



AUSTRALIAN HONEY BEE INDUSTRY COUNCIL INC.

ABN 63 939 614 424

PO Box 42, Jamison Centre, Macquarie ACT 2614

ahbic@honeybee.org.au

Ph: 0402 467 780

www.honeybee.org.au

AHBIC Monthly News

August 2019

*Enjoy reading this newsletter and learning about our work on behalf of your honey bee industry?
If you haven't already become a Friend of AHBIC, we welcome you coming on board to help us!*

CONTRIBUTE HERE

Or use the form at the end of this newsletter

It's pollination time! The largest movement of livestock in Australia is happening now!
Safe travels to all beekeepers shifting bees, whether pollinating crops or seeking new floral resources.



Pollinating plums, August 2019, Photo credit: Peter McDonald



PO Box 42, Jamison Centre, Macquarie ACT 2614
Ph: 0402 467 780

CONTENTS

Page 4	Note from Chair Peter McDonald
Page 6	Note from CEO Sarah Paradice
Page 11	Update: Suspected Varroa mite on Asian Honey Bee, Townsville Port
Page 13	Export/Import Statistics 2018-19
Page 13	Levy Statistics 2018-19
Page 14	Victoria Bee Biosecurity Officer Update
Page 14	ExtensionAUS
Page 14	General News and Links – Australia
Page 16	Media Releases
Page 16	General News and Links – International
Page 17	Agriculture Victoria – Operation Almond Pollination Media Release
Page 19	Flashback Photo – we have names, did we get it right?
Page 20	Pacific Labour Scheme – do you need extra labour?
Page 21	New chemical registrations
Page 21	Fancy a job in England in their Summer?
Page 22	B-QUAL
Page 23	Friends of AHBIC Voluntary Contribution Form

2020 AGM DATES

Bee Industry Council of WA	15 May
New South Wales Apiarists Association	21-22 May, Tamworth
Tasmanian Beekeepers Association	29-30 May, Venue TBC
South Australian Apiarists Association	11-12 June
Queensland Beekeepers Association	18-20 June, Warwick
Victorian Apiarists Association	
Australian Queen Bee Breeders Association	
Honey Packers and Marketers Association	
National Council of Crop Pollination Associations	
Australian Honey Bee Industry Council	Victoria

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 employees or agent

AUSTRALIAN HONEYBEE INDUSTRY COUNCIL INC

ABN 63 939 614 424



The Australian Honey Bee Industry Council (AHBIC)
is the peak industry body for the Australian beekeeping industry
working for all within our industry including
honey producers, honey packers, pollinators, queen bee breeders, equipment manufacturers/suppliers

The following list recognises contributions received for the last 12 months.
A number of generous contributors wish to remain anonymous. We encourage beekeepers to support those
packers, queen bee breeders, equipment manufacturers/suppliers who contribute to AHBIC.

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

Friends of AHBIC – Voluntary Contributions

PLATINUM PLUS

PLATINUM

Hive & Wellness Australia Pty Ltd
Beechworth Honey Enterprises P/L

GOLD PLUS

Baker Beekeeping Pty Ltd
Australian Honey Products P/L
Sterling Kershaw & Co

GOLD

Amateur Beekeepers Assoc. NSW
Cotton, Allan & Michelle
NSW Apiarist Association
Weerona Apiaries
Woolfe, BD & CA
Zadow-IM & MJ Zadow Trust

SILVER

Bees Neez Apiaries
BeeWise
Boyd Apiaries Pty Ltd
Cairns District Beekeeping Assoc
Cooper, Casey
Davies Apiaries
Eastburn, Murray & Sandy
Ecrotek
Gells' Honey Maryborough
Hampson, Terry (Daybreak Apiaries)
Hooper Honey (Ben Hooper)
Kuyan Apiaries
Le Feuvre, Danny
McDonald, Bob & Eileen
McDonald, Peter & Michelle
Mitchie, Robert & Raelene
R. Stephens Apiaries
Ruge Honey

BRONZE

Barnes Apiaries Pty Ltd
Cunial Beekeeping Pty Ltd
Heritage Honey (P. Norris)
Kennett Apiaries (SA) Pty Ltd
Masters, Neil
Mumford, Dave & Wendy
Targett, Stephen
Walkabout Apiaries

COPPER

AB's Honey
Ascot Veterinary Group
Ballarat Regional Beekeepers
Bee Scientifics (Jody Gerdt)
Berry, Jessica
Clifford, David
Cooper, Barry
Gold Coast Amateur Beekeepers
Society
Gustare Honey Australia
Hoskinson, HL & HM
Jordan, Corinne
MacGibbon, Kevin
Nairn, Mal
Northside Beekeepers Assoc.
Oldroyd, Ben & Madeleine
Beekman
Redpath's Beekeeping Supplies
Sedgwick, Peter (Honeyworks P/L)
Stokes, Peter
Trigg, Margaret
Weatherhead, Trevor & Marion
Westlands Honey Beverley WA

OTHER

Beechworth Honey Pty Ltd
(on behalf of some producer-suppliers)
Davey, Robin
Honeylife Australia
Shaw, Robert

NON-PUBLISHED Value

Bec's BeeHive Beekeeping
Supplies
BeelInventive (Flow)
Faithful, Mark
Geelong Beekeepers Club
Hibberd, GL & HK, HSH Apiary
Leemon, Diana
Moggill Honey
Snowgum Honeybees (Jeff Matson)
Warral Apiaries P/L
WA Pure Honey

Did you expect your name to be listed here?
Please check your emails for a message from AHBIC inviting you to renew your contribution
(AHBIC emails often end up in spam) or email [Sarah Paradise](#).

NOTE FROM CHAIR, PETER McDONALD

Biosecurity and Pollination go hand-in-hand.



Pollination provides \$\$\$ to help our Honey Bee industry to be profitable but also pulls a lot of beehives together in close proximity, increasing the biosecurity risk.

Good biosecurity keeps our bees healthy and able to provide the pollination service as well as keeping our beekeepers aware and vigilant. It also provides beekeepers confidence in each other that all are doing their bit and encourages more beekeepers to make pollinating part of their business.

We have both of these as hot topics right now throughout Australia; (1) the main pollination period has commenced, and beehives are starting to move out of the almond orchards and (2) the intense biosecurity work going on in Townsville right now to ensure Australia remains free of Varroa. More on Townsville later in the newsletter.



