



# The New Zealand **Bee Keeper**

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The Official Journal of the National Beekeepers Association of New Zealand (Inc.), 211  
Market Street South, Hastings, New Zealand. Tel. (06) 878-5385, Fax (06) 878-6007.

## **You have a vital decision to make about the future of your industry**

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MIGHT BE ASSOCIATED IN ANYWAY  
WITH THE BEEKEEPING INDUSTRY**

**The information published in this issue of the  
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### SPECIAL THIS ISSUE:

- Details of the commodity levy proposals
- Details of conference — please note the registration form included in the magazine

The NZ Beekeeper is published eleven times per annum; February to December. All copy should be with the Editor by the 1st day of the month of publication except for December when copy should be received by 20th November.

Advertising rates — shown inside

**Annual Subscriptions available from the Editor are:**  
New Zealand (\$30) plus gst. Overseas rates to be advised.

## Industry at crossroads

During the course of the past twenty years I have had the opportunity to work with many small and large companies and organisations to assist in redesign, restructuring and generally seeking to enhance and to make them more effective.

After six months of working within the Beekeeping Industry it is my considered view that the industry must shape itself up and really look to the future if it is to progress so as to benefit all players. Let's hope that the outcomes of the forthcoming conference enables this to happen.

Whilst experience in this or that is of value let's not succumb to the idea that experience alone is all that is required . . . after all; one can have 20 or 30 years experience? or is it one years experience 20, or 30 times . . . there is a major difference.

Ron Rowe

## Library News

The 6 video tapes which arrived last month are:

- tape no. 12. **HONEY PRIDE PROGRAMME** USA. 10 min. Emphasis on purity and handling, quality and presentation of the product. Suitable as a promotional item for general viewing. **Fee \$2.**
- tape no. 13. **BEGINNING** U.K., 35 min. Basic, establishment of the colony starting with a nuclei, feeding, manipulations etc.  
**BEES IN THE CLASSROOM** 15 min. U.K. Teaching at school. Aimed at those who get involved with beekeeping projects or talks at primary or intermediate level. How to put it across and hands-on for the pupils. **Fee \$3.**
- tape no. 14 **FOULBROOD DISEASES** U.K. 25 min. AFB and EFB control (in the UK) showing the differences between the two diseases. Recommended for groups or for individual viewing. **Fee \$3.**
- tape no. 15 **INDONESIA** 22 min. Beekeeping with Apis cerana. Feral colonies, honey gathering, traditional split log hives and modern frame hives. Interesting! Different bees, different people, Have a look beyond ourselves. **Fee \$3.**
- tape no. 16 **QUEEN REARING** 105 min. UK. demonstration of several methods: Jenter Q.R. kits, queen less colony, swarm box method. Queen introduction, types of queen cages, mini nucs. **Fee \$5.**
- tape no. 17 **VARROA** German production, English text, total 45 min.  
a. Detection of the pest 15 min.  
b. A serious problem 30 min. Systematic testing of colonies, development, use of chemicals, effect on colony and honey production. **Fee \$3.**



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# IMPORTANT - to all Beekeepers and others who might be associated in anyway with the beekeeping industry

(The information published herein should be made known to any, or all persons, or any organisation who has any association with any person or organisation operating as a beekeeper either in a commercial or non commercial manner).

You now have a vital decision to make about the future of your industry.

## Current method of funding

The present method of funding the work that the National Beekeepers Association of New Zealand Inc. undertakes on your behalf will cease as at 31st December 1995 with cessation of the Hive Levies Act.

Currently Pest and Disease Management, Marketing, a national magazine and all the many administrative and communicative matters that are related to the effective and efficient operation of a national organisation are funded under the Hive Levies Act.

All Beekeepers with 50 hives or more pay an amount of levy under the present act. We also have a category of ordinary or subscriber membership that enables these members to receive the magazine and to exercise a vote.

## Proposed funding from 1 January 1996

**As a result of the outcomes of the survey conducted in the April 1994 issue of the New Zealand Beekeeper and other various informational pieces circulated widely, the National Beekeepers Association Of New Zealand Incorporated (through the National Executive of the Association) will now proceed to conduct a referendum of all Beekeepers for the approval of a Commodity Levy order by the Minister Of Agriculture.**

But first we must communicate as fully as possible with any Beekeeper or person, or organisation that might in any way be affected by the proposal to seek a Commodity Levy Order.

The first of the present material on the commodity levy order was published in the March issue of the New Zealand Beekeeper. Additional material has been published in each subsequent issue of the New Zealand Beekeeper magazine.

NB This information is provided for ALL OR ANY POTENTIAL Beekeeper voters as required by the Commodity Levies Act and its amendment 1993. It supplements information that potential levy payers have already received in various forms.

## A FEW QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR YOU TO CONSIDER

**Q** -What will be levied?

**A** - **It is proposed that** the levy will be charged to owners of beehives (beekeepers) on a per apiary basis.

A beehive is defined as any man-made object containing a colony of honey bees.

An apiary is defined as any place where beehives are kept.

**Q** - Who is primarily responsible for paying the levy?

**A** - The person primarily responsible for paying the levy will be the person named as registering the site (apiary).

**Q** - What is the date in each year that the levy will be calculated

**A** - The date on which the register will be determined will be the 1st June in each year.

**Q** - Are there any exemptions?

**A** - Yes, two exemptions are proposed ..

1 - Beekeepers whose hives occupy only one apiary will be exempt from paying the levy, provided the apiary contains no more than 10 hives.

For the purposes of the levy, a leviable apiary can have a maximum of 50 hives. Apiaries with more than 50 hives will be levied on the basis of one leviable apiary per 50 hives or part thereof.

2 - Conscientious objectors as defined in the Commodity Levies Act 1990 will be accommodated and will be required to pay a levy in a manner that will be prescribed in the order finally made to the Minister.

**Q** - Who is the organisation applying for the levy?

**A** - The National Beekeepers Association of New Zealand Incorporated

**Q** - Who will collect the levy?

**A** - The National Beekeepers Association of New Zealand incorporated.

**Q** - How will the levies be spent?

**A** - The categories sought to be within the levy order and on which the levies will be spent will include:

1 - Research relating to Beekeeping and products derived from bees and related activities.

2 - The development of products derived from Beekeeping

3 - The development of markets for products derived from Beekeeping

4 - The promotion of the Beekeeping industry and products derived from Beekeeping

5 - The protection or improvement of the health of Bees and the environment of bee colonies

6 - The development and implementation of plans and programmes of Quality Assurance relating to Beekeeping and products derived from Beekeeping

7 - Education, information, promotion and training relating to Beekeeping and products derived from Beekeeping

8 - Day to day administration of the activities referred to above as carried out by the National Beekeepers Association of New Zealand and its committees. This is

*Continued on page 5*

not to include any direct or indirect trading activity by the organisation or any undertaking on its behalf.

**Q** - What will the levy rate be?

**A** - Actual annual rates will be set based on carefully prepared budgets for each item or category shown above. In at least the first year of operation it is proposed to maintain the rate at a rate comparable with the present amount of levy as under the Hive Levies Act which is **\$1.61** for each hive.

A formula has been established to correspond and relate to the rate of \$1.61 per hive... It is proposed the **first leviable apiary** will be levied at \$50 and each apiary thereafter at \$21.00.

**Q** - Is Beekeeper information confidential?

**A** - Yes! All individual Beekeeper information provided as a result of the levy will remain confidential. This is required under the Privacy Act. The Privacy Act forbids the collection of information not essential to the operations of The National Beekeepers Association of New Zealand Inc.

**Q** - For how long will the levy remain in force?

**A** - Under the Commodity Levies Act and its amendment a levy can be collected for up to five years. After that all Beekeepers will have a choice on whether to renew the levy. This decision will depend on Beekeepers satisfaction with the performance of the The National Beekeepers Association of New Zealand Inc. in fulfilling the outcomes as set out above.

Note: if any person, or organisation has any questions or queries relating to the proposed Commodity Levy

Order please do not hesitate to contact this office, or Mr Bruce Burdon at the Ministry Of Agriculture and Fisheries, Head Office, Wellington. It is proposed to now prepare an application which will then be made to the Minister of Agriculture for the making of a Commodity Levy Order to take effect at a date to be advised.

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# Tauranga NBA Conference

By the time you read this, the Tauranga Conference will be less than a month away! The Bay of Plenty Branch is busy with planning and organisation, and this is our last NZ Beekeeper article to let you know about the happenings. Be SURE you complete the registration form enclosed in this magazine and return it IMMEDIATELY to make sure you are booked for an exciting and important conference!

By now you should have your accommodation set up — remember that Tauranga can be a busy place, even in July. If you haven't arranged a hotel/motel, you should do it right away! Look back to the March issue for names and telephones of the ones closest to Willow Park, the main conference venue.

Here is an overview of the conference activities: (Note: asterisk\* denotes speaker still to be confirmed).

## Monday July 18 — Air New Zealand Sponsor Day

- 9.00am Registration Desk opens.
- 10.00am Bee Genetics Improvement Group AGM (shareholders only).
- 1.00pm Conference Introduction — Trevor Bryant, (exact topic and format left up to Marketing Committee) Convenor: Allen McCaw, Marketing Committee chairperson. Keynote Speaker: Bill Bracks, marketing consultant, Comvita.
- 3.15pm Bill Bracks — respond to workshop discussion with intro about his career in marketing both inside and outside the beekeeping industry.
- 4.00pm Honey Exporters Association AGM.
- 6.00pm Happy Hour (open bar) and welcome by BoP branch president.

## Tuesday, July 19 — Chelsea Sugar Sponsor Day

- 8.30am 1994 Annual Meeting (including presentations by the Mayor of Tauranga and Ross Muerant, MP\*, who has specific responsibility for the beekeeping industry in Government).
- 12 noon Annual Meeting adjourned until conclusion of Conference of Delegates
- 1.00pm Sponsor Presentation — Chelsea Sugar
- 1.10pm Workshop: "The Future of our Industry Organisation". Facilitators: Ted Roberts, Cliff van Eaton. Small Groups: SWOT Analysis on the NBA.
- 2.00pm Group Report-back (new ideas from each group only)
- 3.15pm Executive — "Commodity Levies and the Immediate Future for the NBA"
- 4.00pm NZ Queen Bee Producers Association AGM
- 7.30pm NZ Honey Food Innovation Awards
- 8.45pm Keynote address, Dr Mark Winston, Simon Fraser University. "Africanised Bees in the Americas".

