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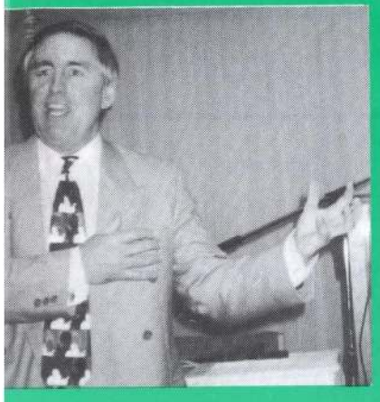

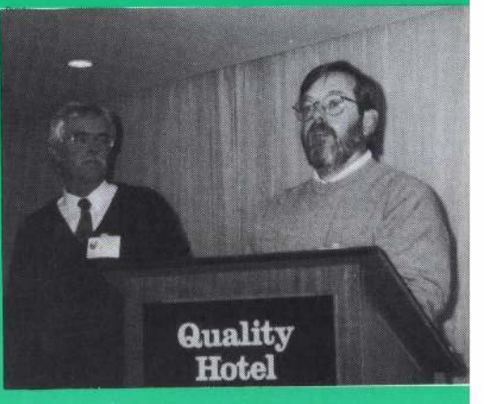

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NATIONAL EXECUTIVE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION OF N.Z. (Inc.)

President:
Nick Wallingford,
55 Watling Street,
Tauranga.
Tel/Fax (07) 578-1422

Vice-President:
Richard Bensemann,
State Highway 77,
RD 6, Ashburton.
Tel/Fax (03) 308-8423

Executive:
Russell Berry,
Arataki Honey Ltd.,
Rotorua Division,
Waiotapu RD 3., Rotorua.
Tel. (07) 366-6111
Fax (07) 366- 6999

Terry Gavin, P.D.C., Titoki,
Private Bag,
Whangarei.
Tel/Fax (09) 433-1893

Warren Hantz,
Box 56, Doyleston,
Canterbury 8150.
Tel/Fax (03) 324-3962

Keith Herron,
Greenvale Apiaries,
No 5 RD,
Gore.
Tel/Fax (03) 207-2738

Executive Secretary:
Harry Brown
National Beekeepers Assn of NZ,
P.O. Box 307, Hastings.
Tel. (06) 878-5385, Fax (06) 878-6007

Editor New Zealand Beekeeper:
Ron Rowe, JP,
National Beekeepers Assn of NZ,
P.O. Box 307, Hastings.
Tel. (06) 878-5385, Fax (06) 878-6007

Hon. Librarian:
John Heineman
C/- NZ Post Shop, Milton, Otago.
Tel. (03) 417-7198 (bus)
(03) 417-7197 (home)

BRANCHES

The first named person is the **President/Chairperson.**
The second is the **Secretary.**

FAR NORTH
Bob Banks
Taupo Bay, Northland
Tel. (09) 406-0692
Bruce Stevenson
Kemp Road, Kerikeri
Tel/Fax (09) 407-7190

NORTHLAND
John Gavin
PDC, Titoki, Private Bag, Whangarei
Tel/Fax (09) 433-1893
Mrs Edna Hoole
Sheddock Apiaries, R.D.1., Paparoa, Nth Auckland
Tel/Fax (09) 431-7348

AUCKLAND
Brian Alexander
Woodhaugh Apiaries, R.D.3.,
Kaukapapa
Tel. (09) 420-5028
Shaun Cranfield, Bee Laboratories,
Clarks Beach Road, R.D. 4., Pukekohe
Tel. (09) 232-0153

WAIKATO
Bryan Clements
8 Short Street, Kihikihi
Tel. (07) 871-4709
Fax (07) 871-8885
Tony Lorimer
'Kahurangi-o-Papa', R.D. 3., Hamilton
Tel. (07) 856-9625
Fax (07) 856-9241

BAY OF PLENTY
Dale Gifford
P.O. Box 225, Te Puke
Tel. (07) 533-1419
Fax (07) 533-1118

Berndatte Cranshaw
876 Beach Road, Papamoa, Tauranga
Tel. (07) 542-1390
Fax (07) 575-9866

HAWKE'S BAY
Colin McLean
36 Holyrood Street, Greenmeadows,
Napier.
Tel. (06) 836-7199
Ron Morison
6 Totara Street, Taradale
Tel (06) 844-9493