AHBIC has been and will continue to constantly communicate with all the sectors concerned with pollination, being:

- Our Honey Bee industry through our members and friends to communicate the requirement for professional pollination services and best practices and the important role we can play in food security and the economic benefits that can flow from this. Pollination is important for our industry and has become a major reason for the growth our industry is currently experiencing.
- To government agencies at both state and federal level. This communication has been on-going throughout AHBIC's existence (and its predecessors) by successive representatives through our continuous advocacy and lobbying work.
- To the Pollination Dependant Industries(PDI) to raise awareness of the importance of the honey bee to their industry. We do this through a number of ways, joint membership of Plant Health Australia, through direct interactions and communications, through connections in research organisations such as AgriFutures and Hort Innovation.

These communications have been going on for years and they have worked exceedingly well. The PDI's are VERY aware of the importance of the honey bee to them. They are so aware that we now have 14 plant industries contributing their own money into helping our honey bee industry and governments protect Australia from exotic pests of Honey Bees. They are directly contributing some very serious money to the responses that have been occurring in Townsville, the 2016 response to *Varroa Jacobsoni*, which is just about to finish; and the 2019 *Varroa Jacobsoni*, that has not long started. We welcome and applaud these industries for their commitment to their own future through supporting the honey bee industry. As new industries become aware of their reliance on honey bees they also come on board and contribute. An example of which is the lychee industry, who is now also contributing to the 2019 response and we welcome their assistance.

If any beekeeper needs further information/direction regarding pollination then AHBIC strongly encourages them to go to one of the member bodies of AHBIC. Join the organisation and learn from experienced pollinators through the network of beekeeping groups. There are specialist pollination groups such as the Crop



Pollination Association and the Tasmanian Crop Pollination Association and there are also the general beekeeping groups represented at state level by the VAA, NSWAA, QBA, TBA, SAAA & WAFF.

Lastly for this month, AHBIC would like to congratulate the Agriculture Victoria Apiary staff on a very well-run operation for pest and disease checking through the Victorian areas of the Almond pollination season. Further details about the operation are in their media release later in this newsletter. The team conducted a well planned and executed operation with a major focus on communication with beekeepers and using the requirements of our National Biosecurity Code of Practice as a tool to identify the higher risk checks required. This definitely fits in with what our whole Honey Bee industry wanted when we all voted to implement the code. When this is also coupled with good co-operation with interstate departmental apiary staff as well, we are on the way to really start realising the benefits of the code in lifting the standard of biosecurity for all beekeepers. It was reported that there was a marked increase in the quality of beehives checked this year compared to previous ones. Well done to the beekeepers involved and thank you for representing our industry so well.



Photo credits: photos in the Chair's report by Peter McDonald and Laurie Kershaw

Pollination related articles of interest:

- [Beekeepers confident industry can keep up with demand for almond pollination](#), Ongoing drought and a heatwave earlier this year have reduced bee health and population. Despite this, South Australian apiarists are confident they can keep up with demand from the almond industry. The Almond Board of Australia says 75,000 more hives will be needed within a decade to sustain the industry's growth. Hives from across the country have been trucked to South Australia's Riverland region for the August pollination season. ABC News by Grace Whiteside, 25 August 2019
- Yet, some are concerned about the effect the drought is having on bees ability to pollinate, [Drought affects bees' ability to pollinate as species not flowering properly](#), by Bradley Jurd, 26 August 2019 Western Advocate
- "When hiring hives for pollination, many beekeepers and growers find it a good idea to have a pollination agreement. This approach has the advantage that the growers can specify exactly what they need and what they expect to get." said Dr Sharyn Taylor, Plant Health Australia's National Manager for Surveillance. "Agreements, or contracts, are useful because there's no confusion over what the grower thinks they are hiring and what the beekeeper thinks they need to supply," said Sharyn. Read more [Pollination agreements with beekeepers prevent getting stung](#) Farm Biosecurity, Aug 2019
- A bee attractant which targets pome and stone fruit in South-East Australia has expanded to include new crops such as avocado, cherries and cucurbits and is currently being trialled on almonds. Read more: [Bee Klipp use expands](#), Australian TreeCrop, 19 Aug 2019
- Another interesting article in the Victorian Connection: [Nuts about bees: almond pollination in full swing](#) by Georgina Jerums, 20 Aug 2019 This month, about 110,000 rented bee hives from Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland will travel by truck to pollinate Victoria's almond blossom regions. The hives are an essential part of what is a huge business. Victoria's growing almond industry is worth a hefty \$380 million annually. About 49,000 tonnes – worth \$314 million – was exported to about 40 countries last year alone. After grapes, almonds are Victoria's second largest horticultural export, making up about 27 per cent of total horticulture exports.
- Make the most of ExtensionAUS resources including material by Nadine Chapman from University of Sydney - [Almond pollination: hive management](#). It also includes a video by Trevor Monson of Monson's Honey and Pollination.

NOTE FROM CEO, SARAH PARADICE

Healthy Forests = Healthy Bees = Healthy People

Bee security = Food security



L-R Ian Cane, Therese Kershaw, Peter McDonald, Sarah Paradise, Sara Gipton FSC CEO

Another busy month for AHBIC with the highlight being a meeting I organised with Sara Gipton, CEO of [Forest Stewardship Council](#) (FSC); FSC's motto - *Forests for all forever* which rings true to the beekeeping community.

AHBIC Chair Peter McDonald, AHBIC Executive Member Therese Kershaw and AHBIC Resource Committee Chair Ian Cane and I met with Sara on 15th August in Melbourne to discuss stakeholder engagement with beekeepers through the FSC certification process. Sara was interested to hear from us that Sustainable

Timber Tasmania's (STT) engagement with beekeepers as a result of their quest for FSC certification has led to improved dialogue and collaboration between forestry and beekeeping in Tasmania. This has resulted in planning guidelines for apiary values that is more than acceptable for both the beekeepers and Sustainable Timber Tasmania, as outlined by Lindsay Bourke in AHBIC's [2019 Annual Report](#).

We also provided Sara with some background into the beekeeping industry and outlined the biggest issue faced by beekeepers is not only resource access but resource security. We noted that beekeepers may have access to sites but if recent harvesting or prescribed burns have occurred, resource security may have been lost to the beekeeper rendering the site of zero value. Sara was interested to hear about the pollination context of resource security for beekeepers – the National Farmers Federation is aiming for \$100 billion in farm gate output by 2030. There is currently significant growth in crops such as almonds and avocados and these industries will contribute to that target. Beekeepers will be able to meet the large increase in demand for hives for pollination services but will need secure access to floral resources for the remainder of the year for hive health and honey production. We outlined that beekeepers are strong supporters of forestry in native forests and recognise the constraints forestry is working with, but we are looking to collaborate more closely to ensure good outcomes for all forest users.