## Wednesday, July 20 — Comvita NZ Sponsor Day

- 6.30am Conference Breakfast — meet the Beekeeper of the Year finalists — 5 minute talks
- 8.30am Conference of Delegates
- 1.00pm Sponsor Presentation — Comvita NZ Ltd
- 1.10pm Workshop: "Diversification in Beekeeping". Facilitator: Murray Reid. Panel: Barry Foster, organic honey; Alan Bougen, bee products; Sue Walker, niche marketing; MaryAnne Thomason, royal jelly; Malcolm Haines, bulk bees; Brian Shanks, mead.
- 3.15pm Honey Packers Association AGM
- 4.30pm Comb Honey Producers Association AGM

- 8.00pm Dance — Otomoetai Trust Hotel. Theme — Big Bands of the '40's. Inter-branch competition; spot prizes
- 10.30pm Supper

## Thursday, July 21 — TecPak Industries Sponsor Day

- 8.30am Conference of Delegates continues
- 11.30am Reconvene Annual General Meeting
- 1.00pm Workshop: "Where is Commercial Pollination Heading?" Moderator: Trevor Bryant, Alpha Bees. Panel: Dr Mark Goodwin, HortResearch — Sugar feeding, etc; Jill Hamlyn, Kiwi Pollen — BCP, artificial pollination; Richard Bensemman, Airborne Honey — apple pollination; Bruce Stanley, Golden Grove Apiaries — Kiwifruit pollination.
- 3.15pm Keynote Speaker: Dr Mark Winston. "Pheromones and their use in pollination"
- 4.00pm Pollination Association AGM
- 7.30pm Dinner and Beekeeper of the Year Awards. Master of Ceremonies: Clive Dalton\*. Keynote speaker: Sir Edmund Hillary. Sponsor Presentation: TecPak Industries.

## Friday, July 22

- 8.30am Workshop: "Beekeeping After the Apiaries Act Disappears". Chairman: Terry Gavin.
- 9.00am Question and Answer Session — AFB PMS. Panel: NBA AFB PMS Committee members.
- 9.45am Keynote Speaker; David Sundberg\*, American Beekeepers' Federation. "Varroa, Tracheal Mite, and the Africanised Honey Bee: The American Experience".
- 10.45AM Keynote Speaker: Dr Barry O'Neil, MAF Regulatory Authority. "Exotic Bee Diseases and the Biosecurity Act".
- 11.30am Panel Discussion: Previous Speakers
- 12 noon Close

Go back and look at some of those activities again! We think you'll agree that there is a top-notch set of speakers on some of the most important issues that face the industry now and into the future!

For the non-conference participants, visits and tours are being arranged for **each** day. the costs of these will be available on the first day, when everyone can have a chance to sit down and decide which of the ideas we have will best suit. Local gardens and hot pool visits, Te Puke (Kiwifruit Country, Vintage Auto Barn, Spratts Garden), a day in rotorua (Whakarewarewa, Orchid House, Agrodome, Rainbow Springs) and a trip to the Katiaki (Morton Estate winery) — even for those not at Conference, the week can be full of activity and fun!

Remember that Air New Zealand is the Official Carrier for the conference — you can get a 30% discount on air fares by letting your agent know you are an NBA Conference participant.

**FILL IN THE REGISTRATION FORM NOW TO BE SURE YOU WILL BE PART OF ONE OF THE MOST EXCITING AND INFORMATIVE CONFERENCES EVER! SEE YOU IN TAURANGA!**

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# CARNIOLANS

## WHAT ARE THEY?

## DOES THE NZ INDUSTRY NEED THEM?

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

As most beekeepers are aware there is a debate within our industry regarding Mr David Yanke's application presently before MAF regulatory authority for the importation of Carniolan semen. This article attempts to answer some of the basic questions about Carniolans and will hopefully stimulate further informed debate.

### WHAT ARE THEY?

Historically two races of bees have been present in central Europe from time immemorial, 1. The Dark European Bee (*Apis Mellifera Mellifera*) which we already have in New Zealand due to the historical endemic status of this bee in the United Kingdom from whence our first bee stocks arrived and 2. The Carniolan Bee (*Apis Mellifera Carnica*). These two races were originally separated from each other by the European Alps. The Italian bee, from which our present hybridized beestocks derive had a much smaller geographical distribution, restricted to the Italian Peninsula, from the Alps to Calabria with Corsica and Sardinia.

With the onset of modern beekeeping the old boundaries of the races have become irrelevant with beekeepers free to choose the best bee for their particular area and style of beekeeping. The effect has been the displacement of the dark bee (*mellifera*) in favour of the Carniolan. It has become the commercial bee of choice for much of Europe and similarly there has been a rising demand from North American beekeepers for reasons which we will ponder shortly.

### WHAT'S IT LIKE?

The short description is gentle, grey and quiet. A greyish version of the Italian bee. Its most noted characteristics are:

- 1 Exceptional docility.
- 2 Excellent wintering ability as it winters in comparatively weaker stocks with correspondingly smaller stores requirement.
- 3 Excellent disease resistance. Outbreaks of AFB and EFB are almost unknown in Carniolan areas. Carniolans are also demonstrating good mite resistance when compared to the Italians which have very poor resistance.
- 4 Robbing inclination very low.
- 5 According to Ruttner the Carniolan tops the list of all the races in its sense of direction and least tendency to drift.
- 6 High productivity and vitality due to its capacity for rapid development. To quote the eminent F Ruttner "In most nectar flows it surpasses all other races thanks to its long tongue and foraging energy. Another consequence of its vitality is a lively swarming impulse but with breeding and proper management (the use of large hives) proven strains do not display excessive swarming tendencies.

### Does the NZ Industry need them?

The simple answer is YES, for two principal reasons of economics.

- 1 The New Zealand Queen Breeding industry is beginning to wake up to the fact that it must respond to the demands of the marketplace which more and more is for Carniolan Queens. The Tracheal mite is virtually endemic in Canada now and reports from Canada indicate that our Italian type stocks are not holding up to the mite pressures with high wintering losses reported. Firm messages are being received that New Zealand needs to provide mite resistant stock or face losing the market. With the prospect of the United States opening up to New Zealand bees the matter is now urgent. In short if the New Zealand industry fails to secure Carniolans it could lose export markets worth millions. Australian queen breeders already have a head start with Carniolan stock which is exhibiting good mite resistance. They will secure the competitive advantage unless we act now.
- 2 The New Zealand industry as a whole could benefit from the successful introduction of Carniolan stock as there is little doubt that these bees would suit certain areas of this country. Chelsea Sugar Company might be the loser with beekeepers able to choose a bee that does not share the Italians voracious appetite of using large winter stores rapidly and requiring heaving spring feeding!

The Carniolan's reputation in relation to disease resistance may also be of significance. We have an industry wide objective of eliminating AFB by the year 2000. Carniolans could become a useful weapon in the fight to rid our industry of this very costly disease.

### WORTH THE RISK?

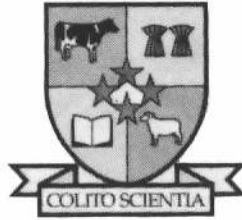
The Yanke proposal involves importing semen from a world renowned German institute which maintains pure lines of Carniolans. The semen would be used to cross with Italian virgins and these hybrids would be evaluated under close MAF quarantine regulations. His proposal has been structured in such a way as to answer the only real unknown which is just how these first generation hybrids will behave under New Zealand conditions which is the main and real concern of those opposed to the importation. Obviously if Carniolans, at some future stage, become the bee of choice we will see hybrids appearing much the same way as we do now with the Italian/*Mellifera* hybrids. Based on the wealth of overseas experience (Australia, Canada and Europe) there is no evidence to suggest that these hybrids will pose any threat to our industry. Essentially it would still remain a beekeepers choice to maintain whatever line of beestocks he or she chooses.

However it is worth stressing the point again that Mr Yanke's proposal is not to introduce Carniolans at this

*Continued on Page 12*



# TELFORD RURAL POLYTECHNIC



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# NZ BEEKEEPING INCOME REASSESSED

With the spate of political decisions affecting our industry in the past few years, readers could be forgiven for thinking that the government doesn't really appreciate the value of beekeeping to New Zealand. The user-pays philosophy has no doubt been a major justification for those decisions. But part of the problem may also be the fact that beekeeping income has recently been under-represented in the national accounts.

In a survey conducted by the Statistics Department in 1987, the total income produced by the beekeeping industry was assessed at \$21.9 million per year. And that figure seems to have been used throughout New Zealand ever since.

It turns out, however, that the Statistics Department figures were seriously flawed. First of all, the financial information came from a census of economic data sent to a small sample of beekeepers. The data was then "extrapolated" by multiplying it by the number of hives reported in the department's annual Agricultural Production Survey questionnaire. The problem is that not all beekeepers (and not even all commercial beekeepers) were questioned, because the form is only sent to people who own more than 1 hectare of agricultural land. The questionnaire seems to have excluded a lot of NBA members, because in 1990 the department listed New Zealand as having 45,158 hives (500+ hive beekeepers). In the same year the number of hives in that category registered with MAF was actually 209,739.

To its credit, the Statistics Department has now realised this error, and in the past several years departmental reports have actually used the MAF apiary statistics which appear in *The New Zealand Beekeeper*.

But unfortunately there is more to this problem than just determining the total number of hives beekeepers own. There are also the important issues of what constitutes beekeeping income and how it can best be assessed. In this case, the fault doesn't just lie with the Statistics Department. Most people in the industry tend to under-represent beekeeping income, and we really

don't have much good financial data on beekeeping, particularly in the areas of paid pollination and honey processing.

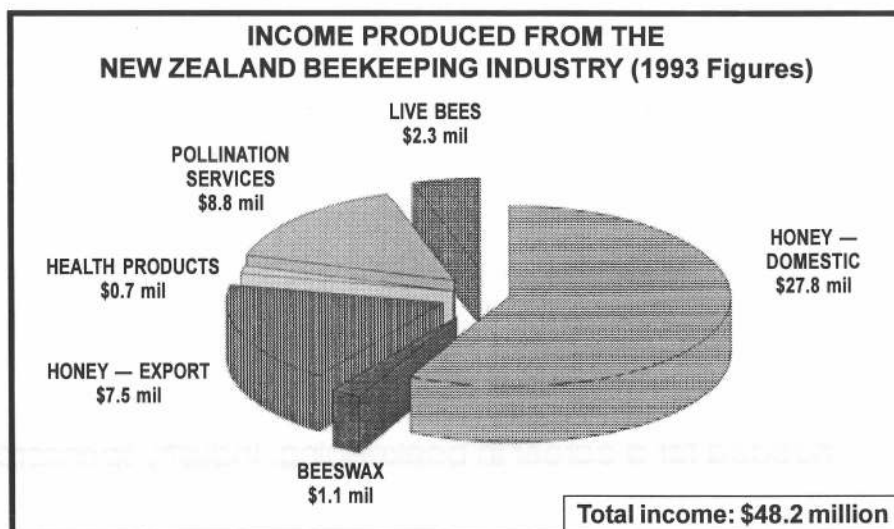
Recently a re-assessment of industry income was carried out for an upcoming reprint of the NBA's Beekeeping Industry Profile. The work was carried out on contract by Cliff Van Eaton of MAF Quality Management. Cliff decided to go several steps beyond the published statistics on beekeeping industry income and took the opportunity to consult with a number of people in our industry to obtain more information.

