



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 November 2021

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



Bees swarming

Photo credit: Steve Fuller

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 the CEO Helen Goodall
Page 6	Hear from our Member
Page 7	Government Market Access Advice/Industry Advice Notice
Page 7	Publications and Resources
Page 7	EXTENSIONAUS
Page 7	Events
Page 8	Scholarships/Programs
Page 8	Extended Wage Support for Apprentices
Page 9	B-QUAL
Page 10	Friends of AHBIC Voluntary Contribution Form
Page 11	Media Release



The poster for the 4th Australian Bee Congress features a central graphic of a bee surrounded by six yellow hexagons. To the right, a yellow banner reads "Sponsorship and Trade Exhibition prospectus will be launched soon" with a small bee icon. Below the central graphic, the text "4th AUSTRALIAN Bee Congress" is prominently displayed, followed by "CELEBRATING HONEY BEES" in a yellow box. Further down, it says "At the heart of a healthy Australia" and "8 - 11 June 2022". The location "Rosehill Gardens, Sydney, NSW" is listed below. At the bottom left, the website "www.australianbeecongress.com.au" is provided. At the bottom right, a yellow banner reads "SAVE THE DATE".

Sponsorship and Trade Exhibition prospectus will be launched soon

4th AUSTRALIAN
Bee Congress
CELEBRATING HONEY BEES

At the heart of a healthy Australia
8 - 11 June 2022
Rosehill Gardens, Sydney, NSW

www.australianbeecongress.com.au

SAVE THE DATE

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 (10)

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
New South Wales Apiarists
Association
Sterling Kershaw & Co
Woolworths

GOLD (13)

Australian Queen Bee Line P/L
Amateur Beekeepers Assoc. NSW
Browns Bees Australia P/L
Cotton, Allan & Michelle
Hampel, SJ & SM
Bricknell, Jack
Jensen, Bryce & Leanne
McDonald Honey
Mid Western Fresh Honey
Riverina Beekeeping Supplies P/L
Weerona Apiaries
Woolfe, BD & CA
Zadow, IM & MJ

SILVER (26)

Australian Manuka Honey
Association Ltd
Australian Quality Honey (Blue
Hills Honey)
Australian Women in Beekeeping
Club Inc
Barnes Apiaries
Bees Neez Apiaries
Boyd Apiaries P/L

Cooper, Casey
Desert Breeze Honey
Eastburn, Murray & Sandy
Ecrotek
Gells' Honey Maryborough
Honey Australia P/L
Hooper Honey (Ben Hooper)
Kuyan Apiaries
Le Feuvre, Danny
Manukalife Pty Ltd
McDonald, Eileen & Bob
Michie, Robert & Raelene
Nuplas P/L
Pavy, Rod
Porter, ML & DJ
R. Stephens Apiaries
Ruge Honey
Victorian Recreational Beekeepers
Association
Warral Apiaries P/L
Wilson, Colin

BRONZE (15)

Archibald Honey P/L
Arkadieff, Murray
Australian Honeybee P/L
Clarke, RK & KM
Cunial Beekeeping P/L
Fuller, Steve
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 (31)

AB's Honey
Australian Honey.com
Ballarat Regional Beekeepers
Bee all Natural
Bayside Beekeepers Assoc.

Carpenter, Ian
Clarke, Michael
Cooper, Barry
Costa, Daniel
De Jong, Wim
Frost, Liz
Godman, Phil
Griffin, Vic
Gustare Honey Australia P/L
Honey in the Garden
Hoskinson, HL & HM
Hum Honey
JBR Bees
Jordan, Corinne
Kennett Apiaries (SA) P/L
Mew, Peter
Moran, Jessica
Nairn, Mal
Nobbs, Courtney
Northside Beekeepers Assoc.
Sedgwick, Peter (Honeyworks P/L)
Stokes, Peter
Trigg, Margaret
Weatherhead, Trevor & Marion
Wheat, Nathan
Wilson, Luke

OTHER (7)

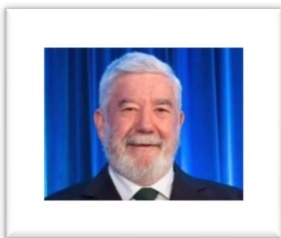
Copier, Aaron
De Broun, Pauline
Drake, Liam
Kassebaum Christopher
Honeylife Australia
Rasmussen, Ivan
Shaw, Robert

NON-PUBLISHED Value (26)

Australian Virtual Hobby
Beekeepers Conference 2021
Barton, Keith
Bec's BeeHive Beekeeping
Supplies
Brenton, Daryl
Evans, Trevor & Faye
Faithfull, Mark
Geelong Beekeepers

Gibson, David lee
Gilbert, Martin & Lorraine
Gold Coast Regional Beekeepers
Gold Amateur Beekeeping Society
Honey Australia P/L
Hampton, Tom
Hivekeepers
Lewis, Peter
McCormick Jenny
Moggill Honey
Mumford, Dave & Wendy
Naicol P/L
Sorensen, Glen & Trevor
Southern Truck Centre
Tabulam Real Honey
The Tasmanian Honey Company
WA Pure Honey
Watson, Jim

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. At this point in time AHBIC is still in consultation with the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (DAWE) regarding what are acceptable as honey tests. You will recall there was a series of motions put to the AHBIC AGM and the AHBIC Council has been provided with the replies.