Sara outlined FSC, how it functions and where beekeepers fit into the certification process – stakeholder engagement e.g. HCV 5 see link: [FSC Standard](#) We learnt some subtleties which helped us understand why engagement by some forestry organisations is more productive than others. Sustainable Timber Tasmania (STT) is seeking full [FSC certification](#) and engagement with beekeepers has been very positive as I outlined earlier. In comparison, VicForests is seeking to meet only the [controlled wood standard](#) which covers the 5 biggest risk areas incl

- Illegally harvested wood
- Wood harvested in violation of traditional and human rights
- Wood from forests in which high conservation values are threatened by management activities
- Wood from forests being converted to plantations and non-forest use
- Wood from forests in which genetically modified trees are planted.

Stakeholder engagement to date has been good but not as nearly as productive as with STT; promisingly though, AHBIC Resource Committee Chair Ian Cane reports that, as a result of their recent submission to VicForests, they have received an update from VicForests regarding their new Harvesting and Regeneration Systems. A pleasing aspect of this report is VicForests have incorporated in principal our harvesting prescription for bee sites. More information:

- [VicForests Harvesting and Regeneration Systems](#)
- [VicForests High Conservation Values Management Systems](#)

Forestry Corporation (NSW) is not seeking any level of FSC accreditation at this stage so engagement with beekeepers has not been as productive as with STT or VicForests.

To raise awareness of the meeting within forestry and confirm the importance of engagement by forestry with beekeepers, I wrote an article which appeared on page 9, [Issue 573](#) of the Timber and Forestry E-News, a forestry publication distributed to over 15,000 people worldwide as well as sharing the meeting on [LinkedIn](#) and [Twitter](#). If you're a LinkedIn user, feel free to invite me to connect. We are also going to develop a story with FSC about the importance of FSC for stakeholder engagement - the benefits for the beekeeping industry as a result of FSC certification and the requirement for stakeholder engagement



Latest Issue: Thumbs up for timber jobs as rally opposes vegetation laws.

Welcome to the August 22 edition of Timber&Forestry enews. Stories featured include: Timber families rally against proposed vegetation laws; winter of discontent in NZ; battle lines drawn on Murray tree thinning; beekeepers working with forestry on certification; John Croke a colourful timber legend; WPMA says log wars are hurting NZ; company profile: John Cook & Sons; pines to forests a load of hoop-la ... and a lot more.

Enjoy the read...

Twitter



LinkedIn



I am also organising a meeting with [Responsible Wood](#) CEO Simon Dorries for similar discussions about stakeholder engagement with beekeepers during the certification process. Beekeepers will be particularly interested in the [PEFC expansion of certification beyond wood based products](#) to include all products including

honey originating in forests in Spain. Following on from PEFC project focused on mushrooms, PEFC has supported the development of wild food products from certified Spanish forests.

As many of you are aware, Ian Cane has been involved in an interesting trial, the 'Ironwood Project' in Victoria over the last 10 years or so. This has been conducted between foresters and beekeepers and has looked at harvesting techniques and controlled burns so that there is no net loss to forestry yet an increase in resource security to beekeepers. AHBIC aims to organise a tour to learn more about this project early next year and we will be inviting Ministers, Government, forestry, FSC and Responsible Wood along with beekeepers in order to learn more about forest management best practice.

On a similar note, last week in Western Australia, WAFarmers Beekeepers Section together with Forest Industries Federation of WA (FIFWA), and experienced local foresters, spent a productive day travelling around Collie to look at forest management and different ways of managing forest fuels which can complement prescribed burning in the South West Jarrah forests. Increased collaboration and communication clearly benefits all. See media release below with quotes from AHBIC Executive member Stephen Fewster and BICWA Chair Brendon Fewster.



16 August 2019
MEDIA RELEASE

Beekeepers Explore Forests & Fuel Management

Last week, WAFarmers Beekeepers Section together with Forest Industries Federation of WA (FIFWA), and experienced local foresters, spent the day travelling around Collie to look at forest management and different ways of managing forest fuels which can complement prescribed burning in the South West Jarrah forests.

WAFarmers Beekeepers Section and FIFWA inspected an area of Jarrah forest that had undergone a process of mechanical fuel reduction, where thinning of trees was completed to reduce the fuel load to slow the travel of a bushfire.

"This would seem to have less of an effect on beekeeping and honey production than a prescribed burn every 4-6 years. Over time the canopy of the trees left would grow larger and honey production may not be affected." Stephen Fewster said.

"Our visit included the Wellington Discovery Forest where trial thinning has removed excess regrowth and left the forest more resilient in response to climate change" FIFWA Acting CEO, Matt Granger said.

“We also investigated an area that had a cool prescribed burn where Jarrah trees had buds on and will flower and may produce honey 12 months after the burn. In the same burn where it was hotter there were no buds on the trees. This may not flower for another 2-4 years.” Stephen Fewster said.

Brendon Fewster, on behalf of BICWA thanked Matt Granger for organising the tour.

“It was great to look and discuss forest issues with other forestry minded people. The mechanical fuel load reduction method has great potential. The sites we visited were only very young and time will tell if this method can deliver its objective. It was a very positive experience and one we should continue to work on to see what role it can play in helping the beekeeping and forestry industries.” Brendon Fewster said.

WAFarmers Beekeepers Section will be approaching government to trial this experiment in more areas around towns and major assets in the South West, and we look forward to working with FIFWA in the future.



ENDS.

MEDIA CONTACT:

Stephen Fewster, WAFarmers Beekeepers Section President, 0407 920 954



I was also invited to attend the National and ACT Forest Biosecurity Forum hosted by Paco Tovar (pictured right) with opening speaker Chief Environmental Biosecurity Officer Ian Thompson (pictured left). Paco is the National Forest Biosecurity Surveillance Coordinator for Plant Health Australia. On opening the forum, Ian highlighted how strengthening forest biosecurity and preventing the entry of exotic forest pests would benefit Australia’s natural and urban environments by protecting keystone tree species. He highlighted the potential impacts that environmental pests which affect forests could have on our economy, environment and communities. Paco noted that it was highly valuable to have the beekeeping industry represented at the forum resulting in an increased awareness of our industry and need for forest resource security for honey production and pollination/food security.

