

AUSTRALIAN HONEY BEE INDUSTRY COUNCIL INC

ABN 63 939 614 424

Monthly NEWS



May 2018

To: The Australian Honey Bee Industry

www.honeybee.org.au

From: Trevor Weatherhead AM – Executive Director

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CONTENTS

Page 3 Third Australian Bee Congress
Page 3 Strategic Plan
Page 3 AHBIC AGM
Page 3 Leadership Training
Page 4 News from the Executive
Page 4 Stolen hives

Page 4 AGM dates
Page 4 New chemical registrations
Page 5 Re-arrangement of the honey levy
Page 6 From Catch the Buzz
Page 7 Observer form registration
Page 8 Friends of AHBIC contribution details

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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.

We urge beekeepers to support those
Packers, Queen Bee Breeders, Equipment Manufacturers/Suppliers who contribute to AHBIC.

The following list recognises contributions received since

1 May 2017

A number of generous Contributors wish to remain anonymous

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

Friends of AHBIC Voluntary Contributions

PLATINUM PLUS	GOLD PLUS	SILVER	COPPER
		Kuyan Apiaries (S. Fewster)	
PLATINUM	GOLD	BRONZE	OTHER

HONEY PRODUCERS

Abbott, B & Proudford, R
Active Medicinal Honey
Anderson, Cedar
Badger Head Bees
Beechworth Honey Pty Ltd
(on behalf of some honey producers)
Bees Neez Apiaries
Blair, Shona
Bliss, Stephen
Clifford, Ray
Cooper, Barry
Cooper, Casey
Cotton, Allan & Michelle
Davey, Robin
Davies Apiaries
Dewar, Robert & Melissa
Faithfull, Mark
Gells Honey Maryborough
Glasby, Garry
Grizzly Bear Apiaries
Harvey, Andrew
Hooper, Ben (Hooper Honey)
Hoskinson, HL & HM
Jones, Bryn

HONEY PRODUCERS

Jones, Daniel
Kennett, Joshua
Klinger, Craig
Le Feuvre, Danny
Lukas, Barbara
Masters, Neil & Sharon
McDonald, Peter & Michelle
McDonald, Robert
Morgan, Trevor
Naicol Pty Ltd
Nairn, Mal
NT Bees (Aust)
Plum, Len & Susan
Targett, Stephen
Ruge Honey
Saxonbee Enterprises
Shaw, Robert
Stokes, Peter
Valkenburg Apiaries
Walkabout Apiaries
Watson, James
Weatherhead, T & M
Weerona Apiaries
Zadow, Ian & Mel

PRODUCER/PACKERS

Australia's Manuka P/L
Bee Happy Apiaries
Blue Hills Honey
Bourke, Lindsay
Clifford, David
Heritage Honey
R.Stephens
The House of Honey

HONEY PACKERS

AB's Honey
Beechworth Honey Pty Ltd
Capilano Honey Ltd
Gustare Honey Australia P/L
Honeylife Australia
Superbee Honey Factory

QUEEN BEE BREEDERS

RL Dewar - Bee Build
Gerdtts, Jody

BEEKEEPING GROUPS

Amateur Beekeepers Asn of NSW Inc
Bayside Beekeepers Assoc Inc
Ballarat Regional Beekeepers Inc
Gold Coast Amateur Beekeepers Society
Gold Coast Regional Beekeepers Inc
Ipswich & West Moreton Beekeepers Assoc Inc
Northside Beekeepers Assoc Inc

BEEKEEPING EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURER/SUPPLIER

Ecrotek
Flow hive
Hornsby Beekeeping Supplies
Quality Beekeeping Supplies
Redpaths Beekeeping Supplies
Schutz Australia Pty Ltd

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THIRD AUSTRALIAN BEE CONGRESS

So far we have over 550 delegates registered plus speakers plus trade show delegates making over 700 in total.

As it is only a few week away, have you registered? There is also a photographic competition now in place. Honey competition entries for classes 4 to 18 have been extended to Friday 8 June. All details on the website www.australianbeecongress.com.au

STRATEGIC PLAN

The AHBIC Executive have been working on a five year Strategic Plan for our industry. For those who have had their State conferences you would have been given some details of what is proposed. It will be up for formal adoption at the AHBIC AGM.

The presentation at State conferences shows the new proposed contributions to AHBIC with the concept of “Friends of AHBIC” being introduced. You will note that the contribution details form has been changed to reflect this (see last page). Also I have started putting the new categories on the second page of the newsletter. It will gradually transition over the next 12 month.

AHBIC AGM

As previously advised the AHBIC AGM will be held at Royal Pines on the Gold Coast on Sunday 1 July commencing at 9am.

