

ASD Report (concluded)

MAF Budget

a) Reductions in government allocations to MAF will need to be replaced by income generation if MAF is to remain at present resource levels. Some restructuring within MAF and a change of emphasis is also planned.

Beekeepers have been asked to consider funding disease control, quality assurance and export certification work carried out by Advisory Services Division (ASD). The Director-General of Agriculture has stated that where MAF has a statutory responsibility, or a monopoly, it must provide least cost services and cannot build "profits" into cost structures.

Figure 5 gives a summary of MAF expenditure on disease control, export certification and quality assurance.

Charging for services other than regulatory or export certification will be at the discretion of the local adviser and assumes he has a "willing" client.

b) Regulatory Costs

ASD incurs considerable costs in administering the Apiaries Act each year, such as inspecting for disease, keeping records, and maintaining the apiary register. MAF is also involved with aspects of quality assurance and export certification for beekeepers.

The cost to MAF for wages and vehicle running costs was \$133,414 for an average of \$14,824 per apiary district. (Range \$8,399-\$23,244). These figures, do not include office overheads or costs to operate the apiary registers except for wages, nor do they include the costs for monitoring the toxic honey areas in the Coromandel/Bay of Plenty and Marlborough regions. Current MAF costs to maintain the permit system and MAF test hive programme in the Coromandel/Bay of Plenty area are \$17,099 per year. A large number of beekeepers also gave their services voluntarily last year for hive inspection work.

	No. used	Km	Km Cost \$	Days (8 hr)	Wages \$
MAF staff	53	40,674	15,213	900	102,500
Beekeepers (paid)	33	12,540	6,091	136	9,610
Beekeepers (unpaid)	25				
Total	141	53,214	21,304	1,036	112,110

Fig. 5

	No. Apiaries	No. Hives
Found by MAF or MAF agents	276	1204
Reported by beekeepers	774	1716
Total	1050	2920

Fig. 6

On a per beekeeper basis a licence or registration fee of around \$20 would be required to meet the current minimum level of expenditure.

It is difficult to put a value on MAF's inspection service but a recent MAF estimate put a value of \$144 (range \$103-\$176) on a hive destroyed through having American brood disease. If 25% of the 1204 diseased hives found by MAF were dealt with properly by their owners, then these 301 hives would only need to infect another three hives each at \$144 per hive to cost the equivalent of what MAF spends on disease control and export certification for the whole country.

Advisory Activities

a) Study Tour to NSW

Eight apicultural advisory officers spent five days in NSW in April 1986 examining aspects of Australian beekeeping and government legislation. Talks have been presented to branches on the tour and a report has been made available to executive.

Export of Bees and Queen Bee Producers Associations

Production of package bees for Canada continued to grow with 16,480 1 kg equivalent packages being exported. In addition to these packages an extra 25,700 queen bees were also exported to over 10 countries. The combined value of the packages and queen bees was estimated at \$NZ681,788 (fob).

MAF assisted queen bee breeders to form an association; the NZ Queen Bee Producers Association (NZQBPA) during the year. The NZQBPA formulated a charter of membership, a code of ethics, and sent a quarterly newsletter to members.

A survey of queen bee quality was also carried out on queen bees supplied by producers. Eight parameters were measured and the results showed a wide variation in queen quality. A national advisory programme was prepared to assist producers improve the quality of their stock.

The French Nicot no-graft system of rearing queen cells was evaluated and will be promoted for the coming season.

Negotiations continued with overseas governments to ratify or simply export certification procedures.

c) Kiwifruit Pollination

An estimated 50,565 colonies were placed in kiwifruit orchards last November-December. These returned \$3,379,940 to beekeepers by way of pollination fees (range \$49-\$85/hive) and \$213.2 million to the growers (26 million trays at \$8.20 each).

Beekeepers operating in all major kiwifruit areas have now formed pollination associations. These groups have adopted minimum hive standards based on MAF recommendations (NZ Bee-

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NEW ZEALAND HONEY PRODUCTION, IN TONNES

(As at 31 May Annually)

	Whangarei Auckland	Waikato King Country Taupo	Bay of Plenty Coro- mandel Poverty Bay	Hawkes Bay Taranaki Manawatu Wairarapa	NORTH ISLAND	Marl- borough Nelson Westland	North & Central Canter- bury	South Can- terbury N Otago & Central Southland Otago	SOUTH ISLAND	New Zealand	Yield per Hive (kgs)		
1971	440	1239	671	581	2931	207	711	895	914	2127	5658	28.2	
1972	489	1247	518	1079	3333	252	406	1082	620	2360	5693	27.9	
1973	573	1069	600	551	2793	424	600	610	914	2548	5341	25.7	
1974	386	1094	680	702	2862	255	600	490	1055	2400	5262	25.5	
1975	448	1378	750	890	3466	330	1200	1300	1115	3945	7411	36.3	
1976	375	530	280	554	1739	256	1200	950	770	3176	4915	23.9	
1977	482	1433	490	704	3109	483	1000	821	665	2969	6078	29.3	
1978	450	1646	1000	1440	4536	394	950	959	1440	3743	8279	39.2	
1979	420	1360	540	835	3255	265	1050	1249	655	3219	6474	28.5	
1980	550	1129	400	810	2889	590	1750	1225	1035	4600	7489	32.0	
10 yr Ave	461	1213	603	815	3091	346	947	958	918	3169	6260	29.7 kgs	
	Whangarei Auckland H. Plains												
1981	650	1043	470	1088	3251	491	1150	1100	940	3680	6931	29.1	
1982	600	1465	1130	1020	4215	325	430	550	975	2280	6495	25.6	
1983	696	877	720	360	2653	300	1050	900	150	2406	5053	18.8	
1984	300	731	582	495	2208	800	1150	1100	560	3610	5818	21.0	
1985	572	930	1697	1550	1088	5837	685	1650	1352	790	4477	10314	33.3
1986	402	1096	1492	1150	887	5027	871	950	1473	1150	4444	9471	29