See media release: [Forest pest surveillance in the spotlight at forums being held across Australia](#)

And on the topic of biosecurity, I encourage you to subscribe to Plant Health Australia's free newsletters [Tendrils](#) and [BeeAware](#) to stay up-to-date. PHA have a number of recently released reports and plenty of BeeAware news such as:

- [National Plant Biosecurity Status Report](#) for 2018 which documents some of the key events of the year and the many layers of the plant biosecurity system that is protecting our plant industries and our environment. Australia is fortunate to be free from many serious exotic plant pests and diseases, but factors such as globalisation, international and interstate travel, climate change and the movement of an increasing volume of goods are all increasing biosecurity risks. Media release: [Latest snapshot of plant biosecurity system released](#)
- The [final Exercise Bee Prepared report](#) is now available on the PHA website. It summarises the lessons identified from workshops held across Australia in 2018 to improve national preparedness for varroa mite (*Varroa destructor*). During each workshop participants developed a response strategy to eradicate varroa mite from a peri-urban environment for the days immediately following a fictional detection. Following the workshops, a national meeting was held to assess what was learned and agree on a national approach
- NSW beekeeper registrations are changing. From 1 July 2020 it will be compulsory for beekeepers registered in NSW to ensure their management practices meet the minimum standards in the Australian Honey Bee Industry Biosecurity Code of Practice. [Read more](#)
- The Bee Industry Futures Report has been developed with industry to help ensure Tasmanian beekeepers, and pollination dependent industries, can prosper into the future. One of the themes of the report is continued progress toward best practice biosecurity measures. [Read more](#)

Recent meetings attended by CEO and/or AHBIC Executive – August

- 2nd Aug – Teleconference Qld Biosecurity 9am
- 2nd Aug - AHBIC Executive meeting, 10am – 12noon
- 2nd Aug - National Measurement Institute meeting re Global Table, 2-3pm
- 6th Aug - Plant Health Australia, National & ACT Forest Biosecurity Forum
- 6th Aug – PHA fortnightly teleconference meeting
- 14th Aug – teleconference Liz Barbour CRCHBP, Annelies McGaw Agrifutures
- 15th Aug - Meeting with CEO, Forestry Stewardship Council (FSC) Australia & NZ, Peter, Sarah, Ian Cane
- 15th Aug – Meeting with Therese Kershaw, Peter McDonald, Sarah Paradice to discuss AHBIC funding
- 20th Aug - PHA fortnightly teleconference meeting
- 30th Aug - CropLife Lunch on the invitation of CEO Matthew Cossey, National Press Club, guest speaker [Professor Kevin Folta](#), chairman of the Horticultural Sciences department at University of Florida re GM crops

Upcoming meetings for CEO and/or AHBIC Executive

- 13th Sept - AHBIC Executive Meeting, teleconference
- Sept TBC around Sept AFPA meetings - meeting with Suzette Weeding, Sustainable Timber Tasmania
- 18th Sept – meeting with Institute of Foresters of Australia CEO Jacquie Martin to discuss fire seminar
- 18th Sept - AFPA Quarterly Dinner
- 16th Oct - CropLife's 2019 VIP Cocktail Reception for Agriculture and Rural Focus Week with the National Farmers' Federation, Farmer of the Year Awards, Australian Rural Leadership Foundation and the Australian Farm Institute
- Oct TBC – Food Safety and Residues Committee Meeting
- Oct TBC – B-QUAL
- 18th October - Meeting re QA/Standard TBC
- 29th Oct – AHBIC Executive Face to face meeting

SUSPECTED VARROA MITE ON ASIAN HONEY BEE, TOWNSVILLE PORT - UPDATE

The Qld Department of Agriculture and Fisheries issued the following update and Biosecurity Alert on 5 August 2019

No further varroa mites found at Townsville Port since May 2019

Response activities are continuing following the detection of varroa mites on an Asian honey bee nest at the Port of Townsville in May 2019.

The Asian honey bee nest was located and destroyed on 16 May 2019 and found as a result of bee lining activities where foraging bees are tracked.



The mites were sent to the CSIRO's laboratory in Canberra for identification to species level, with results confirming *Varroa jacobsoni*.

Biosecurity Queensland is continuing its heightened surveillance activities at the Townsville port area, and further out in the Townsville local government area.

To date there have been no further detections of Asian honey bee or varroa mite.

The Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests (CCEPP) has met to discuss this detection and determined that based on the evidence, this incident is considered technically feasible to eradicate.

The committee is considering a response plan that has been put forward by Biosecurity Queensland, which is the lead agency responding to this incident, supported by the Australian Department of Agriculture.

Genetic testing indicates this Asian honey bee detection is not related to any previous incidents in Australia, including those present in Cairns, or subject to the current national eradication program underway in Townsville.

In relation to the 2016 Townsville varroa mite detection, the national eradication program is on track for declaring this infestation eradicated in August 2019, providing no further Varroa mites relating to this detection are found.

The Asian honey bee is approximately 10mm long with yellow and black stripes on the abdomen.

Port and transport workers are encouraged to be on the look-out and report suspect bees that may have come in on cargo via the *See. Secure. Report* hotline on **1800 798 636**.

The general public can report suspect Asian honey bee detections to the national Exotic Plant Pest Hotline on **1800 084 881**.

Townsville bee keepers are asked to be especially vigilant in reporting any suspect Asian honey bee sightings and/or varroa mite detections.

Information about bee biosecurity and photos that will help identify varroa mite and Asian honey bee are available on the Bee Aware website at beeaware.org.au or the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries [website](#).

Qld Dept of Agriculture and Fisheries Biosecurity alert: new detection of Asian honey bees and varroa mites in Townsville, 2019

An Asian honey bee (AHB) nest infested with varroa mites (*Varroa jacobsoni*) was found and destroyed at the Port of Townsville in May 2019. Varroa mites could devastate Australia's honey bee industry.

The AHB is established in parts of far north Queensland but is free from varroa. However, AHBs with varroa were detected in Townsville in 2016 and have since been under eradication via the National Varroa Mite Eradication Program. The May 2019 detection is unrelated to the 2016 detection and likely resulted from AHBs infested with varroa mites arriving at Townsville port by ship in early 2019.

Report Asian honey bee sightings: phone 13 25 23

As part of our heightened surveillance, Townsville residents are asked to report any suspected sightings of AHB.

An Asian honey bee (below left) is smaller in comparison to the European honey bee.



Asian honey bee

European honey bee
(common in Australia)

Thorax (area at the base of the wings) is not very hairy and looks darker, glossier and shiny

Thorax appears more golden and less glossy due to the many yellow hairs

The alternating dark stripes are very even and continue to the end of the abdomen

Has dark stripes that are thinner towards the front and wider towards the back of the abdomen, so the basal half is mostly orange and the apical half mostly dark

Is smaller and less hairy

Is larger and more hairy

The tip of the abdomen comes to a defined point

The tip of the abdomen is blunt and more rounded

Flight is faster. Approach to a flower or nest entrance is rapid and direct

Flight is slower. Tends to spend more time on each flower.

The varroa mite threat

- The varroa mite is a tiny parasite that may be seen on the thorax or nestled into the abdominal folds of adult bees.
- Asian honey bees have evolved with varroa mites and can tolerate infestations.
- European honey bee hives do not survive medium to high-level varroa mite infestation.



