



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

Monthly News December 2020

*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 on the last page

Supporting Australia's national beekeeping industry that supports you



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

CONTENTS

Page 3	Acknowledging our Friends of AHBIC
Page 4	News from the Chair Trevor Weatherhead
Page 5	Note from CEO Helen Goodall
Page 6	Conferences
Page 6	General News and Links – Australia
Page 6	Grants and scholarships
Page 6	Publications and Resources
Page 6	ExtensionAus
Page 7	Hear from the Bee Industry Council of Western Australia
Page 8	B-QUAL
Page 9	Friends of AHBIC Voluntary Contribution Form



Photo credits – M.Kershaw

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 (0)

PLATINUM (2)

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

GOLD PLUS (9)

Almond Board of Australia
Australian Honey Products P/L
Baker Beekeeping P/L
Beekeeping Australia P/L
Bega Cheese Limited
Goldfield Honey Australia P/L
Lauberts, Ugis
Sterling Kershaw & Co
Woolworths

GOLD (9)

Australian Queen Bee Line P/L
Amateur Beekeepers Assoc. NSW
Browns Bees Australia P/L
Cotton, Allan & Michelle
Hampel, SJ & SM
McDonald Honey
Weerona Apiaries
Woolfe, BD & CA
Zadow, IM & MJ

SILVER (24)

Australian Manuka Honey
Association Ltd
Australian Quality Honey (Blue
Hills Honey)
Barnes Apiaries
Bees Neez Apiaries
Brenton, Daryl
Boyd Apiaries P/L
Cooper, Casey
Desert Breeze Honey
Eastburn, Murray & Sandy
Gells' Honey Maryborough
Hooper Honey (Ben Hooper)
Kuyan Apiaries
Le Feuvre, Danny
Manukalife Pty Ltd
McDonald, Eileen & Bob
Michie, Robert & Raelene
Pavy, Rod
Porter, ML & DJ
R. Stephens Apiaries
Ruge Honey
South Australian Apiarists
Association
Victorian Recreational Beekeepers
Association
Warral Apiaries P/L
Wilson, Colin

BRONZE (12)

Australian Honeybee P/L
Clarke, RK & KM
Cunial Beekeeping P/L
G&A Apiaries
Hampson, Terry (Daybreak Apiaries)
Heritage Honey (P. Norris)
Holscher, Luke
Ipswich & West Moreton
Beekeepers
Lutze, Brett & Lynda
Masters, Neil & Sharon
Targett, Stephen
The House of Honey

COPPER (23)

AB's Honey
Ballarat Regional Beekeepers
Berry, Jessica
Bayside Beekeepers Assoc.
Clarke, Michael
Frost, Liz
Geelong Beekeepers
Godman, Phil
Gustare Honey Australia
Honey in the Garden
Hoskinson, HL & HM
Hum Honey
JBR Bees
Jordan, Corinne
Kennett Apiaries (SA) P/L
Nairn, Mal
Northside Beekeepers Assoc.
Petratos, Aris
Sedgwick, Peter (Honeyworks P/L)
Stokes, Peter
Trigg, Margaret
Weatherhead, Trevor & Marion
Wilson, Luke

OTHER (3)

De Broun, Pauline
Honeylife Australia
Shaw, Robert

NON-PUBLISHED Value (21)

Australian Women in Beekeeping
Australian Virtual Hobby
Beekeepers Conference 2020
Bec's BeeHive Beekeeping
Supplies
Ecrotek
Evans, Trevor & Faye
Faithfull, Mark
Gibson, David lee
Gilbert, Martin & Lorraine
Gold Coast Regional Beekeepers
Honey Australia P/L
Hampton, Tom
Hivekeepers
Lewis, Peter
Matsen, Jeff
McCormick Jenny
Moggill Honey
Mumford, Dave & Wendy
Naicol P/L
The Tasmanian Honey Company
WA Pure Honey
Watson, Jim

ANONYMOUS (10)

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 feel free to email [Helen Goodall](#).



NEWS FROM THE CHAIR, Trevor Weatherhead AM

1. With 2020 drawing to a close may I wish you and yours the compliments of the season. Best summed up in this link.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ll6BYlnDRS4> You may want to skip the ad.

