



# Monthly NEWS

To: The Australian Honey Industry

From: Trevor Weatherhead – Executive Director

## December 2016

### VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS to AHBIC are GRATEFULLY RECEIVED

AHBIC acknowledges the **beekeeper suppliers** who contribute via their packer/queen bee supplier to AHBIC.

We urge beekeepers to support those Packers/Queen Bee Breeders who contribute to AHBIC.

**Does your HONEY BUYER or QUEEN BEE SUPPLIER appear on this list?  
If not, then ask “Why not?” AHBIC WORKS FOR YOU!**

**The following list recognises contributions received since 1 January 2016**

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

AB's Honey  
Anderson, Stuart  
Australian Organic Honey Company  
Ayrleigh Apiaries  
Badger Head Bees  
Beechworth Honey  
Bees Neez Apiaries  
Bejo Tasmania P/L  
Bluebees Producers  
Blue Hills Honey  
Bliss, Stephen  
Bourke, Lindsay  
Bush Honey - (Midgley Family)  
Capilano Honey Ltd  
Clifford, David  
Clifford, Ray  
Cooper, Barry  
Cooper, Casey  
Costa, Paul  
Cotton, Allan & Michelle  
Covey Bees  
Dale's Honey Bees  
Davey, Robin

Davies Apiaries  
Dewar Apiaries  
Dewar, Robert  
Dyer, Craig  
Enslin, Darren  
Faithfull, Mark  
Gells Honey  
Glasby, Garry  
Gold Coast Amateur Beekeepers  
Society  
Gold Coast Regional Beekeepers Inc.  
Green, Lionel  
Heritage Honey  
Honeylife Australia  
Hooper, Ben  
Hoskinson, HL & HM  
Ipswich/West Moreton  
Beekeepers Assoc  
Jones, Bryn and Warren  
Jones, Daniel  
Kennett, JL & KA  
Klingner, Craig  
Le Feuvre, Danny

Lyneham, Matthew  
Masters, Neil & Sharon  
MacGibbon, Kevin  
Morgan, Trevor  
Nairn, Mal  
Northside Beekeepers Association Inc.  
Panda Honey – honey buyers  
Pavy, Rodney & Gail  
Pure Bendigo Gold Honey  
Rotary Club of Caulfield  
Ruge Honey  
Squire, Gary  
Stokes, Peter  
Superbee Honey Factory  
Tasmanian Honey Company  
Watson, James  
Weatherhead, T & M  
Weerona Apiaries  
Williams JW & MA  
Zadow, Ian and Mel

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

*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 part of the Publisher, or its respective employees or agents.*

## **SEASON GREETINGS**

I extend to all beekeepers, their families and friends of our beekeeping industry season greetings.

I hope that you were able to take time off and enjoy the company of family over Christmas and that Santa brought you something you could enjoy.

With the New Year I wish you all the best. This past year has been a difficult one for many of our beekeepers and Mother Nature has not been kind. However beekeepers are the eternal optimists and “there is always next year”.

From AHBIC’s perspective there have been many issues that we have had to deal with and this coming year is shaping up as another one where we will need to devote much work to the issues at hand.

### **AUSTRALIAN MANUKA AS POWERFUL AS NEW ZEALAND MANUKA**

Research out of the University of Technology in Sydney has shown that in some cases Australian manuka has at least the same antibacterial properties as New Zealand manuka.

Interestingly Australian manuka honey that was seven (7) years old has been retested and the level of antibacterial properties has not changed.

There is a report on this on the ABC Rural website at <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-12-29/manuka-honey-antibacterial-australia-new-zealand/8151996>

### **PAYING THE HONEY LEVY ONLINE**

If you are a Honey Levy payer you now have the ability to pay online. AHBIC had been negotiating with the Levies Unit at the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources for the ability to pay online. Previously the only way a return could be sent in was as a hard copy.

Whilst there is a cost initially to our industry, it will be more than made up for over time with no more manual processing of returns.

If you are a levy payer and have not received the information about on-line payments, please let me know and I will forward you the information.

AHBIC would encourage all levy payers to switch to online payments as this will keep down the levy collection costs.

### **RECORD ALMOND CROP – THANK YOU HONEY BEES**

An ABC Rural article is reporting a record almond crop in Australia. See <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-12-09/almond-boom-bonanza/8106566>

So looks like the honey bees have done a good job pollinating the flowers back in August. A win/win for both almond growers and beekeepers.