Basically what DAWE said was that they cannot confirm whether NMR can be used to detect honey treated with resin technology, LC-HRMS and NMR can be used to detect adulteration but is not yet recognised internationally as a regulatory tool. Work is currently being undertaken here in Australia and internationally to have these two tests being able to be used for regulatory purposes.

I took part in the International Conference on Food Analysis and from the presentations it seems likely that we will not rely on just one test but it may be several tests that have to be undertaken.

2. A beekeeper sent me a photo of a bee on a flower which looked like it may have had a mite on it. This was taken at Highvale in Brisbane. Looking at it it seemed to me that it was a similar to the case we had in Newcastle where the scutellum of the bee made it look like it was a mite.

I am not in a position to make a judgement on this and I advised the beekeeper to contact the Exotic Plant Pest Hotline. The beekeeper sent an email to the hotline. The Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (QDAF) contacted the beekeeper, as the report originated in Queensland. QDAF provided the photo to experts who considered that it could be the scutellum of the bee, but they decided to adopt a cautious approach and sample known bee hives in the area. Local beekeepers were contacted and samples taken. To date no exotic mites have been detected.

My thanks to the beekeeper for reporting this incident. Whilst it seems at this stage likely to be a good outcome for our industry, it emphasises that we must be vigilant at all times and if there is any suspicion to report it to the Exotic Plant Pest Hotline. Better to have a series of negative results than have a positive infection go undetected. I would also like to thank QDAF for their swift actions.

3. AHBIC has received a reply from the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) re the purity of imported beeswax. Whilst they are taking no action on some of the beeswax we found to be adulterated or contain residues, they are looking into one company. We await the results of their enquiries. CEO Helen and I have been invited by ACCC to talk about any further actions that may be undertaken and we have taken them up this invitation.

In the meantime can I implore Australia beekeepers to be very careful when purchasing beeswax foundation. If it is online and cheap then I would not be buying it. The well-worn adage that “you get what you pay for” should apply here.

4. Helen and I took part in the National Biosecurity RoundTable. Several interesting presentations but what stood out for me was the mention of making sure that checking takes place at the port of embarkation prior to goods being loaded. AHBIC has been pushing for this for many years now. It is better that they pick up any bees before they load them on the ship rather than hoping that they will be picked up when the ship arrives in Australia.
5. Our congratulation to Sarah Corcoran, the CEO of Plant Health Australia, for being awarded the Kim Ritman Award for Science and Innovation. This award was made at the recent 2021 Australian Biosecurity Awards.



NOTE FROM CEO, Helen Goodall

Congress

The Sponsorship and Trade Exhibition Prospectus has been launched for the 4th Australian Bee Congress: *Celebrating Honey Bees - At the heart of a healthy Australia*. Please visit the Congress website at <https://australianbeecongress.com.au/>

Adrenaline auto-injectors (EpiPens)

Following a magistrate's recommendation that beekeepers carry *Adrenaline auto-injectors* due to a death from stings in Tasmania, there has been much discussion with the AHBIC Executive, including input from the membership regarding access and the use of *Adrenaline auto-injectors*. The below websites provide further information, however please see the following summary:

- *Adrenaline auto-injectors* are a Schedule 3 Pharmacy Only Medicine, which means they can be purchased from a pharmacy without a prescription. It is understood the cost can range from \$70 - \$120 each. Please note *Adrenaline autoinjectors* are available on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) for patients diagnosed as being at high risk of anaphylaxis, however this requires a prescription.
- *Adrenaline autoinjectors* can last up to 1 to 2 years, however they must be stored at room temperature. Please note they should not be stored in the glovebox of a truck. Expiry dates should be noted and do not use it if the adrenaline looks cloudy.
- *Adrenaline auto-injectors* are used to treat severe allergic reactions (anaphylaxis) in an emergency. They are designed to administer a single, fixed dose of adrenaline and can be given by anyone, including people who are not medically trained.
- The Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy (ASCI) offers free Anaphylaxis e-training for the community <https://anaphylaxis.ascia.org.au/course/index.php>