The varroa mite is the size of a pin head

For more information on the identification of Asian honey bees, visit:
www.daf.qld.gov.au
Search Asian honey bee
Phone: 13 25 23

EXPORT/IMPORT STATISTICS – 2018-19

Import and Export statistics are now available for the last quarter of 2018/19:

Top 5 import countries for 2018-19		Top 5 export countries for 2018-2019	
Financial year to date: China, NZ, Argentina, Malaysia, Thailand		Financial year to date: China, USA, Singapore, Canada, Malaysia	
	Import - tonnes		Export - tonnes
September 2018	1,728		911
December 2018	855		1,080
March 2019	1,424		911
June 2019	922		955
Total	4,930		3,857

LEVY STATISTICS – 2018-19

AHBIC receives a list of levy payers and a summary of levies paid from the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources. A summary by levy description for 2018-19 is provided below. It is important that if you produce more than 1,500kg per annum of honey that you pay levies; it is compulsory. The levy is currently 4.6 cents per kilogram of honey and funds research and development (R&D), essential biosecurity programs, and national honey residue surveying with [AgriFutures Australia](#), [Plant Health Australia](#) and the [National Residue Survey](#). More information: [What is the national honey levy? Honey levy and charge](#)

Levy / Statistic Report: 2018-19						
Date range: 01/07/2018 - 30/06/2019						
Report extracted: 21/08/2019						
Australian Honey Bee Industry Council						
LEVY STATISTICS SUMMARY						
Commodity	Levy description	Production quantity	Production units	Reporting category	Levy (\$)	Export charge (\$)
Honey	Honey - Domestic - Leviable	17,757,122	kilograms	Levy / Charge	816,373	-
Honey	Honey - Export - Leviable	314,173	kilograms	Levy / Charge	-	14,165
Honey	Honey Annual - Leviable	389,057	kilograms	Levy / Charge	17,858	-
Honey	Honey - Domestic-Other	28,560	kilograms	Statistic	-	-
Honey	Honey - Domestic-Purchased/Sold	17,728,562	kilograms	Statistic	-	-
Honey	Honey Annual - Export - Leviable	15,566	kilograms	Levy / Charge	-	716
Honey	Honey Annual - Export	15,566	kilograms	Statistic	-	-
Honey	Honey Annual - Other Goods	2,002	kilograms	Statistic	-	-
Honey	Honey Annual - Purchased/Sold	387,055	kilograms	Statistic	-	-
TOTAL					834,231	14,881
LEVY STATISTICS BY RETURN PERIOD						
Commodity	Levy description	Production quantity	Production units	Reporting category	Levy (\$)	Export charge (\$)
For Period: July - September 2018						
Honey	Honey - Domestic - Leviable	4,515,662	kilograms	Levy / Charge	207,720	-
Honey	Honey - Export - Leviable	139,708	kilograms	Levy / Charge	-	6,427
Honey	Honey - Domestic-Other	7,227	kilograms	Statistic	-	-
Honey	Honey - Domestic-Purchased/Sold	4,508,435	kilograms	Statistic	-	-
For Period: October - December 2018						
Honey	Honey - Domestic - Leviable	4,323,546	kilograms	Levy / Charge	198,883	-
Honey	Honey - Export - Leviable	69,028	kilograms	Levy / Charge	-	3,175
Honey	Honey Annual - Leviable	389,057	kilograms	Levy / Charge	17,858	-
Honey	Honey - Domestic-Other	7,197	kilograms	Statistic	-	-
Honey	Honey - Domestic-Purchased/Sold	4,316,348	kilograms	Statistic	-	-
Honey	Honey Annual - Export - Leviable	15,566	kilograms	Levy / Charge	-	716
Honey	Honey Annual - Export	15,566	kilograms	Statistic	-	-
Honey	Honey Annual - Other Goods	2,002	kilograms	Statistic	-	-
Honey	Honey Annual - Purchased/Sold	387,055	kilograms	Statistic	-	-
For Period: January - March 2019						
Honey	Honey - Domestic - Leviable	4,079,575	kilograms	Levy / Charge	187,658	-
Honey	Honey - Export - Leviable	34,283	kilograms	Levy / Charge	-	1,577
Honey	Honey - Domestic-Other	6,297	kilograms	Statistic	-	-
Honey	Honey - Domestic-Purchased/Sold	4,073,278	kilograms	Statistic	-	-
For Period: April - June 2019						
Honey	Honey - Domestic - Leviable	4,838,339	kilograms	Levy / Charge	222,113	-
Honey	Honey - Export - Leviable	71,154	kilograms	Levy / Charge	-	2,986
Honey	Honey - Domestic-Other	7,839	kilograms	Statistic	-	-
Honey	Honey - Domestic-Purchased/Sold	4,830,500	kilograms	Statistic	-	-
TOTAL					834,231	14,881

Source: Levies Stakeholders, Legislation & Policy, Department of Agriculture and Water Resources

VIC BEE BIOSECURITY OFFICER – UPDATE

Agriculture Victoria has notified that it is pleased to announce that Ally Driessen has been successfully appointed to the Bee Biosecurity Officer role while Jess Millar is on maternity leave. Ally has already been working in Agriculture Victoria within the Plant, Chemical, Invasives and Apiary teams for a number of months. Ally's work with the Apiary team included contributions to the development of the 2019 almond pollination operation which included pre pollination audits of participating beekeepers. Ally has already met a number of beekeepers during her time working in the Sunraysia last month at almond pollination with more opportunities to meet with Ally at upcoming field days and club events. Ally will be based between Bendigo and Attwood, see Ally's contacts below and please make her welcome.

Email; ally.driessen@agriculture.vic.gov.au Mobile; 0436819350

EXTENSIONAUS

Ensure you make the most of these informative [ExtensionAUS](#) resources!