Observers are welcome but we need to know who is coming for catering purposes and there is a small charge for the food. If you are intending to be an observer please fill out the form, at the end of this newsletter, and return.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING

AHBIC received a grant from the Federal Government for training of future leaders. A position was offered to each State Association. Some States did not take up the offer or the timing did not suit so the positions were offered to the other States. The grant did not fully cover the costs of the course for the delegates but AHBIC made a deliberate decision to put in the extra.

Those who attended were:-

Ron Arnts – Victoria
Jeff Bourke – Tasmania
Tristan Campbell – Western Australia
Benjamin Fleay – Western Australia
Joshua Kennett – South Australia
Matthew Welch – Western Australia

Feedback from the participants showed it was well worthwhile them attending and they learnt a lot.

NEWS FROM THE EXECUTIVE

New Zealand has exemption from being part of the 5% random testing of honey being imported into Australia. This is through the Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Act, or TTMRA. It is often called the Trans Tasman Mutual Recognition Arrangement. So AHBIC decided to have some New Zealand honey tested. Five (5) manuka samples were purchased from various outlets.

The honey tested as honey but did have residues of amitraz or its metabolites. This was not surprising as it is used to treat varroa mite in New Zealand. As Australia does not have a Maximum Residue Limit (MRL) for amitraz in honey would this now be legal in Australia? The Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (DAWR) was consulted and AHBIC was told that under the TTMRA if one country i.e. Australia or New Zealand has an MRL for a chemical then that MRL also applies in the other country for products from the country with the MRL.

The amount of amitraz found in the New Zealand samples was within the MRL for New Zealand so it is legal in Australia.

STOLEN HIVES

A load of 100 silver painted 10 frame double hives has been stolen from Craig McIntyre's site near Armidale. Brand "M2487". A cash reward for information is being offered. Please phone Craig on 0427 010 287.

AGM DATES

Annual conferences for 2018, in chronological order, as I currently have them are:-

New South Wales Apiarists Association	26 June – Gold Coast
Queensland Beekeepers Association	27 June – Gold Coast
Australian Queen Bee Breeders Association	27 June – Gold Coast
Australian Honey Bee Industry Council	1 July – Gold Coast
Honey and Packers Marketers Association	TBA
National Council of Pollination Associations	TBA

The New South Wales Apiarists Association and the Queensland Beekeepers Association have advised that their meetings will be only for members. This is understandable as there will be mostly business for members with no guest speakers as the Congress has the speakers.

NEW CHEMICAL REGISTRATIONS

Application no.:	106577
Product name:	Versys Insecticide
Active constituent/s:	100 g/L afidopyropen
Applicant name:	BASF Australia Ltd
Applicant ACN:	008 437 867
Summary of use:	For control of green peach aphid, cabbage aphid, currant lettuce aphid, cotton aphid/melon aphid and suppression of silver leaf whitefly in certain vegetable crops, cotton and ornamentals
Date of registration:	18 April 2018
Product registration no.:	82738
Label approval no.:	82738/106577

Application no.:	111103
Product name:	Cormoran Insecticide
Active constituent/s:	80 g/L acetamiprid, 100 g/L novaluron
Applicant name:	Adama Australia Pty Limited
Applicant ACN:	050 328 973
Summary of variation:	To extend the use to include control of various insect pests of stone fruit, and control of San Jose scale and woolly apple aphid (suppression only) in apples and pears
Date of variation:	24 April 2018
Product registration no.:	70152
Label approval no.:	70152/111103

REARRANGEMENT OF THE HONEY LEVY

AHBIC has received notice that the levy amendment proposal as requested by AHBIC was signed off by the Governor General on 29 May, 2018. Details are as follows:-

*From 1 July 2018, the EPPR component of the honey levy and charge will decrease from 2.9 cents per kilogram to 2.7 cents per kilogram. The NRS component will increase from 0.1 cents per kilogram to 0.3 cents per kilogram. **The overall rate will not change.***

Changes to the honey levy and charge rates are shown in the table below:

<i>Levy and charge component</i>	<i>Current levy rate up to 30 June 2018</i>	<i>New levy rate commencing 1 July 2018</i>
<i>EPPR</i>	<i>2.9 cents per kilogram</i>	<i>2.7 cents per kilogram</i>
<i>NRS</i>	<i>0.1 cents per kilogram</i>	<i>0.3 cents per kilogram</i>
<i>PHA</i>	<i>0.1 cents per kilogram</i>	<i>0.1 cents per kilogram</i>
<i>R&D</i>	<i>1.5 cents per kilogram</i>	<i>1.5 cents per kilogram</i>
<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>4.6 cents per kilogram</i>	<i>4.6 cents per kilogram</i>

GST does not apply to Australian Government levies and charges.

Information on the honey levy and charge

You can access information on the department's website about the honey levy and charge:
agriculture.gov.au/ag-farm-food/levies/rates/honey

If you have any questions about your levies account or how to lodge your return, please contact the Levies Helpdesk by calling 1800 020 619 or by sending an email to: levies.management@agriculture.gov.au

Notice issued: May 2018

FROM CATCH THE BUZZ



The buzz about pollination drones is more important than ever, and companies like Walmart want in on the action.