In the pollination area, Cliff was able to determine the amount of income from paid pollination services for the various horticultural crops besides

as well. So in the current assessment, domestic honey income was calculated at the packed wholesale level for the first time.

Bee products such as propolis, pollen and royal jelly are also becoming increasingly important sources of income for our industry, and so these products have also been included in the assessment (under the category "Health Products"). The value of these products was assessed at the bulk or raw material level, however, rather than at the wholesale level, since the commodities are generally sold to manufacturers from outside the beekeeping industry, and a number of other, non-beekeeping industry ingredients are included in the finished retail lines.

The inclusion of all paid pollination



kiwifruit (kiwifruit figures were obtained from the MAF Policy Horticultural Monitoring Report).

And following discussions with members of the Honey Marketing Committee, a decision was also taken to include domestic honey packing in our industry accounts. Traditionally, domestic income from honey has been calculated "at the farm gate" using bulk price figures, even though we have always included export income from honey on an FOB basis, regardless of whether the honey was in a packed line or in the drum. There is widespread and common agreement that honey packers are an important part of our industry (in fact, most packers also keep bees), so it would seem to make sense to include the income from their packing activities

services, domestic honey packing, and other bee products, results in a dramatic increase in what has traditionally been assumed to be NZ beekeeping industry income. The income is represented diagrammatically in the attached pie chart. As you can see, at \$48.2 million per year, the beekeeping industry is worth more than twice as much to the New Zealand economy as was previously supposed.

**I AM NOT JUDGED BY THE  
NUMBER OF TIMES I FAIL  
BUT THE NUMBER OF  
TIMES I SUCCEED AND  
THE NUMBER OF TIMES I  
SUCCEED IS IN DIRECT  
PROPORTION TO THE  
NUMBER OF TIMES I CAN  
FAIL AND KEEP TRYING**

# Alliance Quality Beekeepers Woodware

## OFF-SEASON SPECIALS

### FRAMES REDUCED:

All sizes, all types,

Usually: \$659.56 + GST per 1000

Now: **\$600.00 + GST per 1000**

For quantities of over 2000 contact us for even better prices.

### STOREYS REDUCED:

**Full Depth First Grade, Commercial Type,**

Usually: \$10.62+ GST

Now: **\$9.20+ GST** (minimum of 100)

**3/4 Depth, First Grade, Commercial Type**

Usually: \$8.80+ GST

Now: **\$7.20+ GST** (minimum of 100)

For quantities of over 200 storeys contact us for even better prices.

No 2 Grade Storeys (sound knots) are also available at special prices.

We have arranged some very competitive freight rates. Please contact us for details.

Payment is strictly at the time of ordering or prior to dispatch.

Please contact us to confirm total cost prior to sending payment.

### Alliance Quality Beekeepers Woodware

- Commercial Storeys (Full Depth, 3/4 Depth, Half Depth)
- Lock Cornered Storeys (Full Depth)
- Hoffman Frames (Full Depth, 3/4 Depth, Half Depth)
- Section Frames (Full Depth, Half Depth)
- Sections (Slit and Non Slit)
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- Pollen Traps • Nucleus Hives (Four and Five Frame)
- Leafcutter Hives • Sundry items to order
- Special prices valid until 31st July 1994

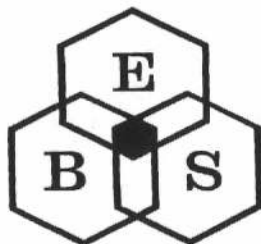
Manufactured by: V. L. Smith & Sons Ltd

222 Beach Road, Kaikoura

Phone (03) 319-5447 Fax (03) 319-6244

**To Order contact your local  
EBS Stockist or phone us directly on  
TOLL FREE 0508-22-5056**

(where we pay the call cost, not you)



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# Notes for Beginners and others

Last month's notes concluded with the remark that winter is the time for the beekeeper to reflect on the previous season, determine successes and failures and the reasons for these. Pin pointing the causes may well be the key to future improvements.

The quality of the average human memory is not all that good and it is the reason why so often the same mistakes are made over and over again. So if accurate hive management records have been kept they will prove to be of real value.

Now don't dismiss this record keeping out of hand, thinking that it is so much useless paper work if you own just a few hives, are a hobbyist without any intention to make a financial profit from your bees. As a hobbyist you want colonies which are a pleasure to handle, perform well, don't eat more sugar than produce honey and in general give you the satisfaction expected from a hobby.

A real hobbyist may not be interested so much in the financial aspects but some simple management notes can reveal a great deal about what happened. Build-up of colonies, weather pattern, nectar and pollen intake, feeding, queen age, swarming etc. all points of vital interest to a beekeeper.

It is pretty well impossible now to remember a hive's condition last September, what you did to it in the mean time and the other reasons leading up to the present. That is

talking about one colony. What about if you have 5, 10 or more?

A simple system of record keeping will pay dividends when you search for answers, in learning about an apiary's environment and particular conditions and in the planning of future actions. You could use a card kept under the hive cover, a small school note book with a couple of pages reserved for each hive or a diary. Notes don't need to be elaborate, but tell you the essentials so as to jolt your memory. A simple code system will avoid the need for many words. It is a matter to develop a system which suits you. It should be clear and concise.

Keeping a management record and using it when "reflection time" comes along will without doubt be a tool towards better beekeeping and so lead to greater satisfaction.

If you read this at the stage where you must call yourself a real beginner beekeeper then start your management record from day one. That means getting into the right habit from the word "go" and if till now you have just ambled along it is not too late to mend your ways.

Of course once one passes from the hobbyist stage and expands into commercial beekeeping the situation changes drastically. It means that financial gain does become the aim. More hives, more sites, surplus crop must be disposed off, perhaps other income from pollination services is

earned and costs are incurred.

More than ever those management records are important but will have to be kept for the sites rather than for the individual colonies.

At that point it becomes imperative to put the house in order as to keeping your financial records. You then need to know if it is going to be a paying proposition. Management and financial records will naturally overlap and are complementary.

Build-up during the spring, supplementary feeding, nectar and pollen sources available, number of visits needed and distances travelled etc. etc. all influence the bottom line, that is the number of \$ \$ \$ gained or lost.

And don't forget the interest on borrowed capital and on your own money and the need for replacement of equipment. And of course those financial records are needed for that infernal tax man. Provisional and terminal income tax, GST and what have you. The last thing you want is to be grabbed by the short hairs. Render to Caesar that which is Caesar's but never give him any extra.

Computers have taken their place in commercial beekeeping and can be a truly great asset but the need for those basic management records is still as great as ever.

Kept faithfully, used appropriately and reflected upon means a little time well spent. Too many beekeepers have dropped by the way side for the lack of them.

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*Continued from Page 8*

point but to have these first generation hybrids evaluated under our conditions so that we can answer that question once and for all. Obviously if these hybrids are deemed not suitable in any way then the effort would be aborted at that stage and the hybrids destroyed. If on the other hand the trial established that these hybrids pose no threat to our industry, a finding which would be consistent with international experience, then I would hope and expect the effort would proceed with future importations of Carniolan semen until a pure line of Carniolans is established.

The risk of importing any uninvited "nasties" with the semen has been fully explored in a comprehensive Risk Analysis by MAF. The risk is said to be extremely remote.

For example, the risk of introducing EFB as a result of importing semen is given as one chance in one million billion. That's about the same chance as hell freezing over!

I believe that the industry must support the visionary efforts of Mr Yanke in his endeavour to undertake Carniolan hybrid trials in New Zealand. The facts speak for themselves. Our industry has so much to gain and so much to lose if it fails to keep up with modern trends and developments in the beekeeping world. It's time now for the industry to act on the advice it commissioned and paid for in the 1989 Oldroyd report and sanction and support the importation of new genetic material for the potential benefit of the whole industry.

**by Bruce Stevenson**

# Attention

## Commercial Beekeepers

Consider placing an indent order now for new equipment for the coming season (Aug/Sept delivery).

### Why so Early?

- Exchange rates are good at present.
- Have your equipment set up and ready to go early.
- Take advantage of FCL freight rates, by combining your order with our annual order (for Italian items).
- Delayed payment terms possible.
- Italian items ***must*** be ordered by ***30th June***.

### Honey Packing Machines

The Italian made Lega packing machine is New Zealand's most popular packer. Widely used in both the North and South Islands by beekeepers and packers of all sizes, including some of this country's largest honey packers.

#### Specifications:

50gms to 1kg per dosage  
Up to 460kg per hour (920 x500gm pots)  
Accuracy plus or minus 1 gram  
Fully stainless steel  
Air use about 100 litres per hour

	<b>Indent Price Excl. GST</b>	<b>Deposit Required</b>
Packing machine head only	\$3800	\$760
Mobile stand for packing head only	\$980	\$200
Packing machine complete with 400kg s/s tank, stand and packing bench	\$5750	\$1150
Packing head with rotating loader	\$8750	\$1750
Packing machine complete with 400kg s/s tank, stand and rotating loader	\$10,200	\$2000
Semi -Auto labelling machine	\$5750	\$1150

#### Blower - Italian

Bee Blower on wheels, with super stand, hose, nozzle etc

	\$1375	\$275
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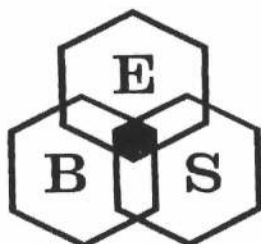
#### Pumps - Italian Lega Honey Pumps

Neopreen Impellor, Stainless Steel Body, 2000kg per hour.  
Honey Pump complete on trolley, with 1 h.p. electric motor, forward/reverse switch

	\$1500	\$300
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Honey Pump, body only, 2000kg per hour

	\$800	\$200
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# Thoughts on an alternative apiary inspection programme

The 1993 NBA Conference passed a motion that we work towards "The eradication of American brood disease by the year 2000".

This cannot be achieved under the present funding system without significantly increasing the cost to beekeepers.

If we are serious about achieving AFB eradication by the year 2000 we need to improve hive inspection and disease recognition.

## The present system

About 500 beekeepers pay a hive levy of 50 cents per hive, the money is used for the disease control and audit programme which has a surveillance that covers 5600 beekeepers throughout New Zealand.