Further information can be found at the following websites:

- HealthDirect - [EpiPen Auto-Injector](#)
- Consumer Medicine Information - [pdf \(tga.gov.au\)](#)

Pollination Biosecurity

Our Friend of AHBIC, Almond Board of Australia have worked with Agriculture Victoria and have published a 'Pollination Biosecurity' video outlining the requirements for sending hives to Victoria under the National Bee Biosecurity Program. Please see the link for the video: <https://vimeo.com/594984588/ebba59116b>

Bee Biosecurity Officer for Queensland

Dr. David Schlipalius is the Bee Biosecurity Officer for Queensland while Dr Rebecca Laws is on leave. David can be contacted at bee.biosecurity@daf.qld.gov.au

2021 National Biosecurity Forum

Recordings of the 2021 National Biosecurity Forum will be available soon at awe.gov.au/NBF.

Media Release

Please see page 11 of the newsletter for a copy of the AHBIC media release sent on National Ag Day.

AHBIC social media pages

If you have any of the below social media platforms please follow AHBIC and share with your friends.

Instagram: @australianhoneybees

LinkedIn: Australian Honey Bee Industry Council

Facebook: Australian Honey Bee Industry Council

Twitter: @AustBee

HEAR FROM OUR MEMBER

Bee Industry Council of Western Australia (BICWA)

Good day,

Beekeeping remains very busy with all positive reports on floral sources, healthy bees and fantastic weather conditions. The bees move from pollination into the South West Jarrah forest and an abundance of flowers, which should hold on for another 5 to 6 weeks.

Within the industry, we have been busy consulting member organisations and inviting feedback on changes to BICWA membership and board elections, which will require amendments to the current Constitution. The new rules can be adopted as early as the end of this year.

We have not received any beekeeper reports on prescribed burning issues and assume all is going well. The APC Beekeepers Committee invited BICWA along with other stakeholder to discuss the benefit and process to establish an Industry Strategic Plan. Consultation with beekeepers starts soon.

A few social events have been happening, such as the Beekeepers Breakfast end of October with a presentation by the UWA/CRC Marketing team. Check our webpage for photos.

Furthermore, we have Mead/Ambrosia making & honey judging workshops underway, which will lead into the next Honey Month Festivities in May 2022.

As the year comes 'rapidly' to an end, BICWA invites everyone to attend the Beekeepers Christmas lunch on SUNDAY, 12th December.

Don't forget to subscribe to our webpage and like us on Facebook.

Until next time.

Regards,

Brendon Fewster, Chair



GOVERNMENT MARKET ACCESS ADVICE/INDUSTRY ADVICE NOTICE

- Please see the below link to an Industry Advice Notice 2021-09 Trade Reform Research Panel calling for expressions of interest <https://www.awe.gov.au/biosecurity-trade/export/controlled-goods/non-prescribed-goods/industry-notice/2021/2021-09>
- Market Access Advice 2021-19 – Implementation of the Advance Cargo Information (ACI) pre-clearance system (the Nafeza System) [2021-19: Egypt: Dairy, Seafood, Egg, Honey and Other Edible Non-prescribed Goods: Implementation of the Advance Cargo Information \(ACI\) pre-clearance system \(the Nafeza System\) - DAWE](#)
- Market Access Advice 2021-20 - China: Update on new registration process for food processing and storage facilities handling product for export to China and product labelling requirements. [2021-20: China: Dairy, Seafood, Honey and Other Edible Non-prescribed Goods: Update on new registration process for food processing and storage facilities handling product for export to China and product labelling requirements - DAWE](#)
- Market Access Advice titled, “European Union: Dairy, Fish, Honey and edible non-prescribed goods: Requirements for hard copy paper health certificates (2021-17)”: <https://www.awe.gov.au/biosecurity-trade/export/controlled-goods/non-prescribed-goods/market-access-advice-notice/2021-17>

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.
- Plan Bee is a national genetic improvement program using innovative breeding technologies to transform the performance of honey bees in Australia. Please click [here](#) for Plan Bee researcher profile: Tiff Bates
- Farmers, researchers and businesses can now see levy funded research from all the Research and Development Corporations in one location. Please visit growAG.com

EXTENSIONAUS

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

EVENTS

- *Apimondia* - The 47th Apimondia International Apicultural Congress call for abstract submissions is now open. Please click on the following link [47th APIMONDIA | International Apicultural Congress \(apimondia2021.com\)](http://47th.APIMONDIA | International Apicultural Congress (apimondia2021.com))
- EVOKEAG is being held the 15 March 2022, Sydney. Tickets available [here](#)

SCHOLARSHIPS/PROGRAMS

- AgriFutures Horizon Scholarship applications. The Horizon Scholarship Program is open to students studying agriculture-related or STEM degrees with major studies and/or subject selections that align to agriculture. For more information and to apply visit www.agrifutures.com.au/horizon
- Australian Rural Leadership Program - The Drought Resilience Leaders Mentoring Program connects farmers and people in the agriculture industry from across Australia to share trusted advice and help tackle common challenges associated with drought, climate change, wellbeing and agricultural practice. Please visit [Drought Resilience Leaders Mentoring Program](#) for further information.