## **BEEKEEPERS RUN DOWN**

It is unfortunate to report that three beekeepers were deliberately run down at a bee site in the Dalmorton State Forest south of Grafton. For the full report see <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-12-12/beekeepers-struck-by-car-hit-and-run/8111816>



## **VARROA TRANSFER AT FLOWERS**

An interesting report has been published. See <http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0167798> which reports how *Varroa destructor* mites can nimbly climb from flowers onto foraging honey bees.

Interestingly there is the reference to varroa being found on cut flowers in the USA which came from the Netherlands.

## **HONEY EXPORTS TO SAUDI ARABIA**

To date no new developments in this area. Will be following up in the New Year.

## **LIVE BEE EXPORTS TO THE USA**

Again nothing new in this area. Will be following up in the New Year.

## AGM

Annual conferences for 2017, in chronological order, as I currently have them are:-

WA Farmers Federation – Beekeeping Section	13 May - Perth
New South Wales Apiarists Association	18 & 19 May - Ballina
Tasmanian Beekeepers Association	26 & 27 May - Hobart
Victorian Apiarists Association	7 & 8 June - Warrnambool
Honey Packers and Marketers Association of Aust.	23 June
Queensland Beekeepers Association	29 June – 1 July - Gympie
South Australian Apiarists Association	6 & 7 July- Adelaide
Australian Honey Bee Industry Council	8 July - Adelaide
National Council of Crop Pollination Associations	TBA
Australian Queen Bee Breeders Association	TBA

The dates for the South Australian Conference and the AHBIC AGM may change. Will advise when the final information is received.

## NEW CHEMICAL REGISTRATIONS

<b>Application no.:</b>	107672
<b>Product name:</b>	Barmac Fipronil 200 SC Insecticide
<b>Active constituent/s:</b>	200 g/L fipronil
<b>Applicant name:</b>	Amgrow Pty Ltd
<b>Applicant ACN:</b>	100 684 786
<b>Summary of use</b>	For the control of various insect pests in asparagus, bananas, brassicas, cotton, forestry, ginger, wine grapevines, mushrooms, pasture, potatoes, sorghum, sugarcane and swede
<b>Date of registration:</b>	29 November 2016
<b>Product registration no.:</b>	83168
<b>Label approval no.:</b>	83168/107672

## CATEGORISATION

As far as I know the categorisation of *Varroa destructor* is back with the PHA Board for a decision.

## REPUBLIC OF KOREA – CERTIFYING BODIES

AHBIC has received a new Market Access Advice for the Republic of Korea.

If you have not received a copy and want a copy let me know and I will forward.

## VIDEO FROM HBRDC

The Honey Bee and Pollination Program in the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation (RIRDC) have put out a best practice video on queen bee breeding. It features Lindsay Bourke and Bruce White. It can be seen at <https://youtu.be/X323jDWVvG0>

# AUSTRALIAN HONEY BEE INDUSTRY COUNCIL INC (AHBIC)

ABN: 63 939 614 424



PO Box 4253  
Raceview Qld 4305

Phone: (07) 5467 2265  
Email: [ahbic@honeybee.org.au](mailto:ahbic@honeybee.org.au)

## TAX INVOICE/RECEIPT

Name: .....

Address: .....  
.....

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

Phone: ..... Date: .....

### Yes I wish to support my industry

Up to 50 hives = \$50.00     51 and over hives = \$1.00 per hive

Please indicate **YES** or **NO**

- 1. Please publicise my name (as a contributor) on the front of the AHBIC Newsletter
- 2. I would like to receive the AHBIC Annual Report
- 3. Please acknowledge this voluntary contribution with a receipt (email preferred)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Your contribution can be paid by **CHEQUE** (or Money Order) or **DIRECT DEPOSIT**

**CHEQUE** \$ .....

**DIRECT DEPOSIT:** \$.....

**Please return this form to AHBIC - by post or email  
so your contribution can be recorded correctly**

**When paying by Direct Deposit please -**

- ◆ quote your Name as the Reference
- ◆ email your details (as above) to [ahbic@honeybee.org.au](mailto:ahbic@honeybee.org.au)

Account Name: Australian Honey Bee Industry Council Inc  
Bank: Bendigo Bank  
BSB: 633 000  
Account No: 150 976 405



**Thank you for supporting AHBIC to continue supporting your industry at a national level.  
It is gratefully appreciated.**