NBA members are required to provide a "disease inspection" audit service at further cost to those involved to meet the terms of the NBA contract with MAF.

## Thoughts on another system

The concept of eradication by the year 2000 is a good one.

### The main points to consider are:

1 All hives must be inspected annually by an accredited inspector who will issue a certificate of inspection which would be necessary to allow the movement and sale of bee hives, bee hive products and pollination.

2 That the cost of inspection be a cost to the hive owner whose hives have to be inspected.

This means that all hive owners bear

some of the cost incurred in the AFB eradication programme. This incorporates the "User Pays" principle rather than the present levy system which is funded by only 10% of the NZ hive owners.

3 The same scheme applies to beekeepers with one hive or thousands of hives.

### Inspector Accreditation:

1 Accreditation be gained from an NBA approved organisation.

2 Accreditation as an inspector would be achieved by proving his/her competence at AFB disease recognition and destruction.

### Cost of Inspection

1 It be a hive owner's responsibility to either:

- a become an accredited inspector
- or b employ an accredited inspector at their own cost.

The Beekeepers Association would still require a levy for:

- 1 Administration of the association.
- 2 Marketing.
- 3 A significantly reduced AFB programme funding requirement.

I consider this system could be introduced at the same time as a commodity or biosecurity levy but not necessarily be part of these.

The disease control committee has been working on the AFB eradication programme and a funding system to support the programme.

I believe the only just funding system will require a contribution from all beehive owners on a user pays basis.

In conclusion, diseased hives need to be found and dealt with. This requires the services of skilled people. The cost of detection and disposal of diseased hives is the responsibility of the owners of the diseased bee hives, not the duty of another beekeeper.

I therefore consider the system above contains the elements of a desirable alternative.

If you have any questions or queries about the above proposal I will be able to discuss this with you at conference, as it is being addressed by a remit from the Southland branch

by Keith Herron

**JULY ISSUE  
THE ANNUAL  
REPORT WILL BE  
INCLUDED IN THE  
JULY ISSUE OF THE  
NEW ZEALAND  
BEEKEEPER.  
THEREFORE  
DEADLINE FOR  
MATERIAL  
WILL BE 1st JULY.**

## Invitation

You are warmly and cordially invited to join the National Beekeepers Association of New Zealand. Please fill out the form below and return to **Freepost 383, National Beekeepers Association of New Zealand (Inc.), P.O. Box 307, Hastings.**

Membership of the Association is \$33.75 (incl GST) and entitles the member to receive 11 issues of the New Zealand Beekeeper magazine and to become an ordinary member of the Association. This membership enables you to vote for executive and on remits at conference.

**To Freepost 383, National Beekeepers Assn of NZ (Inc) P O Box 307 Hastings.**

I wish to take up your offer of membership of the National Beekeepers Assn Of NZ (Inc) and enclose my cheque for \$33.75 being \$30 subscription and \$3.75 GST. I understand that a receipt will be forwarded by return mail.

Name .....

Address .....

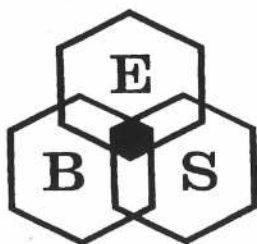
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It's out of season and we're  
over-stocked,  
therefore we offer the following

# MID-WINTER SPECIALS

	Including GST	
	Usually	Now
8 Way Bee Escapes	\$4.70	\$3.00
Woven Hats	\$24.95	\$20.00
Round Veils	\$16.50	\$13.00
Nylon Hive Strappers	\$4.50	\$3.50
47mm Nylon Honey Gates	\$23.50	\$19.00
60mm Nylon Honey Gates	\$34.95	\$30.00
Jenter Queen Rearing Units complete	\$139.50	\$100.00
Nuc Entrance Discs	\$1.60	\$1.00
Queen Excluders	\$13.90	\$11.00
Queen Excluders 50+ each	\$11.00	\$9.90
Mr Do Bee 20cm Display Toy	\$19.95	\$16.00
Hive Mats	\$4.45	\$3.80
Hive Mats 100+each	\$3.68	\$3.50
ABC & XYZ of Bee Culture	\$82.50	\$68.00
Backyard Beekeeping	\$24.95	\$18.00
Practical Beekeeping in New Zealand	\$34.95	\$28.00
Propolis Collecting Mats (per 10)	\$27.00	\$20.00
3" Galv. Smoker + Free EBS hive tool (worth)	\$53.50	\$37.50
4" S/S Smoker + Free EBS hive tool (worth)	\$70.90	\$54.90

- Validity:** Prices valid only while stocks last or until 31st July 1994.  
**Terms:** Strictly payment with order.  
**Freight:** For orders under \$100, please add \$5.00 to assist with packaging and freight.  
 Orders over \$100 are freight free.  
**To Order:** Contact your local EBS Stockist or EBS directly on  
 Toll Free 0508-22-5056 (Where **we** pay the call cost, not you)



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 P.O. Box 5056, Papanui, Christchurch, New Zealand  
 Telephone (03) 358-7498 or fax (03) 358-8789

Hours 8.30am-5.00pm Monday – Friday

After Hours: Stuart Ecroyd, Telephone (03) 358-7137 or Mobile 025-323-310



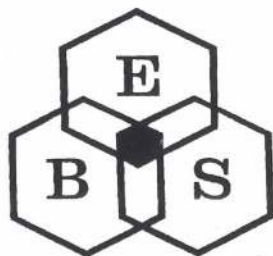




# Ecroyd Beekeeping Supplies

PRICE LIST AS AT 1ST JUNE, 1994

		Excl. GST	Incl. GST			Excl. GST	Incl. GST			Excl. GST	Incl. GST
Driven	ea.	528.89	595.00	50 x 2.5 25kg Case	ea.	163.56	184.00	<b>Smokers</b>			
Ecroyds 4 Frame Plastic Hand Driven	ea.	400.00	450.00	60 x 2.5 500g Jar	ea.	3.47	3.90	80MM (3") Galvanised	ea.	33.33	37.50
<b>Replacement Gears:</b>				60 x 2.5 per kg	kg	5.87	6.60	100MM (4") Galvanised with Shield	ea.	41.96	47.20
Nylon	per set	14.67	16.50	60 x 2.5 25kg case	ea.	121.33	136.50	80MM (3") S/Steel with Shield	ea.	46.13	51.90
Metal	per set	70.67	79.50					100MM (4") S/Steel with Shield	ea.	48.80	54.90
Clear Hinged Covers	per set	32.00	36.00					Replacement Bellows - Dadant	ea.	33.78	38.00
								- Ecroyd	ea.	22.22	25.00
<b>Honey Gates</b>				<b>Nuc Boxes</b>							
Brass & Chrome	- 47MM OD ea.	47.07	52.95	Wooden 5 Frame Box & Base, No Lid	ea.	14.67	16.50				
	- 60MM OD ea.	79.56	89.50	Galvanised, Entrance Disc	ea.	1.42	1.60				
Cast Iron Threaded	- 60MM OD ea.	53.24	59.90		10	133.33	150.00				
	- 75MM OD ea.	61.33	69.00		10	11.82	13.30				
Nylon With Back Nut	- 47MM OD ea.	20.89	23.50					<b>Stickers</b>			
	- 60MM OD ea.	31.07	34.95					Lega Bee 100MM	ea.	.53	.60
									10	4.44	5.00
								Lega Bee Large	ea.	3.38	3.80
<b>Honey Labels</b>				<b>Overalls</b>							
'Pure Honey' 75MM x 60MM	10	1.07	1.20	White Cotton or Polycotton zip up overall	ea.	44.00	49.50				
(10 per sheet)	100	8.89	10.00	Sizes 4 to 14 - Firsts.				<b>Stingose</b>			
								Spray on lotion to minimize swelling from stings and bites	ea.	6.76	7.60
<b>Honey Pumps</b>				<b>P.D.B. (Paradichlorobenzene)</b>							
Ecroyds Gear Type	ea.	475.00	534.38	Wax Moth Exterminator				<b>Stores - Lock Cornered</b>			
Honey Pump Unit Complete	ea.	POA	POA	1 KG	ea.	7.11	8.00	3/4" Rebates (Metal Rebates Required)			
Mono, Complete or Bare	ea.	POA	POA	2.5KG	ea.	16.40	18.45	Full Depth 1-9	ea.	14.18	15.95
Lega 2000KG per hour, complete.	ea.	1800.00	2025.00	25KG	ea.	132.89	149.50	10-49	ea.	13.20	14.85
								50 & Over	ea.	12.53	14.10
<b>Honey Strainers</b>				<b>Paraffin</b>				<b>Stores - Commercial Type</b>			
28 Mesh Nybolt for Polypail	ea.	20.27	22.80	28KG carton	per kg	2.93	3.30	With Half Check Corners & 1/2" Rebates			
Strainer Bags 200mm x 600mm	ea.	24.84	27.95	Less than carton lots	per kg	3.73	4.20	(3/4" Rebates available on order of 50 & Over)			
				<b>Pollen Traps (awaiting new model)</b>				FULL DEPTH 1-9	ea.	12.80	14.40
<b>Honey Refractometres</b>				<b>Pricker - Revolving for use with Thioxotropic honey</b>				10-49	ea.	11.64	13.10
Kikuchi or Atago (POA) Approx.	ea.	550.00	618.75	<b>Propolis Collector Mats</b>	ea.	160.00	180.00	50 & Over	ea.	10.62	11.95
					10	24.00	27.00	THREE QUARTER DEPTH 1-9	ea.	10.62	11.95
					100	200.00	225.00	10-49	ea.	9.64	10.85
<b>Hose</b>				<b>Queen Rearing Materials</b>				50 & Over	ea.	8.80	9.90
Food Grade, reinforced for pumping honey	38MM MTR	22.67	25.50	Jenter - Complete Unit Including 100 plus, 100 cups, 90 cup holders and pre-drawn comb	ea.	124.00	139.50	HALF DEPTH 1-9	ea.	9.33	10.50
	55MM MTR	26.22	29.50	Jenter extra plugs	100	15.73	17.70	10-49	ea.	8.31	9.35
				Jenter extra cups	100	15.73	17.70	50 & Over	ea.	7.56	8.50
<b>Honey Tanks</b>				Jenter Extra Cup Holders	50	15.73	17.70	<b>Toggle Clamps</b>			
Plastic 30KG with Lid and 47MM Honey Gate	ea.	33.42	37.60	Jenter Queen Clamp	ea.	18.00	20.25	For Wiring Boards	ea.	34.67	39.00
Plastic 180KG with lid and 47MM Honey Gate	ea.	84.44	95.00	Plastic Cell Cups	ea.	.15	.17				
Stainless Steel, with Lid, Gate and Stand	200KG	279.00	313.88		100	13.24	14.90	<b>Uncapping Equipment</b>			
	400KG	499.00	561.38	Bozi Cell Cups	ea.	.15	.17	Electric Uncapping Knife	ea.	146.67	165.00
					200	25.07	28.20	Steam Heated 10" Knife	ea.	79.11	89.00
<b>Maps</b>				Bozi Cell Bars	ea.	1.60	1.80	Plain Medium Duty Knife	ea.	29.96	33.70
Topomaps '260'	ea.	11.11	12.50	Chinese Grafting Tool	ea.	5.78	6.50	Steam Hose	per metre	4.89	5.50
				Grafting Brush	- Sable ea.	5.42	6.10				
<b>Metal Rebates</b>					- synthetic ea.	4.27	4.80	<b>Vells</b>			
	pr.	.93	1.05	<b>Queen Cages</b>				Standard Wire Mesh	ea.	11.78	13.25
	100	39.07	43.95	White Two Piece	10	4.49	5.05	Woodman Wire Mesh	ea.	12.67	14.25
<b>Moulds</b>					100	40.80	45.90	Round Plastic Mesh	ea.	14.67	16.50
Wax Mould, 5 Rectangular	ea.	8.44	9.50	<b>Ratchet Tie Downs</b>				Hood Long Sleeved	ea.	74.22	83.50
Wax Mould, 6 Hexagonal	ea.	13.78	15.50	25MM, 5 Metre, 1200Kg	ea.	24.00	27.00	Suit one piece, sizes 5 to 12	ea.	104.89	118.00
Candle Mould, Hive	ea.	17.33	19.50	50MM, 6 Metre, 2000Kg	ea.	49.51	55.70	Top Hood - String	ea.	39.11	44.00
Candle Mould, Skep	ea.	17.33	19.50	50MM, 9 Metre, 2000Kg	ea.	54.00	60.75	Top Hood - zip	ea.	52.44	59.00
Mouse Guards	ea.	1.73	1.95	<b>Roofs</b>				<b>Wasp Killer</b>			
	10	15.56	17.50	- standard wooden	ea.	11.47	12.90	'No Wasp' 250ml bottles	ea.	14.18	15.95
<b>Nails - Flat Head Vinyl Coated</b>				- iron for Standard Wooden	10	103.56	116.50	Actellic Dust 200gm Jar	ea.	7.02	7.90
12 x 1.00 200gm jar	ea.	4.00	4.50	- Plastic	10	60.00	67.50	Actellic Dust 5kg Bucket	ea.	70.22	79.00
12 x 1.0 per kg		17.33	19.50		10	133.33	150.00	<b>* NOTE: ACTELIC DUST IS USED THE SAME AS CARBARYL</b>			
12 x 1.0 25KG Case	ea.	389.33	438.00	- Tin, Galvanised	100	POA	POA	<b>Wax Moulds</b>			
30 x 1.6 500GM Jar	ea.	5.33	6.00					10	76.00	85.50	
30 x 1.6 per kg	kg	9.73	10.95	<b>Sections</b>				100	700.00	787.50	
30 x 1.6 25kg Case	ea.	222.00	249.75	Fine Sawn Finish with Foundation Slit	100	28.44	32.00	Per Metre	ea.	.45	.50
40 x 1.6 500gm Jar	ea.	5.51	6.20		1000	258.67	291.00	Per 100M Roll	ea.	35.11	39.50
40 x 1.6 per kg	kg	10.00	11.25	Without Foundation Slit	10,000	2351.11	2645.00	Wire - .46MM Galv. Frame Wire	ea.	4.40	4.95
40 x 1.6 25kg case	ea.	228.00	256.50		100	25.69	28.90	200GM Reel	ea.	7.56	8.50
60 x 2.5 500gm jar	ea.	2.84	3.20		1000	232.89	262.00	3.0KG Reel	ea.	34.67	39.00
60 x 2.5 per kg	kg	4.62	5.20		10,000	2173.33	2445.00	<b>Wire Crimper</b>			
60 x 2.5 25kg case	ea.	93.78	105.50					Plastic with metal wheels	ea.	22.04	24.80
- Flat Head Galvanised				<b>Separators</b>				Spare wheels for above	pair	7.56	8.50
50 x 2.5 500g Jar	ea.	4.36	4.90					<b>Woodlife II Timber Preservative</b>			
50 x 2.5 per kg	kg	7.82	8.80					1 litre concentrate	ea.	30.80	34.65
								4 litre concentrate	ea.	84.00	94.50
								20 litre concentrate	ea.	320.00	360.00