- [Almond pollination: hive management](#)
- [Barrier management systems](#)
- [Podcast: Supplementary feeding](#)
- [Chalkbrood](#)
- [What is the national honey levy?](#)
- [The queen is dead. Long live the queen.](#)
- [Hive management: Autumn & winter](#)

GENERAL NEWS AND LINKS – AUSTRALIA

- Total Annual Beekeepers' Field Day is being held on Saturday 12 October 2019, Tocal Agricultural Centre, Paterson NSW 2421. This event is for beekeepers and beekeepers to be! Tocal Beekeepers' Field Day is the longest running bee field day in Australia. Filled with numerous activities, presentations by subject matter experts, a trade show, demonstrations, honey tastings and food vendors available all day. More information [here](#).
- The Tasmanian Government committed \$750 000 over three years in its 2018-19 Budget to "Implement the Bee Industry Futures Report", including \$500 000 for selected infrastructure upgrades to improve resource access. As a result, the following report has been released: [Bee Industry Futures Report July 2019](#) The key point emerging from the consultation during development of the report was a potential shortage of pollination resource in the State.
- If you are caught breaking Australia's biosecurity rules, you will be punished. That is the message a judge sent when he handed down a hefty sentence to individuals who bypassed our border controls and smuggled in pig semen. [Read more](#) from Dept of Agriculture's *Biosecurity Matters* newsletter, 26 August 2019
- Crown & Anchor was the name given to a major biosecurity emergency response exercise held in Canberra in March this year. Members of the National Biosecurity Response Team (NBRT), comprising of trained and experienced staff from agricultural agencies in all states and territories, were given fictitious scenarios of either a varroa mite detection in the Jervis Bay Territory or a red imported fire ant detection on the grounds of Canberra International Airport. [Read more](#) from Dept of Agriculture's *Biosecurity Matters* newsletter, 26 August 2019.
- [States get tough to protect farmers from extremists](#). New South Wales and Queensland mobilised to protect farmers and their families from the extreme activities of radical protesters. The NSW



Government revealed its intention to introduce a 'Right to Farm' Bill that could see farm trespassers face fines of up to \$22,000 and three years in prison. Australian Farmers, Lauretta Wallace, 23 August 2019

- [SA farmers celebrate choice as GM ban lifted](#). A long-standing moratorium on genetically modified (GM) crops in South Australia is expected to be lifted by the end of the year. Following a landmark decision by the State's parliament this week, SA grain producers will soon have the option to plant GM varieties of canola, and GM varieties of other crops as they become available. The decision brings South Australia in line with producers in other mainland states and ends a 16-year moratorium. Australian Farmers, 21 August 2019
- Pathogen spillover from managed bees is increasingly considered as a possible cause of pollinator decline. Read more [Pathogen spillover from Apis mellifera to a stingless bee](#), Terence Purkiss and Lori Lach, published 7 August 2019, Royal Society Publishing
- The AgriFutures Australia 2019/20 Honey Bee and Pollination Program Research Open Call is now open. The closing date is Thursday 3 October 2019 at 12 noon. For details on how to apply, including RD&E objectives, please follow this [link](#). It is advised that researchers contact the Program Manager prior to submitting a proposal: Annelies McGaw, Ph: 02 6923 6913 Mbl: 0407 987 738
Email: Annelies.McGaw@agrifutures.com.au
- Agrifutures have also released a Request for Quotation (RFQ) seeking services to undertake project coordination and project management assistance to the program team at AgriFutures Australia as part of the AgriFutures™ Honey Bee Genetic Improvement Project. The aim of this project is to provide AgriFutures Australia with project management support to undertake the day-to-day management of the project. This will include drafting project management documents, drafting reporting documents, organising meetings and travelling to attend meetings. Individuals or organisations making a submission are required to have an understanding of the honey bee and pollination industry within Australia. Experience in initiating and managing large projects with a number of partners is essential. The Honey Bee Genetic Improvement Project RFQ closes 12 noon (AEST) Thursday 5 September 2019. More information [here](#).
- Funding grants are currently available to women who work in the horticulture and related sectors to support their participation in a leadership development program. The grants have been allocated as part of a joint funding arrangement between Women & Leadership Australia and Hort Innovation. This year's funding pool of \$150,114 is part of a five year development project, and demonstrates the commitment of both parties in bringing about gender equity within Australia's horticulture industry. Scholarships of \$4,103 - \$10,941 available. The fee support opportunity provides a scholarship of up to \$10,941 for women to take part in one of three part-time practical courses. Participants will network with women peers from a variety of industries, and cover such topics as reinforcing resilience and wellbeing, rewiring your networks, evolving strategic change, team dynamics and supporting leadership performance. How to register: Expressions of Interest are being sourced until 15th November via this link: www.wla.edu.au/horticulture The grants are allocated with the specific intent of providing powerful and effective development opportunities for women who own or work for horticulture levy-paying businesses.
- Applications are open for the Science and Innovation Awards for Young People in Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, a competitive annual grants program recognising and assisting young Australians aged 18-35 by funding projects that will benefit Australia's primary industries. Do you have an original research project idea and need \$22,000 to make it a reality? Visit the [Science and Innovation Awards website](#) for more information and apply before Friday 4 October 2019.
- NSW firefighters brace for a hot summer with depleted water resources. BOM's August to October climate outlook suggests a drier than average three months for large parts of Australia. RFS assures farmers it will replace water used to fight fires. [Drought-stricken NSW braces for an early bushfire season with not enough water to take them on](#), by Jennifer Ingall, ABC News New England, 1 August 2019

- Listen to Cormac Farrell, Canberra Region Beekeepers Apiary Officer, chat about the Parliament House Bees, Jerrabombra Wetlands Centre as a training apiary, ACT Government, Canberra's Urban Forest and more... [Interview with Cormac Farrell](#), Australian Women in Beekeeping, 6 August, 2019
- A new era for science in forest policy; turning over a new leaf. Australian forest policy is prime for an overhaul and integrating research with decision making is a crucial piece of that puzzle, [Professor Rod Keenan](#) writes. Australian forests are an important global asset. They are extensive, varied and complex and provide many different values, often generating conflict between those with different views on forest management. Asia and the Pacific Policy Society by Professor Rod Keenan, 26 August 2019
- [Mountain ash has a regal presence: the tallest flowering plant in the world](#). An interesting article about this magnificent but fire vulnerable tree. The Conversation, by Gregory Moore, 1 June 2019
- Apimondia have a working group focussing on 'Adverse Effects of Agrochemicals and Bee medicines on bees'. A confidential International Survey on Toxicity Events is currently available to complete which feeds into the worldwide registry of honey bee toxicity events. This is a questionnaire in order to record any toxicity events by plant protection or veterinary medicinal products observed in your colonies. If interested, please complete [here](#). Results will be uploaded onto the [Apimondia](#) website in due course.
- The [Threatened Species Bake Off](#) is an invitation to Australians to bake a dessert in the shape of a threatened species to commemorate Threatened Species Day on 7th September. The Bake Off aims to build awareness in the community about Australia's remarkable and unique threatened wildlife that call Australia home. This year Australia Zoo's Irwin's family have entered a bee cake! Photo credit: Threatened Species



MEDIA RELEASES

- Protecting Australia's citrus industry - an Australian first project to develop a scent lure so detector dogs could detect citrus canker will help protect Australia's citrus farmers from damaging exotic pests and diseases. "Citrus canker is a serious bacterial disease that affects oranges, lemons, limes, grapefruit and other citrus varieties causing fruit to fall to the ground before it ripens and tree death. [Media release](#), 19 August 2019
- Congratulations to Kay Hull AM on her re-appointment as AgriFutures Australia Chairperson - Minister for Agriculture Bridget McKenzie has announced the re-appointment of Kay as AgriFutures Australia chairperson for another three year term as of 2 August 2019. "AgriFutures plays an important leadership role in planning, investing in and managing research and development (R&D) for some of Australia's emerging and niche agricultural industries," Minister McKenzie said. [Media release](#), 5 Aug 2019

