



AUSTRALIAN HONEY BEE INDUSTRY COUNCIL INC.

ABN 63 939 614 424

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Monthly News October 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



Photo credit – Peter McDonald 'finishing at plums'

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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 (7)

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

GOLD (10)

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

SILVER (21)

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
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 (11)

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
Targett, Stephen

COPPER (24)

AB's Honey
Ballarat Regional Beekeepers
Berry, Jessica
Bayside Beekeepers Assoc.
Clarke, Michael
Cooper, Barry
Frost, Liz
Geelong Beekeepers
Gustare Honey Australia
Honey in the Garden
Hoskinson, HL & HM
Hum Honey
JBR Bees
Jordan, Corinne
Kennett Apiaries (SA) P/L
MacGibbon, Kevin
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 (23)

Australian Manuka Honey
Association Ltd
Australian Women in Beekeeping
Australian Virtual Hobby
Beekeepers Conference 2020
Bec's BeeHive Beekeeping
Supplies
BeelInventive (Flow)
Ecrotek
Evans, Trevor & Faye
Faithful, Mark
Gibson, David lee
Gilbert, Martin & Lorraine
Gold Coast Regional Beekeepers
Hampton, Tom
Hivekeepers
Leemon, Diana
Lewis, Peter
Manukalife Pty Ltd
Matsen, Jeff
Moggill Honey
Mumford, Dave & Wendy
Naicol Pty Ltd
The Tasmanian Honey Company
WA Pure Honey
Watson, Jim

ANONYMOUS (12)

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](mailto:Helen.Goodall@ahbic.org.au).



NEWS FROM THE CHAIR, Trevor Weatherhead AM

1. First up some good news on the honey levy front. For the first time since 2013/14 financial year the amount of honey on which the levy was paid has exceeded the 20,000 tonnes mark which we usually quote as average. In the 2019/20 financial year we collected levy on 21,544 tonnes.

You might be wondering how this is possible in light of the lack of honey produced in that time. The honey levy is paid on honey as it is sold and not as, for instance, when packers receive it from the beekeepers. The packers would have held stocks of honey that they were able to use to help keep up sales. However with the bushfire and drought the production has been way down and if the stocks have been used up then we could see a drop off in sales and hence a lower levy return next financial year.

2. **So are you paying the honey levy?** If you only supply to a packer they would be paying the honey levy on your behalf provided they are paying the honey levy. Check to make sure your packer is paying the levy.

If you are selling privately and you sell more than 1,500kgs in a year then you should be paying the honey levy. If you are not currently paying the levy then you should contact the Department of Agriculture and register to pay. Full information is available at <https://www.agriculture.gov.au/ag-farm-food/levies/rates/honey>

Returns are usually submitted quarterly but if you estimate that you will pay less than \$4,000 levy in a year then you can apply to the Department to do a yearly return. I would encourage you to do this if you are paying less than \$4,000 in a year as it means the Department only needs to process one payment instead of four. That way we get charged less for processing the returns and more is available for the intended industry purposes.

3. **Are you a “Friend of AHBIC”?** The statutory levy I listed above goes to the Department of Agriculture who then pass on the allocated amounts to:-

- Plant Health Australia (PHA) who runs the Emergency Plant Pest Response (EPPR) component of the levy for us, which is 2.7 cents per kilogram, plus the PHA levy which is 0.1 cent per kilogram.
- AgriFutures receive the R&D component for research which is 1.5 cents per kilogram.
- 0.3 cents per kilogram goes to the Department which has oversight of the National Residue Survey (NRS).
- **None of this statutory levy is allocated to AHBIC.**

AHBIC is run on voluntary contributions from beekeepers, honey packers and other interested people through our Friends of AHBIC. If you are not a Friend of AHBIC I would encourage you to become one. The details are in this newsletter. It is only through your support that AHBIC can continue its job of representing beekeepers on a national level.



NOTE FROM CEO, Helen Goodall

It has only been two weeks since our last newsletter, however we are changing the timing of the newsletter, so that you can expect to receive the newsletter in the last few days of each month.

We have had a transfer in AHBIC membership following a membership application from the Bee Industry Council of WA (BICWA) and the resignation of the WA Farmers – Beekeeper section. We welcome BICWA as the new member of AHBIC.

Thank you for the continued support to our 'Friends of AHBIC' and welcome to some new friends in the last few weeks including: Australian Manuka Honey Association Ltd, Geelong Beekeepers, Manukalife Pty Ltd, Jenny McCormick and The Tasmanian Honey Company.

AHBIC has been continuing to advocate to Government for financial assistance to deliver on the bushfire recovery plan to rebuild the industry. This has involved meeting with Minister Littleproud and meetings with Departmental staff. We have a meeting with the National Bushfire Recovery Agency next week. We hope to update you soon on some successes with the much-needed support.