# Ecroyd Beekeeping Supplies

TELEPHONE (03) 358-7498 OR FAX (03) 358-8789  
P.O. BOX 5056, PAPANUI, CHRISTCHURCH  
26B SHEFFIELD CRESCENT, BURNSIDE, CHRISTCHURCH  
HOURS 8.30AM — 5.00PM, MONDAY — FRIDAY

# INDENT SPECIAL

ON

## 4 FRAME STAINLESS STEEL HONEY EXTRACTORS

**USUALLY \$595.00**

# INDENT PRICE \$450.00 incl GST

### Features:

- 4 frame, hand driven
- stainless steel can
- chrome plated basket
- bolt on legs
- clear plastic covers
- 47mm nylon honey gate
- quality Italian made

### To Order:

Simply send your deposit of \$100 to your local EBS stockist, or directly to EBS, **BEFORE 30TH JUNE**, to confirm your order for your new extractor.

Upon arrival (August/September), you will be notified that your extractor has arrived, and the balance owing of \$350.00\* will be due for payment. The extractor must be paid for within 4 weeks of being notified.

\*Freight is additional if applicable: South Island \$12, North Island \$20, (therefore the balance due may be \$362 (S.I.) or \$370 (N.I.).

### 3 Frame Stainless Steel Extractors

also available on indent  
\$390 incl. GST

### Features:

- 3 frame, hand driven
- 47mm nylon honey gate
- Stainless Steel Can
- **no** clear plastic covers
- Chrome plated basket
- quality Italian made
- painted stand  
(cannot be bolted down like 4 frame)

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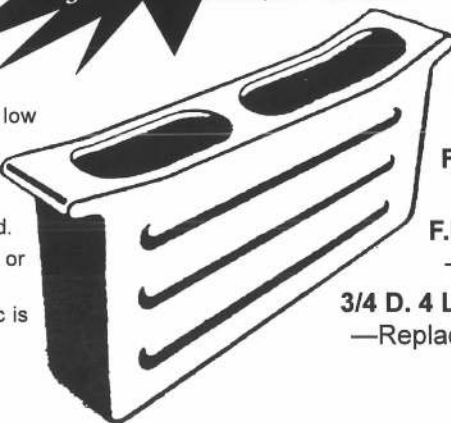
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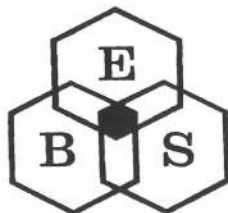
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# AFB PEST MANAGEMENT STRATEGY DRAFT PREPARED

Many beekeepers are probably now aware that as a result of the passage of the Biosecurity Act, the remaining sections of the Apiaries Act pertaining to American foulbrood control will expire in 1996. The NBA believes there is general agreement in our industry that the Apiaries Act has been a significant factor in the maintenance of a relatively low incidence of AFB in New Zealand. The association also believes that without a disease management strategy for AFB, and the powers to enforce compliance in relation to disease eradication, the incidence of AFB will rise significantly. Because the NBA believes the beekeeping industry would not want to see the disease control provisions of the Apiaries Act lost as a result of parliamentary actions, it plans to propose to government an **American Foulbrood Pest Management Strategy** (AFB PMS), using provisions of the Biosecurity Act.

While our industry is faced with having to create such a strategy just to continue our current AFB control programme, the act does provide us with a significant opportunity to deal more effectively with AFB than in the past. The Biosecurity Act has been written to allow industries affected by animal diseases to determine their own goals and strategies for disease control, and to make sure statutory powers are used properly so that such strategies are both fairly funded and effectively carried out. The act therefore puts the beekeeping industry squarely in the driver's seat when it comes to determining how legal and financial resources can be directed to deal with AFB.

## How The AFB PMS Is Being Prepared

The NBA executive asked the AFB Disease Control Committee, chaired by Terry Gavin, to come up with a draft AFB PMS. The committee held a series of conference calls, and then met in April to put together the initial version. The strategy proposal itself follows the outline provided in the First Schedule of the Biosecurity Act.

The draft has now been submitted to the NBA executive and is being reviewed by a panel of industry lead-

ers. Once their suggestions have been incorporated, the draft will be made available to as many affected groups and individuals as possible to ensure that full consultation takes place before the strategy is actually proposed to the Minister of Agriculture. Provided the Minister is satisfied that there is no significant opposition to the strategy from those likely to be affected, the strategy can then be approved as an Order in Council and take on the force of law.

## The Goal of Eradication

The AFB PMS would replace the NBA's current AFB disease control programme following the dissolution of Apiaries Act provisions in 1996. It would implement new control and educational measures in an effort to achieve the eradication of AFB in New Zealand. This goal was the unanimous recommendation of the NBA'S Disease Control Committee in a report to the association executive in 1993, and was carried as a motion at the NBA's Annual Conference that same year.

## Components of the AFB PMS

The strategy includes the essential components of the Apiaries Act (which the Biosecurity Act will repeal), including inspection and pest destruction, an apiary register, statements of inspection, the reporting of disease, and the use of an apiary identification system.

The strategy also includes a substantial educational component, which the NBA Disease Control Committee identified in its 1993 report as a key to achieving the goal of AFB eradication. For the strategy to succeed it is essential that every beekeeper be able to recognize the symptoms of AFB and know how to deal promptly and effectively with infected hives.

At the same time the strategy employs the new concept of beekeeper accreditation, and the use of cost recovery for disease control and eradication from those beekeepers who choose not to comply with the provisions of the strategy. For some time it has been apparent that one of the main obstacles to reducing the incidence of AFB even further in New Zealand is beekeepers who fail to carry out

their required responsibilities under the Apiaries Act.

## Beekeeper Accreditation

The most important new provision of the AFB PMS is beekeeper accreditation. Three categories of beekeeper would be recognised under the strategy: 1) accredited commercial beekeeper, 2) accredited hobbyist beekeeper, and 3) non-accredited beekeeper.