GENERAL NEWS AND LINKS – INTERNATIONAL

- Conference presentations are now available from the Apiculture NZ recent 2019 conference. Watch [here](#).
- [As Mass. Sprays For EEE, Beekeepers Worry About Fragile Bees](#). The summer is turning out to be a particularly bad one for the mosquito-borne virus Eastern Equine Encephalitis, or EEE, and that has beekeepers in southwestern Massachusetts worried. Their concerns are not about the bees contracting the viral disease, but rather that the state's effort to limit the public health risk will end up harming these already-threatened insects. By Miriam Wasser, 28 August 2019, wbur.
- [EFSA](#), the European Food Security Agency, deals with all risks for food, "from field to fork". Through their work, they consider bee health and have developed bee guidelines, with the aim to improve the risk assessment for bees during the registration of pesticides. Read an article by Claudia Garrido [EFSA BEE GUIDANCE – UNDERMINED OR ADVANCING?](#) 5th August 2019
- [Watch the transformation of larva to bee](#), National Geographic, August 2019



Media Release

29 August 2019 | Media contact: Annette Cannon 0466 621 378

For industry journals and articles

Operation almond pollination

Agriculture Victoria – Joe Riordan, Ally Driessen, Nikki Jones, Paige McDonald, Ben Walker, Cynthia Kefaloukos, Kate Miller

Agriculture Victoria has completed a targeted almond pollination operation across the Piangil, Tooleybuc, Mildura, Robinvale and Euston areas.

The operation focused on undertaking inspections of apiaries that were brought into the region to pollinate almond orchards to determine the presence or absence of disease, with effort concentrated on American foulbrood disease (AFB).

An estimated 110,000 hives arrived in North-West Victoria for the annual almond pollination season. This large movement of bee hives increases the biosecurity risks that are associated with hive-to-hive transmission of bee pests and diseases, most notably American Foulbrood disease.

Foulbrood can spread from an infected hive whether it be weakened or already dead, known as 'dead outs', by robber bees who take the infected honey back to their healthy hive.

Prior to conducting field operations, apiary staff undertook a risk assessment on each beekeeper known to be bringing hives to almond pollination. The risk assessment using the Honeybee Biosecurity Code of Practice as a foundation was based on whether each beekeeper;

- had completed honey culture tests (HCT) and how recently and what the results indicated;
- had completed the Biosecurity On-Line Training (BOLT);
- was a B Qual Member;
- and whether they have any known history of AFB.

Apiary staff completed an extensive engagement campaign to contact all beekeepers flagged as high or medium risk or their brokers, who were known to be attending pollination prior to their arrival. The purpose of the contact was to remind them of their obligations under the Livestock Disease Control Act 1994 (LDCA) and let them know that apiary inspectors would be onsite conducting audits and inspections.

Beekeepers flagged as a 'high risk' were the highest priority for field inspection, followed by those flagged as 'medium risk'. In addition, sugar shakes were conducted on hives from all Queensland beekeepers and random New South Wales beekeepers to ensure no exotic bee pests were present.

With Victoria's almond industry worth an estimated \$380 million annually, and currently 68 per cent of Australia's almond production coming from Victoria, ensuring compliance with the LDCA is a priority for Agriculture Victoria.

www.agriculture.victoria.vic.gov.au



Media Release

29 August 2019 | Media contact: Annette Cannon 0466 621 378

Agriculture Victoria's targeted operation aimed to;

1. minimise the risk of spread of endemic diseases between hives and protect healthy hives from becoming diseased.
2. protect the almond pollination and brokerage industry by minimising the biosecurity risk associated with bringing large quantities of livestock into the one geographic area.
3. undertake exotic pest surveillance by carrying out sugar shake testing.
4. deliver a compliance operation that upholds the principles of being: helpful, respectful, impartial, proportionate, predictable and transparent.

During the two-week operation Agriculture Victoria inspected hives at 65 sites 107 Sugar shakes were conducted, with a range of different pests detected, including AFB, Nosema, Chalk Brood, small hive beetle and cockroaches.

Inspectors conducted an inspection of each hive and, where any clinical signs of AFB were present, carried out field testing and sampling as per the *Ag Note AG1426: 'Diagnosis of American foulbrood disease of honey bee brood'*. Our inspectors then assessed each hive infected with AFB and determined a risk rating of low, medium or high per the symptoms described below:

Low Risk	Medium Risk	High Risk
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hive is in early stages of infection• Only one or two sunken cells per brood frame, discoloured to dull white yellowish or light brown• Adult population NOT declined• No glue pot odour	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hive is in early stages of infection• Only one or two sunken cells per brood frame, discoloured to dull white yellowish or light brown• Adult population is declined• No glue pot odour	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hive is in advanced stages of infection• Multiple sunken perforated cells with larvae coffee brown to dark brown almost black mass or hard dry black brittle scale across multiple brood frames• Bees that die in the pupal stage their mouth parts (tongue) are turned up towards and almost touching the top side of the cell• Presence of gluepot odour• Declined population of adult and developing bees rendering hive to be robbed by other hives

Where AFB was detected, action was taken to mitigate the risk posed by the diseased hive/s. AFB is not highly contagious, however bacterial spores can easily be spread between hives and apiaries through sharing of beekeeping equipment and via bee robbing and drifting.

Inspectors are now following up with beekeepers offering suggestions to improve compliance with the Act, raising awareness for the Honeybee Biosecurity Code of Practice which is legislated in Victoria and South Australia with NSW aiming to legislate the code in 2020 and providing feedback on how to improve the quality of hives in the field.

www.agriculture.victoria.vic.gov.au



Media Release

29 August 2019 | Media contact: Annette Cannon 0466 621 378

Working together with the industry, Agriculture Victoria aims to secure almonds as Victoria's second largest horticultural export after grapes. Almonds make up about 27 per cent of the state's total horticulture exports.

As we know the size of the crop harvested in 2020 greatly depends on the success of the pollination process in August.

For more information on honey bees visit the Agriculture Victoria website, agriculture.vic.gov.au/agriculture/livestock/honey-bees

- Ends -

FLASHBACK PHOTO!



How did we go?

Thanks to those who provided names, still a couple missing. Trev Weatherhead believes one to be a representative from Federal Department of Agriculture

Front row L-R: Geoff Manning (NSWAA), Glen Sunderland, Sandy Mathison (SAAA), dairy industry rep who assisted in setting up AHBIC, Leigh Duffield (SAAA), ?, Harold Ayton (TBA), Shirley Stephens (TBA), Ian Stephens (HPMAA?)