2. What is that word that has suddenly become a part of our vocabulary – **unprecedented**. Starting with the bushfires in the early part of the year and coupled with the drought many hives were lost and many hives were smoke affected. It is a recognition of the resilience and skill of the beekeepers that, with help in the way of supplementary feeding, the number of hives available for the almond pollination in August was only slightly down on the required number.

Then of course we had the Covid-19. This created extra work for many of the State Associations in liaising with their Departments to allow the movement of beekeepers and hives within their State plus interstate. The work that went into the working group that worked on getting hives into almond pollination was an example of all affected State Associations, AHBIC and State Departments working together for the common goal i.e. getting the almonds pollinated.

Of course Covid stopped most State conferences so AHBIC was not able to be present to give the update on what we have been doing. To counter this we have held a series of Council meetings online to deal with some issues. The next one is due in early February. Hopefully we will be back at conferences in 2021.

3. Deborah Rule, who has been the Communications Officer for the National Varroa Mite Eradication Program (NVMEP) in Townsville, is moving to another position within the State Department. Thanks to Deb for all her hard work over time and we wish her well in her new position. The communications, particularly within the local Townsville community, has been one of the reasons for the success of the NVMEP in Townsville.

I will be reporting further on the NVMEP in the January newsletter.

4. AHBIC continues to push for better checking at the port of embarkation of goods coming into Australia. Our recent florea interception showed that on at least three (3) occasions there was the opportunity to find the nest but it did not happen. Better to find the pest before it is loaded on the ship than hope we find it when it arrives in Australia. We have a meeting with the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment in the New Year.

5. With fall armyworm being found in Australia and present in Queensland, Northern Territory, Western Australia and New South Wales beekeepers need to be aware of any spraying that may take place. It will be on certain crops that are susceptible to attack by the fall army worm. Fall armyworm larvae are known to feed on more than 350 plant species, particularly sweet corn, maize, cotton, rice, sorghum, sugarcane and wheat, but also vegetable and fruit crops, causing economic losses overseas

6. Serpentine leaf miner has been found in Australia. See <https://ausveg.com.au/articles/serpentine-leafminer-detection-in-nsw-and-qld/> for details.

Again beekeepers need to be aware of possible spraying for this pest, particularly if you are pollinating crops or your hives are in the vicinity of vegetable growing areas

NOTE FROM CEO, Helen Goodall



Thank you to our 'Friends of AHBIC' for your continued support and to the many friends who contributed again this month. We are excited to welcome our first retailer, Woolworths as a new gold plus 'Friend of AHBIC'. As 'Friends of AHBIC' you are playing a critical role in the protection and promotion of the honey bee and pollination industry that has an annual contribution of over \$14.2 billion to the Australian economy.

As part of the work to implement an industry wide communication plan to promote the crucial role of the honey bee in food production, AgriFutures have released a 'Request for Quotation' (RFQ). The RFQ is for services of an individual or organisation to work with AHBIC to deliver effective and efficient industry communication, extension and engagement services that will highlight the presence and importance of the honey bee industry. Promoting the importance of bees: Industry Communications and Extension Services RFQ closes 11 January 2021. Click [here](#) for further information.

As you would be aware AHBIC has been actively advocating to Government for financial assistance to deliver on the bushfire recovery plan to rebuild the industry. This has involved meeting with Minister Littleproud, meetings with Departmental staff and the National Bushfire Recovery Agency. We can advise that support towards our biosecurity programs has been confirmed as per below. We expect to provide you with further updates of financial support for the bushfire recovery plan in the New Year.

Industry levy contributions to National Bee Biosecurity Program (NBBP) and National Bee Pest Surveillance Program (NBPS) have been significantly reduced due to declining honeybee production as a result of the 2019-20 bush fires. The NBBP and NBPS maintain and improve bee biosecurity status by protecting Australia from the impacts of exotic bee pests and diseases. Plant Health Australia will receive a grant of \$270,000 (GST excl.) to support implementation of the National Bee Pest Surveillance Program (NBPS) and the National Bee Biosecurity Program (NBBP) throughout 2021. This funding support was provided by the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment.