Though AgriFutures, AHBIC was successful in receiving a grant for the AHBIC Executive to undertake governance training. This training was undertaken through the Australian Institute of Company Directors and it provided some good information regarding the roles and responsibilities of the AHBIC Executive. The NFP Governance Principles were the training materials used which can be found [here](#).

CropLife Australia have heard the feedback from beekeepers through AHBIC regarding the BeeConnected app and have been working to provide some updates to improve the app. It is expected these updates will be launched in the next few weeks.



CONFERENCES

- Australasian Honey Bee 2021 Research Conference – Save the date - 29 June - 1 July 2021, Perth WA

GENERAL NEWS AND LINKS – AUSTRALIA

- Australian Pollinator Week 8-15 November - [Click here](#) for a full list of live and online events
- Launching 5Bees (Building Better Beekeeping Businesses after Bushfires) - Beekeeper [webinar](#) 13th November
- The Bushfire Royal Commission has presented its report and [recommendations](#)
- National Residue Survey [honey residue testing datasets 2018-19](#)
- Australian Manuka Honey Association defend their use of the term [Manuka](#)
- 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.*

PUBLICATIONS AND RESOURCES

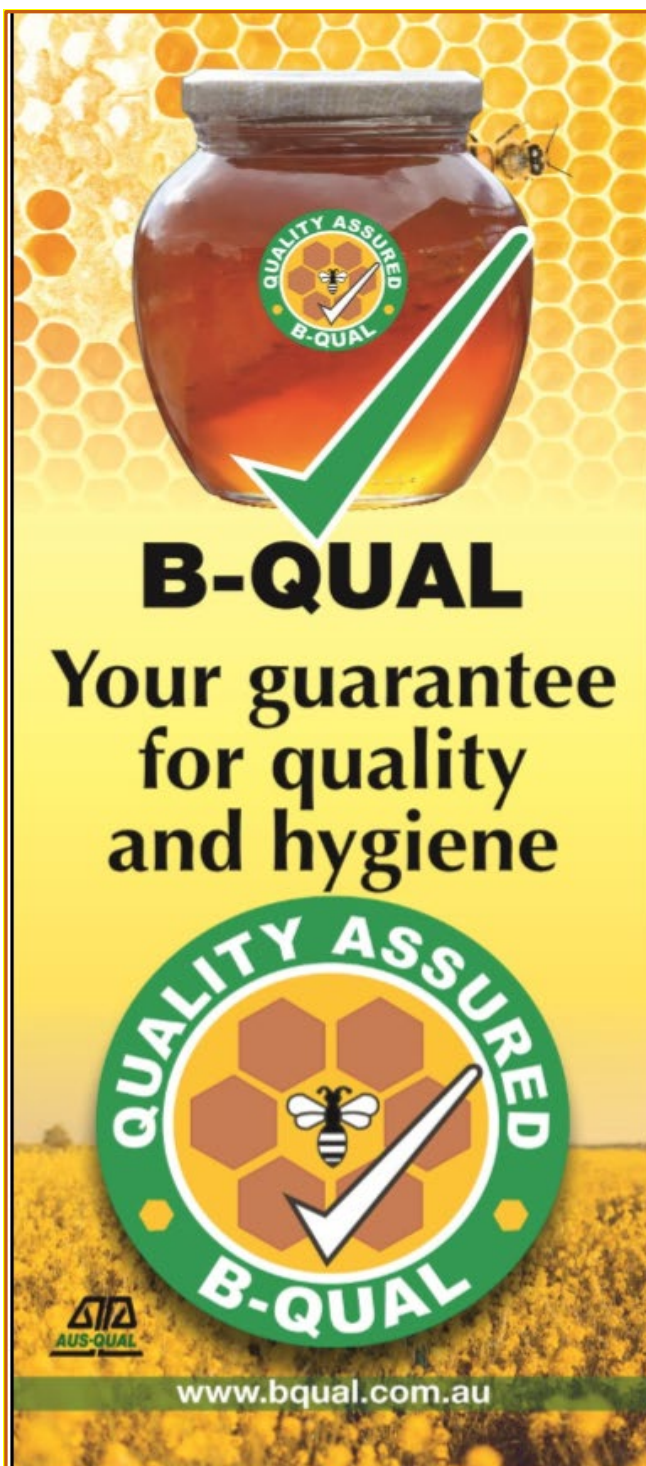
- AgriFutures Australia provides access to a wide range of publications designed to help inform decisions made by Australian rural industries, and to contribute to policy debate on rural issues of national and international significance. Please click [here](#) for recent publications for the honey bee and pollination industry. Including:
 - AgriFutures Honey Bee & Pollination Strategic RD&E Plan [2020-2025](#)

RESEARCH

- Microalgae as a promising and sustainable nutrition source for managed honey bees - [researchgate - publication](#)

EXTENSIONAUS

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



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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.