To be an accredited commercial beekeeper, a person would have to:

- operate two or more apiaries and/or more than 10 hives
- have an approved management plan for AFB control and eradication
- be a leviable person under the PMS

An accredited hobbyist beekeeper, on the other hand, would have to:

- operate one apiary and/or less than 10 hives (no levy payable)
- have applied for hobbyist beekeeper accreditation under the PMS
- have signed a statutory declaration stating that no pecuniary gain has been obtained from beehives owned.

There would also be provision for those beekeepers who for one reason or another do not wish to be accredited. A non-accredited beekeeper would still be required, however, to pay for essential disease control and eradication services under the cost-recovery provisions of the Biosecurity Act.

The main component of Commercial Beekeeper Accreditation would be the creation by each beekeeper of a personalised Disease Control and Eradication Management Plan. The plan would detail in written form the processes used by the beekeeper to control AFB. The plan would also form the basis for inspection audits of AFB incidence. Where such audits highlight problems in the management plan, the beekeeper would receive counselling and then amend the plan to achieve better disease control.

As part of the accreditation, the beekeeper would also agree to keep detailed disease control records and provide bee/honey samples for *Bacillus larvae* spore testing.

Hobbyist Beekeeper Accreditation would also be available, although in this case no disease management plan would be required. To be accredited, however, hobbyist beekeepers would still be required to complete an approved training course in disease recognition and control and agree to supply samples of bees/honey for *B. larvae* spore testing (at no charge to the beekeeper).

Loss of accreditation (either commercial or hobbyist) would have the affect of beekeepers being invoiced, under provisions of the Biosecurity Act, for essential disease control and eradication work carried out on their hives. However, such loss of accreditation need not occur provided the beekeeper involved makes a conscientious effort to amend disease control management and also provides increased samples of adult bees and/or honey for testing. There would also be a committee of independent persons from outside the industry appointed to handle disputes regarding loss of accreditation.

#### Management Agency

The NBA would be the designated management agency under the AFB PMS. It would perform all administrative functions relating to funding and levy collection, and would contract various organisations to provide professional services in the areas of beekeeper accreditation, inspection audit administration, surveillance of non-accredited beekeepers, and *B. larvae* spore testing.

#### Funding

Although funding details have so far not been worked out in enough detail to provide a per unit cost, the AFB PMS calls for an annual levy based on a statutory declaration made by all hive owners on June 1 each year. The levy would be charged on a per apiary basis, with beekeepers whose hives occupy only one apiary (ie. hobbyists) being exempt. To avoid problems relating to definitions of "seasonal" apiaries, the levy would be payable only on those apiaries actually occupied at the time of the declaration. Also, for the purposes of the levy, a leviable apiary would have a maximum of 50 hives. Apiaries with more than 50 hives would be levied on the basis of one leviable apiary per 50 hives or part thereof.

Preliminary budgets suggest that when a share of the current adminis-

trative costs of the NBA are taken into account, the AFB PMS will cost slightly less than the current NBA AFB disease control programme. In the past, however, such administrative costs were not included in the portion of the hive levy normally considered to be for disease control.

The NBA is currently investigating the possibility of incorporating a levy for the AFB PMS with administration and marketing levies, using the Commodity Levies Act. The NBA believes such a combined levy will result in significantly reduced administrative costs. However, if a combined levy turns out not to be possible under existing legislation, the AFB PMS levy can be struck using provisions of the Biosecurity Act.

*If any beekeeper (irrespective of number of hives) has any comment to make they should contact the National Beekeepers Association, P.O. Box 307, Hastings.*

### Clinton rejects Chinese honey tariff

Readers who have been following the long-running attempt by US beekeepers to limit imports of Chinese honey will be interested to know that on May 20, President Clinton announced that he was rejecting the recommendations of the

US International Trade Commission to impose a tariff on such imports. Earlier in the year the commission, which is the same body that imposed a similar tariff on NZ kiwifruit imports, had recommended that a 25% duty be put on the first 23 million kgs of honey imported from China annually.

In his announcement Clinton said that the duty would result in a cost to US consumers of US\$7 million annually, while increasing American beekeepers' income by only \$US1.9 million. As well he said that because Chinese honey was used in the low-end industrial segment of the market, the tariff would only result in honey being imported from other countries to fill the 45 million kg gap between production and consumption in the United States.

And in a nod to free trade advocates and GATT, Mr. Clinton said that "imposing trade restrictions on imports of honey would run counter to our policy of promoting an open and fair international trading system."

US beekeepers are expected to challenge the figures used by Mr. Clinton in his announcement, and plan to undertake another massive Congressional lobbying campaign in an effort to change the president's mind.

Source: BEE-L Bulletin Board, INTERNET Computer Service



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# Marketing

National market research of New Zealand honey consumers is underway. The success of the Canterbury Beekeepers' Linwood City Honey Week continues to provide positive lessons for the industry and excellent reaction to the honey food innovation awards.

May has been a very busy month for the Marketing Committee. For most of the last 18 months we have been cautious about spending the funds raised by the hive levy.

Our goal was to get the maximum benefit from firstly, the manuka medicinal research, and secondly await the results of the MBA-Massey Market Report.

Once those two projects had been completed we knew we would be in a better position to prioritise our own intended strategies.

## Market Research

The Honey Marketing Plan acknowledged the need for market information as a base for our marketing strategies. The MBA Massey Market Report also stressed the need for good consumer market research.

We have now undertaken that. It is one of our major budgeted projects but it will give the industry the type of in-depth, sound market information it must have.

The research project is in two parts. The first, a qualitative survey, takes small groups of consumers and finds out their perceptions of honey; enabling us to identify potential concepts/opportunities.

The second stage, the quantitative survey, is a one thousand person nationwide survey that follows on from the first stage; and enables us to check the concepts developed in the Qualitative Survey.

The Marketing Committee put out three tenders for the research. The MRL Group tender was chosen. We then met with MRL in May. At that meeting we discussed the results of the stage one (Qualitative) research that MRL had carried out.

The full results of both surveys will be presented to the Conference in Tauranga.

## Honey Promotional Events

In last month's Beekeeper I made reference to Linwood Supervalu's

reaction to the Honey Week. Sales data now shows that as a direct result of the Honey Week display, honey sales volumes increased by 5%; **but more significantly**, the honey dollar value increased by 10%. In other words, people were buying higher priced honey types as a result of the week.

Following the success of the Canterbury Beekeepers' Linwood City Honey Week, it has been decided to develop a series of promotional items for members of the industry to use at similar events and to provide to key customers and groups.

## Honey Food Innovation Awards

The New Zealand Honey Food Innovation Awards have already been an outstanding success to the industry. A multi media news release put out in April resulted in coverage in the following key food manufacturing and retail industry magazines:

Leisure times	June
Supermarketing	May
NZ Farmer	June
Food Industry	May
Grocer's Review	April

Once the awards have been made, we will get another round of publicity and the whole exercise will have been a very positive and successful one for the honey industry.

## Manuka (Again)

An important point that has come out of MRL's qualitative market research is that the time and effort put into promoting manuka honey has resulted in an increased positive perception towards **all** honey types, not just manuka.

At present the Marketing Committee is working with Doctor Peter Molan in preparing for a national set of trials to evaluate the **pain relieving attributes** of active manuka honey. These trials follow on from the excellent work carried out by Niaz Al Somai. As previously reported, active manuka honey (within the parameters of the trials did not kill the bacteria believed to cause stomach ulcers. **However** all of the people taking active manuka honey experienced a significant improvement in the symptoms. Waikato University is interested in

following this up with a survey of people with stomach ulcers and we hope to have this national trial publicised and commenced during 1994.

## Honey Qual Standards

Unfortunately one of the strategies that we can't deliver at the moment is the concept of a Honey Qual Mark which can be put on retail packs of New Zealand honey.

Until we can define just what, eg, manuka honey is, (or viper's bugloss, or clover, or rata, or whatever), we are not in a position to be able to give out Honey Qual marks to honey packers to use as an affirmation of integrity of labelling.

In other words, we can licence the Honey Qual mark, we can make it available to packers, but there is really no way of us monitoring it at the moment.

The whole issue of honey being true to label is a very complex one. There are some people who have used a certain amount of "creative licence" in labelling their honey varieties, for example "manuka"; but until we are in a position as an industry to define what each variety is, it is very difficult to draw the line for people to be able to work to.

However, the Honey Qual logo will be introduced as the logo of the Marketing Committee; it will be used in the marketplace to represent our New Zealand Honey Food Ingredient Advisory Service. In the long term we are working towards finding a way of defining honeys so that the Honey Qual mark can be introduced as a consumer marketing aid.

## Marketing Hive Levy

A key point that we want to get across is that the Marketing Committee has taken a very conservative approach to spending the funds raised, to the point where very little of the money allowed for 1993 was actually spent in that year. Instead we have allowed the manuka honey publicity to carry the industry at virtually no cost to the industry.

While that was happening, we were able to carry out low profile work and be ready to use the funds when appropriate.

This approach has worked. We now have the capability to carry out both

meaningful market research and to create promotional display and print resource material for the industry.

The Marketing Committee will be seeking your support at conference for a continuation of its work; there are some very exciting strategies that are being introduced which will lead to long term benefits for all beekeepers.

Look forward to seeing you at Conference.

**Bill Floyd**  
for Marketing Committee

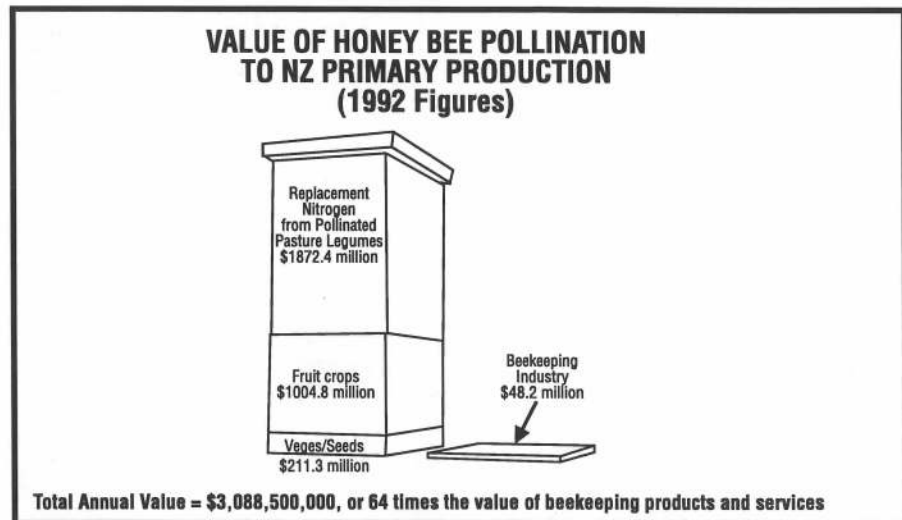
## HOW MUCH IS HONEY BEE POLLINATION WORTH?