EXTENDED WAGE SUPPORT FOR APPRENTICES

- Current: Boosting Apprenticeship Commencements Program – 50% wage subsidy for first year of apprenticeship. New: Completing Apprenticeship Commencements Program – 10% wage subsidy for second year of apprenticeship and 5% wage subsidy for third year of apprenticeship. For further information please visit: [Boosting Apprenticeship Commencements and Completing Apprenticeship Commencements - Department of Education, Skills and Employment, Australian Government](#)

ARE YOU A BEEKEEPER IMPACTED BY THE RECENT FLOODS?

The following support is available nationally through Hive Aid - funded by Rural Aid:

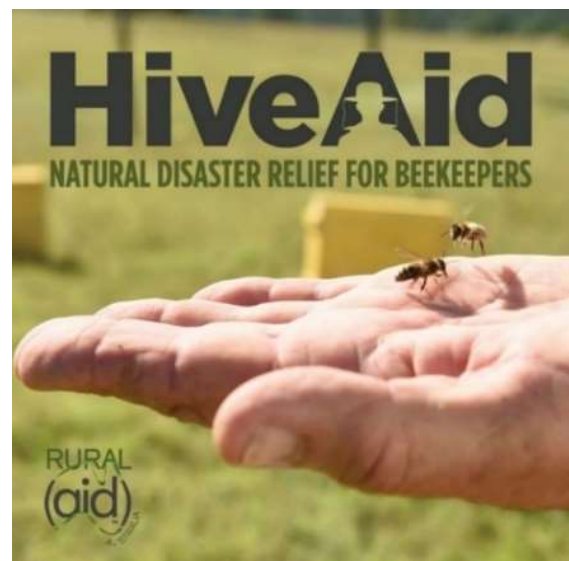
1 x \$500 country card (pre-paid Visa card) Financial assistance to pay or pre-pay bills to the value of \$1000

HOW TO REGISTER

All impacted beekeepers, listed as primary producers, are encouraged to register for assistance via:

<https://faa.ruralaid.org.au/farmer-registration>

When registering for assistance, please ensure you indicate you are a beekeeper. All applications are treated with strict confidentiality by Rural Aid.



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



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

MEDIA RELEASE: Friday, 19 November 2021

Agriculture's superheroes celebrated this National Ag Day

AS AUSTRALIANS celebrate farmers this National Ag Day, the Australian Honey Bee Industry Council (AHBIC) is encouraging people to consider a rewarding career in an industry that keeps many agricultural systems buzzing — beekeeping.

Launched in 2017 by the National Farmers' Federation to promote and celebrate the agriculture industry, this year's AgDay theme, 'Choose your #AgVenture', aims to place a specific focus on the diverse opportunities on offer in the farm sector.

AHBIC Chair, Trevor Weatherhead, said people should not forget beekeeping, a career which underpins a significant amount of agricultural production.

"The honey bee and pollination industries, contribute \$14.2 billion to the Australian economy each year, through both honey production and pollination services to horticultural and agricultural crops, as well as some crops used for livestock grazing," Mr Weatherhead said.

"Across Australia, there are more than 1,800 commercial beekeepers who manage approximately 530,000 commercially managed hives, which are vital to providing the world with safe and nutritious food.

"In fact, 35 industries rely on honey bee pollination with almonds, apples, avocados, blueberries, cucumbers, pumpkins, and rockmelons 100 per cent dependent on honey bee pollination services.

"Without our honey bees and our beekeepers, we would miss out on much of the nutritious food that currently fills one third of our plates."

Mr Weatherhead explained that beekeepers, like other farmers, are not immune to the impacts of natural disasters including drought, floods and bushfires.

"The black summer bushfires in 2019-20 took a heavy toll on the honey bee industry, destroying more than 15 million hectares of native forest, and robbing 12,000 colonies of critical sources of nectar and pollen," he said.

"Our beekeepers continue to show resilience and adaptability to ensure they can continue to produce honey and provide the pollination services that are so critical for other agricultural industries."

Mr Weatherhead said beekeeping provided an interesting and rewarding career for people interested in food production and working outside.

"Beekeepers work across many regions in Australia, managing and operating apiaries to produce honey and other products and to pollinate important agricultural and horticultural crops," he said.