Rear row L-R: Kevin Eastburn (NSWAA), John Ball (VAA), Stephen Fewster (WAFF), ?, Ray Phillips (VAA), Greg Roberts (NSWAA or FCAAA), Keith McIlvride (AQBBA?), Warren Jones (NCPA?), Laurie Dewar (FCAAA?), Winston Lamb (QBA), Duncan McMartin (partly obscured, QBA), Linton Briggs, Don Keith, ?

DO YOU NEED LABOUR? THE PACIFIC LABOUR SCHEME MAY BE ABLE TO HELP YOU AND TRAIN OTHERS

How the Pacific Labour Scheme is helping fill labour gaps for beekeepers

by Mali Finlayson, Communications Manager – Pacific Labour Facility



Australian beekeepers who can't find experienced local workers to meet their needs are now looking at a different way to recruit employees: through the Australian Government's Pacific Labour Scheme (PLS).

The PLS allows Australian employers in rural and regional areas to recruit low and semi-skilled workers from nine Pacific countries and Timor-Leste for one to three years, when local labour is not available.

Beekeeping is a growing industry in Pacific countries, and two businesses in central western New South Wales have recently joined the PLS so they can bring experienced Pacific island beekeepers to work for them in Australia.

One employer, Ashfield Apiaries, has recently welcomed three workers from Vanuatu, and the other, Goldfields Honey, is in the process of recruiting six employees from the highlands of Papua New Guinea (PNG)—an area known for its honey production.

Goldfields Honey Managing Director Vicki Lockwood was introduced to the PLS by Southern Cross University researcher and beekeeping specialist, Cooper Schouten.

Mr Schouten has visited PNG's eastern highlands area several times to mentor and train local beekeepers, and Ms Lockwood said these visits showed him the potential for PNG beekeepers to fill labour gaps in Australia.



"Beekeeping is such a specialised industry and there is actually a severe lack of locals who are experienced beekeepers," she said.

"To pollinate and produce honey we need disease-free, healthy beehives, and to have healthy beehives we need workers. One in every three mouthfuls of food we eat is because of a bee!"

Ms Lockwood said the PNG workers' experience will be an asset for her business, which currently runs 8,000 production hives. She also believes the workers will benefit from their time working in Australia.

"Hopefully they can take their skills home, expand on what they already know and apply some aspects of these to their own businesses, Ms Lockwood said.

A recruiter from Goldfields Honey will travel to the PNG highlands in the coming months to interview and select workers in person.



To find out if the PLS meets your employment needs, contact them at enquiries@pacificlabourfacility.com.au.

For an employer checklist or an application form, visit the Australian Government's [Pacific Labour Scheme page](https://dfat.gov.au/labourmobility) at <https://dfat.gov.au/labourmobility>.

NEW CHEMICAL REGISTRATIONS

Please see link to the [APVMA website](#) to view all information from the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines (APVMA) Gazette which is published fortnightly and contains:

- details of the registration of agricultural and veterinary chemical products and other approvals granted by the APVMA
- notices as required by the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code (the Agvet Code) and related legislation
- a range of regulatory material issued by the APVMA.

If you would like to be notified by email when a new edition is published, please complete the [subscription form](#).

FANCY A JOB IN ENGLAND FOR THEIR 2020 SEASON?



Brackley Bees is hiring for the 2020 season!

- We are looking for:
 - beekeepers as well as helpers interested in bees and honey production
 - someone with high energy
 - not afraid of hard work
 - attention to detail
 - enjoy working outdoors
- We are:
 - a small friendly team
 - based in Northamptonshire, England
 - able to provide accommodation
 - able to provide training

A great opportunity to do something that is that little bit different.

If interested please email:
amandajohn07@outlook.com

B-QUAL

Make sure you sign up to B-QUAL – an important quality assurance system! Click [here](#) for more information.



B-QUAL
Your guarantee
for quality
and hygiene



AUS-QUAL
www.bqual.com.au

B-QUAL Industry Owned Quality Assurance System

HOW DOES B-QUAL CERTIFICATION BENEFIT MY BUSINESS?

- Product integrity
- Quality Assurance
- HACCP based certification
- Regulatory Compliance
- Industry best practice
- Biosecurity
- Access to domestic & export markets

B-QUAL Certification also enables an enterprise to market its product under the B-QUAL logo to show that it meets the B-QUAL Industry Standards

Complete your training at home at your own pace!

For more information and to obtain a Certification Information Pack contact the B-QUAL Certification team
www.bqual.com.au
AUS-QUAL Pty Ltd
Phone (07) 3361 9200
email: bqual@ausqual.com.au



AUSTRALIAN HONEY BEE INDUSTRY COUNCIL INC.

ABN 63 939 614 424

PO Box 42, Jamison Centre, Macquarie ACT 2614

ahbic@honeybee.org.au

Ph: 0402 467 780

www.honeybee.org.au

Friends of AHBIC Voluntary Contribution Form

Supporting Australia's national beekeeping industry with a voluntary contribution

Please complete this form and return by email to ahbic@honeybee.org.au or PO Box 42 Jamison Centre, Macquarie ACT 2614

Friend Category	Investment	Friend Category	Investment
Platinum Plus	\$60,000 & above	Silver	\$1,000 - \$1,999
Platinum	\$20,000 - \$59,999	Bronze	\$500 - \$999
Gold Plus	\$5,000 - \$19,999	Copper	\$100 - \$499
Gold	\$2,000 - \$4,999	Other	\$0 - \$99

Contribution Details

Name:

Address:

.....State.....Postcode.....

Email: (Please PRINT clearly).....

Phone: Date:

Payment Method

Amount: \$.....

1. EFT Deposit (preferred payment method)

Account Name: Australian Honey Bee Industry Council Inc

Bank: Bendigo Bank

BSB: 633 000

Account No: 150 976 405

Reference: Please include your NAME as the reference

2. **CHEQUE:** Please post cheque with this form to PO Box 42 Jamison Centre Macquarie ACT 2614

3. **CREDIT CARD:** Online at <https://honeybee.org.au/friends-of-ahbic-voluntary-contribution/>

Please circle YES/NO:

- AHBIC Newsletter list of contributors, please publish my name in:
 - disclosed** monetary category YES / NO
 - undisclosed** monetary category YES / NO
 - do **not** publish my name YES / NO
- I would like to be notified when the AHBIC Annual Report is available online YES / NO
- Please acknowledge this voluntary contribution with a tax receipt (email only) YES / NO

Your contribution is gratefully appreciated, thank you.