Everyone knows that the honey bee is the world's most important beneficial insect. And there is now a significant body of overseas work on the value of honey bee pollination to agricultural and horticultural production.

In 1988, Andrew Matheson (now director of the International Bee Research Association) wrote a paper which calculated for the first time this pollination value for the New Zealand economy. Using export receipt figures, Andrew calculated values for the wide range of horticultural crops requiring honey bee pollination, as well as important seed crops such as onions and clover. While in some cases beekeepers received financial remuneration from growers for this pollination, more often than not the pollination is provided free as a by-product of normal honey production activities.

Andrew also used an internationally accepted method to determine the value of nitrogen fixed into New Zealand pastures by honey bee pollinated legumes. While most of these legumes (such as white clover) are perennial, scientists consider pollination essential to maintain an adequate seed reservoir in pasture, particularly in harsh environments where winter kill is significant.

In New Zealand's all-season pasture agricultural system, the nitrogen these legumes put into the soil provides a significant cost savings when compared to overseas systems which rely on applications of nitrogen fertiliser and supplemental feeds. And since honey bees are responsible for



the persistence of most legumes in our pastures, scientific organisations such as the old DSIR Grasslands (now AgResearch) agree that this savings in nitrogen fertiliser can be attributed to the beekeeping industry.

Andrew's figures have recently been updated for the Beekeeping Industry Profile by Cliff Van Eaton. Cliff also produced the attached graph for the Profile which shows the difference between the value of bee pollination to the New Zealand economy and the income derived by the beekeeping industry (virtually a four story hive compared to an inner cover!).

The value of horticultural products requiring pollination has increased significantly since 1988, reflecting the larger export tonnages of kiwifruit as well as developments in the pip and stonefruit industries. At the same time, due to a reassessment of beekeeping industry income (see previous article), the ratio of pollination value to beekeeping income has decreased somewhat. Still, at 64 times greater than the

money beekeepers actually produce from their hives, honey bee pollination has to be one of the cheapest services our agricultural economy receives.

The only problem now is getting to politicians to acknowledge the fact. Many readers will remember the comments made by Doug Kidd at the Blenheim NBA Conference in 1991. According to Mr. Kidd, such pollination doesn't have any value unless it is paid for, and he recommended that beekeepers "cash up on this in a market environment". Elsewhere in the world, however, governments have been more understanding of the unpaid benefits pollination provides. In the European Community, beekeepers are paid a "pollination bonus" benefit for the unpaid work their beehives do, and no less a figure than President Clinton has recently acknowledged that beekeeping has been supported by the US government since 1950 because the availability of honey bees for polination is considered to be "an important national interest".

## First Honey Bees, Apis Mellifera to Chatham Island

Three hives arrived by TEAL flying boat in the spring of 1953.

Two hives for Chudleigh Estate, Wharekauri Station, one hive for Mick Lanose, Chatham Island family. They were ordered through Dalgety Stock and Station Agents Christchurch branch and dispatched from Wellington.

It was arranged by Arthur Ousey, manager of Wharekauri Station at

the northern end of the island to pollinate new acres of clove planted on freshly broken land.

Extra hive parts, smoker, veil etc were packaged and sent with the hives.

Mick Lanose who was a friend of Ouseys decided to have one when told of Wharekauri's intention to purchase hives.

# YES, IT IS A HONEY EXTRACTOR! 128 Frame Tangential Honey Extractor

by Russell Berry

I always enjoy a challenge. It takes me away from those boring jobs one should be doing like feeding beehives or paying the hive levy to the NBA.

For many years I have enjoyed messing around with engineering. It was the only subject I was any good at at school. Somehow we have found the justification for a 2000 sq ft workshop which has most of the machinery in it required for manufacturing new machinery as well as servicing motor vehicles and the machines we have made in the past.

One thing engineering has taught me and it applies to many things in life — know exactly what you want to achieve, sort out very carefully the decisions you have to make and make those decisions in the correct order. But equally important — do not get bogged down with all the nuts and bolts or general detail which can be decided upon at a later date.

This engineering principle actually applies to our beekeeping industry. Sometimes on the executive and the sub-committees, we get so bogged down with the nuts and bolts that we have no time to look at the real principles of how we can generate greater beekeeper profits and enjoyment.

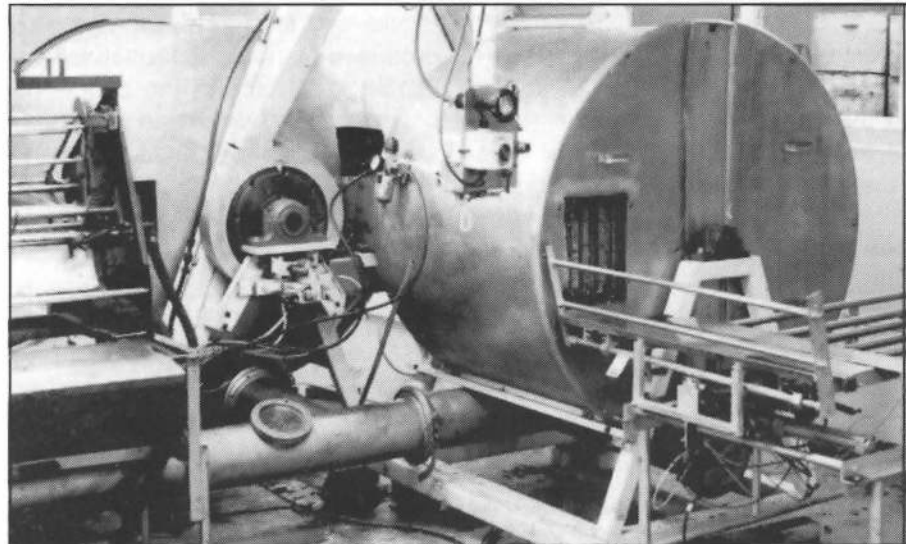
Back to the extractors . . . The problem we had in 1988 was to extract the dark viscous honey we had which would not extract in radial extractors we had in New Zealand, or in the very efficient batch loading radials they had in Canada and USA.

The manuka honey and other viscous honeys we produce extract best when the frame is at a tangent to the axis, not in a radial position. Our clover also extracts a lot faster in this position and does away with the requirement of a warm room. We wanted an extractor that would extract 50 or more boxes each hour with 3 people running the plant.

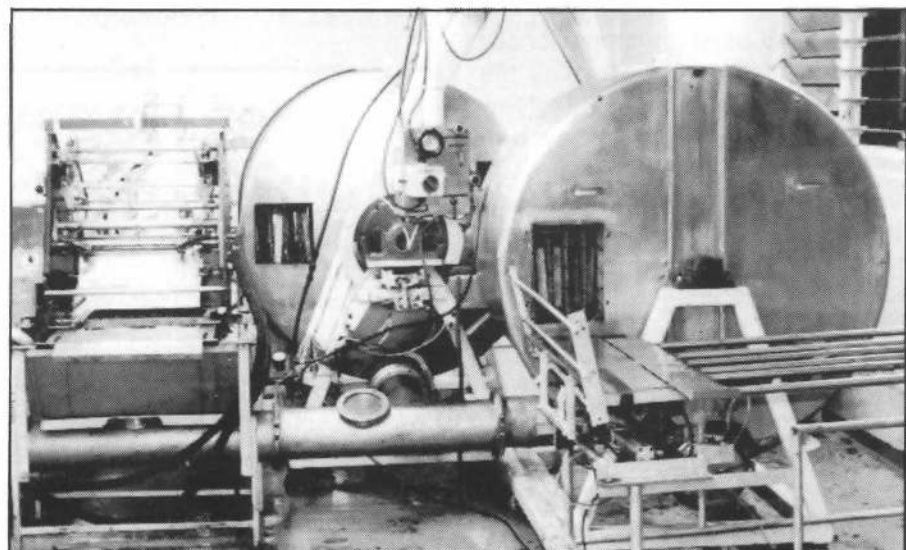
I have noticed that it is very hard to extract more than 100 boxes of honey per person per day, no matter what the size of the plant or the country it is in. We still find this a very hard barrier to overcome, especially if the honey is of mixed sources, all mixed



1 Dudley Marshall extracting honey, shows frames on sorting rack.



2 Shows two parts of extractor and honey outlet from extractors. Also control panel, centre.



3 Shows two parts of extractor and honey outlet from extractors. Also control panel, centre.

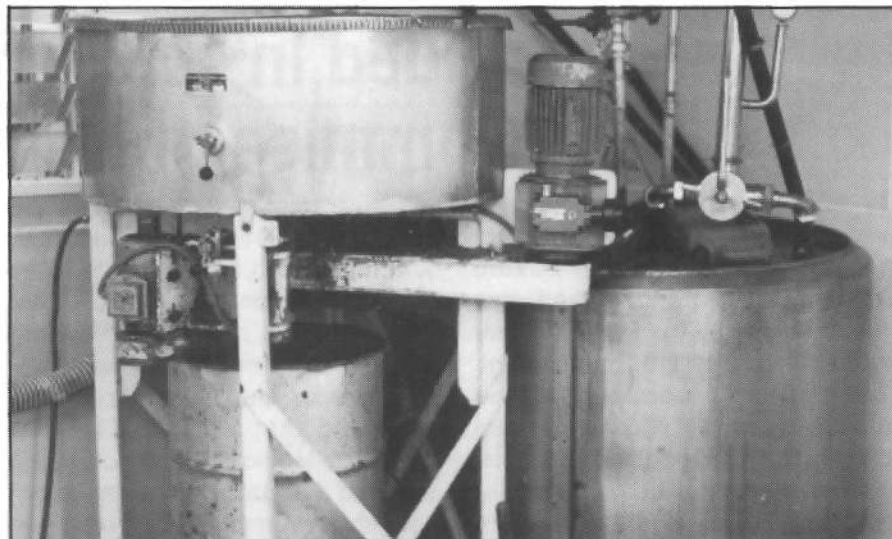


together in one box and requires grading into types by the frame as you extract. As well as sorting honey, we also sort our combs as they come off the extractor — this saves a lot of time sorting out broken frames, brood combs etc., later on. In the past we used 4 x 8 frame reversible extractors, hand loaded and unloaded.

We designed and built our new extractor in our own workshop. As you can see from the photos it is made in two separate drums, one drum holding 64 frames which extracts one side of the frame and the other drum extracts the reverse side of another 64 frames. Both these two parts of the extractor are driven by one hydrostatic motor which has variable speed drive in both directions. The reverse drive is used as braking. The two reels of the extractor are driven by chains and sprockets. All the controls and rams are driven by air. I enjoy working with air as it provides plenty of flexibility with speed and force and is easy to control.