Commencing with AHBIC in April of this year just as Covid-19 restrictions hit, has provided additional challenges in learning the role and the industry. I would like to thank you for your support during this time and wish you all a safe & happy Christmas and a great New Year! I will be taking a break over Christmas, closing down my computer Christmas Eve at the end of the day and opening it back up on Monday 4 January 2021. I will also be taking additional leave from Monday 11 January 2021 returning Monday 18 January 2021. I will be checking emails at random, however if there is anything urgent that cannot wait until I return, please contact our Chair, Trevor Weatherhead on 0427 960 735.

CroLife Australia have heard your feedback through AHBIC regarding the BeeConnected app and have completed the work to make the app more user friendly. Please let us know if you experience any issues.



CONFERENCES

- Australasian Honey Bee 2021 Research Conference – Save the date - 29 June - 1 July 2021, Perth WA [Please click here](#)
- The 47th Apimondia Congress is postponed until [2022](#)

GENERAL NEWS AND LINKS – AUSTRALIA

- 2020 Market access advice notices - Please click [here](#) for new listing requirements for honey processors wishing to export honey and honey products to Saudi Arabia.
- [Missionbiosecurity](#) - This national initiative aims to strengthen biosecurity awareness
- The Almond Board of Australia has developed a Honey Bee [Best Practice Management](#) Guidelines for Australian Almonds. You can also refer to the [video](#)
- AHBIC is campaigning to stop the use of imported beeswax. Australian beeswax is pure and needs to stay that way. The full article can be found [here](#). We have asked that you send samples of imported beeswax to AHBIC for testing. Please send your samples as per the below:

Trevor Weatherhead

Chair, Australian Honey Bee Industry Council Inc.

1416 Middle Road

Peak Crossing Qld 4306

- *The sample size is about 100g. If foundation two sheets will be needed.*
- *Contact details of person submitting*
- *Where purchased, when*
- *How it was advertised, was it sold as pure beeswax or as Australian beeswax.*

GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- Biosecurity Innovation Program - Applications for the 2020–21 financial year funding round opened on 9 November 2020 with submissions closing on 12 February 2021. Please visit: [research-innovation](#)
- 2021 AgriFutures Horizon Scholarship Program are now [open](#)

PUBLICATIONS AND RESOURCES

- AgriFutures Australia provides access to a wide range of publications designed to help inform decisions made by Australian rural industries, and to contribute to policy debate on rural issues of national and international significance. Please click [here](#) for recent publications for the honey bee and pollination industry. Including:
 - [Final Report Summary](#): Development of honey bee products from a biodiversity hotspot

EXTENSIONAUS

- Ensure you make the most of these informative [extensionaus -professional beekeepers](#) resources.
 - [Do-you-need-skilled-beekeepers?](#)

HEAR FROM AHBIC's MEMBER – BEE INDUSTRY COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA (BIWCA)

As we enter the last month of the year, which has been rather an unusual one, we enjoyed a delicious and well attended lunch at the Riverbank Estate for the industry Christmas party. Thanks for everyone attending, and Leilani for organising this event.

We met Stephen Boylen, the new Western Australia Apiarists' Society (WAAS) president, to introduce industry and its future plans and we look forward to continue a good collaboration between our organisations.

The CRC invited BICWA to give an update on current projects. This is the online B-Qual System and Honey Adulteration testing which is progressing as planned.

I have attended the launch of the UWA Beekeeping Services 'Scientific Beekeeping', which will aid the beekeeping industry by being able to keep research based in WA.

Hive and Wellness invited for an End of Year Celebrations where we had the privilege of watching the screening of the documentary 'Cry of the Forests' followed by a Q&A with Mickey Cernotta and representatives from the WA Forest Alliance. I have just had a Zoom meeting with WAFA to discuss issues of our industry and where we can work together.

To you all from everyone here at BICWA we wish you a safe and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
Regards
Brendon Fewster

B-QUAL

Make sure you sign up to B-QUAL – an important quality assurance system! Click [here](#) for more information. You can access the B-QUAL December newsletter at <https://honeybee.org.au/category/news/>



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

Please, help us help you and our industry!

Please complete this form and return by email to finance@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 to the following:

1. The AHBIC newsletter lists contributors

i. Publish your name

YES / NO

ii. Publish the contribution amount

YES / NO

2. I would like to receive a copy of the monthly newsletter

YES / NO

Your contribution is gratefully appreciated, thank you.