Australian Mango Industry Association, Australian Melon Association, Costa, Department of Environment Water and Natural Resources SA, Greening Australia, Lucerne Australia, Native Vegetation Council, Natural Resources Northern and Yorke, O'Connor NRM, Primary Industries and Resources SA, Raspberries and Blackberries Australia, South Australian Apiarist Association, Terrestrial Ecosystems Research Network Eco-informatics and Trees For Life.

STOP PRESS

The information on sponsorship packages and trade show sites for the 3rd Australian Bee Congress in July 2018 is now available.

If you have not yet received this information contact Therese Kershaw at tradeshow@australianbeecongress.com.au and she will send you out the information. Sponsorship and trade show sites are excellent ways to put your name out there and also show your wares to the beekeeping industry of Australia.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2017-2018 GRATEFULLY RECEIVED

AUSTRALIAN HONEY BEE INDUSTRY COUNCIL INC (AHBIC)

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CONTRIBUTION DETAILS

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**

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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
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Account Name: Australian Honey Bee Industry Council Inc
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Thank you for supporting AHBIC to continue supporting your industry at a national level. It is gratefully appreciated.