After uncapping the frames are stored in what we call the ferris wheel until ready to extract. When the extractor is stopped the air rams push the frames from one reel of the extractor to the other, at the same time pushing the frames out of the second reel onto the sorting table.

After four lots of eight frames each are pushed from one reel to the other and the empty frames are pushed onto the sorting table. We start pushing frames from the ferris wheel



4 Hitchcock and Lawson spin float above 200 litre drum for wax. Heat exchanger on right.

into the first reel of the extractor. The unloading and loading takes about two minutes.

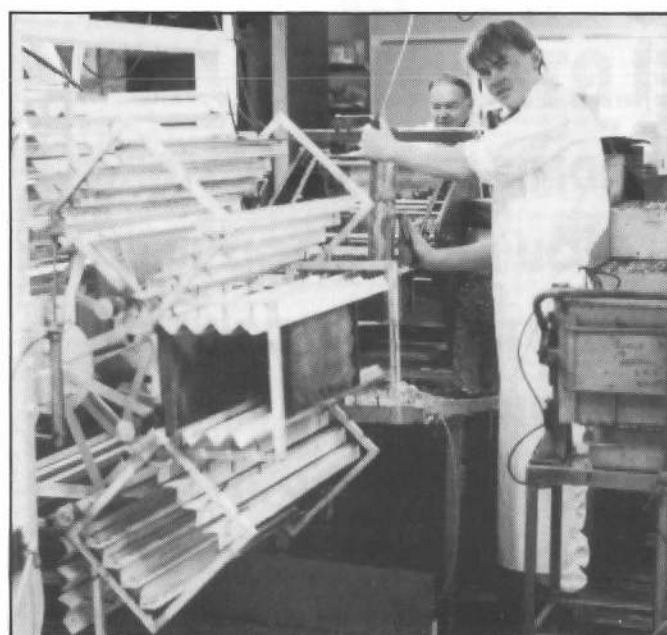
This tangential extractor to my knowledge is unique in its structure and the only mechanical loading and unloading tangential extractor around. When all is going well we can extract honey faster than our Cook and Beale centrifuge can handle, which is about one tonne per hour. We have extracted over 100,000 supers of honey through this extractor.

During construction we have been very careful to make it safe and to make sure that no attempt can be made to fill it while moving. We had the good fortune of employing for a number of years a very clever and fully qualified engineer/welder,

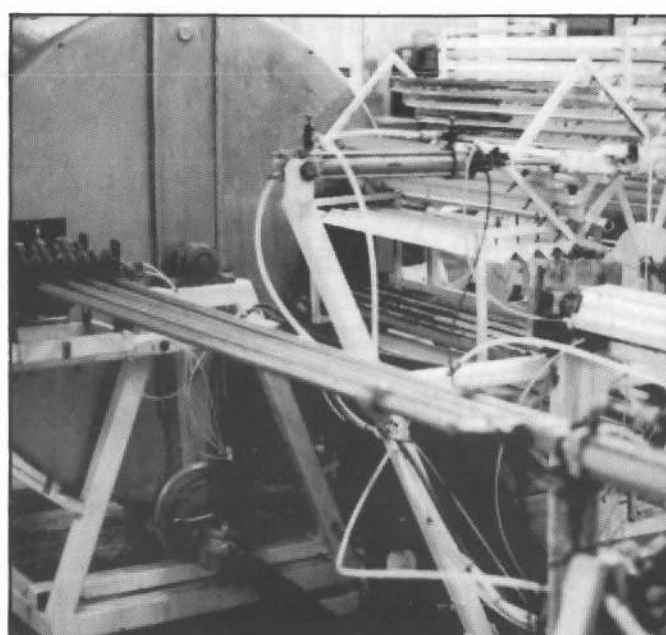
Steven Ziegler who made much of the extractor.

This is not the sort of challenge that one would want to take on every day. It probably cost between \$30,000 and \$40,000 if my own time was taken into account. But it was a heck of a lot of fun between headaches. I would love to have a go at making an uncapper to match the extractor so frames do not have to be touched after they come out of the box until they are ready to be put back into the box.

Perhaps you can design an extractor to extract the honey directly out of the hives and pump it into a tank on the back of your truck! Good luck to you and New Zealand ingenuity. It is not necessarily the most profitable thing to do but it is a lot of fun accepting these sorts of challenges.



5 Ferris Wheel for storing frames before loading into extractor. Warren Shefford and Dudley Marshall in background. Honey loosener on right.



6 On left honey extractor, ejection ram. On right, ferris wheel.

# Bees included in 1080 environment Commission report

Thanks to extensive media coverage, most readers are probably now aware that a report entitled "Possum Management in New Zealand" has been released by the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment. The report recommends the continued use of 1080 for possum control (even though the chemical poses certain environmental hazards), because the affects of possums on the New Zealand ecosystem are so severe.

What is less well known, however, is that the same report makes some firm recommendations regarding honey bees and the use of 1080 paste (jam) baits. In doing so, it gives beekeepers the strongest support yet in their attempts to get a bee repellent incorporated into such baits.

The report acknowledges the likely benefits to honey production from possum reduction, but says there is "a risk of damage to bee colonies, loss of income to beekeepers, and storage of 1080 in honey", where paste baits are used for ground control.

The report discusses the issue more fully in a special appendix (D). It reviews background on the 1080 risk to bees, and mentions the

experiences of beekeepers who have had colonies poisoned in the past. The report also details the changes that have been made in the last several years regarding foraging areas and beekeeper notification. The Ministry of Health has recently proposed that 1080 use permits issued by Medical Officers of Health stipulate that paste baits that do not contain an approved bee repellent must not be laid within 4 km of beehives. So far, however, the text of that permit has not been finalised.

The appendix also spends some time discussing the potential contamination of honey with 1080 and says that even though the risks of such contamination are small, beekeepers are concerned about the public perception of their honey products.

While it is pleasing to see that the report considers 1080 bee poisoning in some detail, of far greater significance are the series of hard-hitting proposals which are made regarding bee repellents and jam baits. The report recommends to the Animal Health Board, DOC and local authorities (*Recommendation 13 and 22*), that they require all possum

control contracts to include a requirement that a bee repellent (such as isovaleric acid) be used. Failing that, the reports says that either the sugar content should be removed or the bait rendered unattractive to bees by some other means.

And in the section on the Pesticides Board, the report even goes one step further (*Recommendation 31*). The Commissioner recommends that 1080 paste baits that are attractive to bees be de-registered by the board so that they can no longer be legally used.

Although these findings are an important new development for our industry, it is important to realise that by itself the report won't change how 1080 paste baits are made or applied. The report is merely a set of recommendations, and the Commissioner for the Environment does not have any legal powers of enforcement that can be used. It will now be up to beekeepers to press the case to ensure that these recommendations are adopted by the Animal Health Board and the Regional Councils as soon as possible.

## A SHORT COURSE IN HUMAN RELATIONS

the SIX most important words: **"I ADMIT I MADE A MISTAKE"**

the FIVE most important words: **"YOU DID A GOOD JOB"**

the FOUR most important words: **"WHAT IS YOUR OPINION?"**

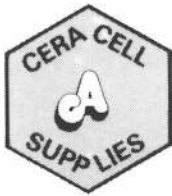
the THREE most important words: **"WOULD YOU MIND?"**

the TWO most important words: **"THANK YOU"**

the ONE most important word: **"WE"**

the LEAST important word: **"I"**

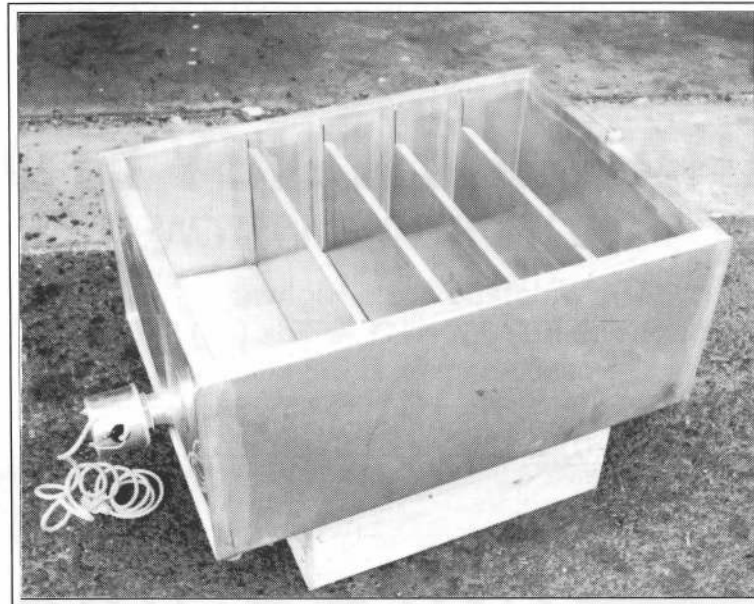
*by Dr Joseph Braysich*



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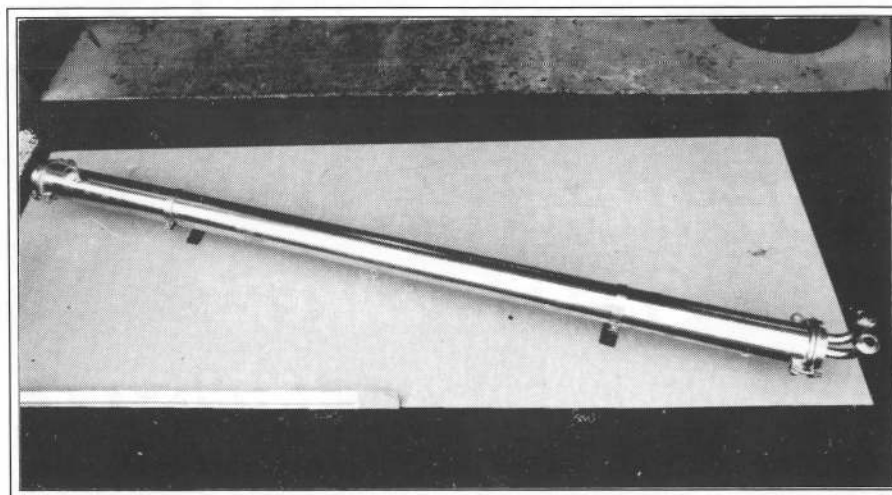
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Beeswax, Honey, Bee Products, Woodware, Beekeepers supplies/accessories, Queens & packaging bees, Packaging Materials, FMG Insurance, Extracting services, laboratory services; Sugar supplies. The cost will be \$30 per comb, per issue (with 6 or more issues at \$20 per issue).

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