When several types of bees and bumblebees made the endangered-species list thanks to declining bee populations it's easy to see why companies are looking towards robotics as a possible solution. After all, bees supply more than just honey. Without busy bees pollinating plants, domestic crops such as various fruit and vegetables could be hit hard.

More than 75 percent of the world's food crops rely at least in part on pollination by insects and other animals. Between \$235 billion and \$577 billion worth of annual global food production relies on direct contributions by pollinators, according to a 2016 report from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. The European Union went so far as to recently ban all outdoor use of pesticides containing harmful neonicotinoids to protect bee populations overseas.

Now Walmart wants to get in on the act of giving bees a helping hand while investing in advanced robotics. Walmart filed a patent in March for autonomous robot bees that can pollinate like their real insect counterparts. Tiny cameras on the robots — also called pollination drones — not only detect and spot the locations of the crops that need pollinating, but the sensitive sensors on the drones will assure that successful pollination occurs.

Five other patents were also filed that same month by Walmart for additional farming drones, including one drone that monitors the ongoing health of various crops and another that can hunt down plant pests, hopefully erasing the need for use of harmful pesticides that endanger bees in the first place.

Walmart is no stranger to utilizing advanced robots. This year, the large chain starting using using sophisticated scanner robots built by Bossa Nova Robotics to monitor store inventory.

*Walmart may be one of the largest companies to currently invest in robotic bees like those in the patent, however researchers are hoping to offer more kinds of pollination drones for additional companies to fund. Back in 2013, Harvard University researchers introduced autonomous flying microrobots called **RoboBees** that were the size of a penny and used two wafer-thin wings that flapped 120 times per second to fly. More recently in 2017, a student studying at Georgia's Savannah College of Art and Design created **Plan Bee** — a pollination drone that could be controlled by a smart device.*

Hopefully more companies will follow suit in robotic bee investing, until then Walmart may be the front runner in looking towards the future when it comes to replacing dwindling bee populations with advanced technology instead of relying on environmental friendly legislation.

Australian Honey Bee Industry Council Inc

ABN 63 939 614 424

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Raceview Qld 4305

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2018 Annual General Meeting

Sunday 1 July 2018

Royal Pines Resort
Ross Street, Benowa Qld 4217

Registration Form

for Sunday 1st July 2018

Non-Delegate / Observer Cost: **\$55.00** (includes GST) / includes Morning Tea, Lunch & Afternoon Tea

Name _____ Date: _____

Address _____

Phone No: _____ Email: _____

Please have AHBIC Registration and Payment to AHBIC
by **Friday 22nd June 2018**

Payment by Cheque

Cheque Amount: \$ _____

Please make cheque payable to AHBIC & post to:

**AHBIC
P.O. Box 4253
Raceview Qld 4305**

(please include this form with Cheque)

Payment by Direct Deposit

Direct Deposit Amount: \$ _____

**Bank: Bendigo Bank
Account Name: AHBIC
BSB No: 633 000
Account No: 150 976 405
Reference: Please use your NAME**

(please post OR email this form to AHBIC)

Registration & Payment

To attend the 2018 AHBIC Annual General Meeting on Sunday 1st July, 2018

*Registration & payment
must be received by AHBIC no later than
Friday 22nd June 2018*

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2018-2019 GRATEFULLY RECEIVED

AUSTRALIAN HONEY BEE INDUSTRY COUNCIL INC (AHBIC)



P.O.Box 4253
Raceview Qld 4305

ABN: 63 939 614 424

Phone: 07 5467 2265
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FRIENDS of AHBIC

Supporting Australia's National Beekeeping Industry with a voluntary contribution

"Friend" Category	Investment	"Friend" Category	Investment
PLATINUM PLUS	\$60,000	SILVER	\$ 1,000 & above
PLATINUM	\$20,000 & above	BRONZE	\$ 500 & above
GOLD PLUS	\$ 5,000 & above	COPPER	\$ 100 & above
GOLD	\$ 2,000 & above	OTHER	Up to \$100

Contribution Details

Name:

Address:

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

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

Phone: Date:

Contribution by: **CHEQUE**: \$ or **DIRECT DEPOSIT**: \$

*Please return this form to AHBIC by post or email
to ensure your contribution is recorded correctly*

POST: AHBIC, PO Box 4253, Raceview Qld 4305
EMAIL: ahbic@honeybee.org.au

Banking
Details 

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 Direct Deposit Reference

Please indicate YES or NO

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Please publicise my name (as a financial contributor) in the AHBIC Newsletter

I would like to receive the AHBIC Annual Report

Please acknowledge this voluntary contribution with a Tax Receipt (email preferred)

Thank you for supporting AHBIC to continue supporting your industry at a national level.

It is gratefully appreciated