POVERTY BAY
Peter Burt
27 Murphy Road, Wainui,
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Tel. (06) 868-4771
Barry Foster
695 Aberdeen Road, Gisborne
Tel. (06) 867-4591
Both on Fax (06) 867-4591

SOUTHERN NORTH ISLAND
Rob Johnson
Wheelan Road, R.D. 1., Levin
Tel. (06) 368-1325
Frank Lindsay
26 Cunliffe Street, Johnsonville,
Wellington 6004
Tel/Fax (04) 478-3367

SOUTH ISLAND

NELSON
R.C.F. Lambie
Anatoki Apiaries, Long Plain Road,
Takaka
Tel (03) 525-8322
Ian Paterson
Tapu Bay, R.D. 2., Motueka
Tel. (03) 527-8070

MARLBOROUGH
Will Trollope
Box 28, Tua Marina, Blenheim
Tel (03) 570-5633
Rachael Hamilton
8a Mowat Street, Blenheim
Tel. (03) 578-6523

WEST COAST
John Glasson
34 Shakespeare Road, Blackball,
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Tel/Fax (03) 768-4793
Sandy Richardson
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Tel. (03) 732-3724

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43 Princess St, Waikari, Canterbury
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SOUTH CANTERBURY
Nigel Parish
Goodwin Road, Hilton R.D. 25., Temuka
Phone (03) 615-9261
Noel Trezise
Woodbury Road, R.D. 21., Geraldine
Tel. (03) 693-9771

OTAGO
Gavin McKenzie
C/- Telford Rural Polytechnic,
Private Bag, Balclutha (South Otago)
Tel/Fax (03) 418-2870
Bill McKnight
42 Parsonage Road, Lawrence, Otago
Tel. (03) 485-9268

NORTH OTAGO
R.B. Rawson
23 Aln Street, Oamaru
Tel. (03) 434-5242
Algie Lawrence
11 Main Street, Weston, Oamaru
Tel/Fax (03) 434-5476

SOUTHLAND
Shaun Lawlor
C/- 100 Kakapo Street, Gore
Tel/Fax (03) 208-3422
Ross Ward
P.O. Box 47, Gore.
Tel/Fax (03) 208-9787

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President's Address — NBA Conference 1995

Introduction

When I was elected President of the National Beekeepers Association last July, I felt an immediate affinity to the group of NBA Presidents of years past. I believe that an understanding of our organisation's history can help to prepare us for the issues that face our organisation today. To that end, I will be using some comments made to NBA Conferences of our past in my President's address today.

The NBA is not new to Christchurch. Since 1938, we have held five conferences here prior to this one. We came here in 1945, 50 years ago to the very day, in fact. Meetings were held in the Council Chambers, just down the road from where we sit today. Before the end of Conference seven inches of snow had fallen in the city. Following Conference 20 visitors hired a bus for a visit to the new honey house of Tom Penrose at Southbridge, who had built up the business and his 300 hives over the previous ten years.

The Department of Agriculture noted that "It is the policy of the Department to destroy all diseased hives which are not under proper control by competent beekeepers." Another remit called for importations of queen bees to be confined to Italian strains under the control of the Department of Agriculture. A new levy system was adopted: 5/- for every 30 hives or part thereof, with maximum levy at 450 hives. South Auckland branch moved "That no Editorial articles be published in the Association Journal." It was lost.

The world has changed a lot since that conference, even though some of the issues have a ring of familiarity to them.

In 1953, Mr ED Williams said "As was the case when the Annual Report was presented last year, positive results of concentrated efforts made during the year ... have been disappointingly small."

There have been no great leaps forward during the past year. Fortunately, there have been no major setbacks, either. When I was preparing this address, one former president's address to conference had a particular ring of truth to it for me.

In 1962 Mr Jim Barber said "It is NOT my pleasure to present to you this report of your Association's past year. Rather it is a duty which I am called upon to perform. There has been nothing exceptional about this last year. Nothing, that is, except the uniquely new and challenging problems which have arisen this year and will continue to appear in each future year, coupling with the continuing problems of the past which, all in all, are the very reasons for the Association's existence."

The Executive has met five times during the year and dealt with an amazing range of issues. I believe that the NBA has been well served by the work that has been done, while recognising that unanimity on all but the most simplistic of issues is not very likely. In 1950 the Hon Keith Holyoake opened Conference with the words: "It is not for the good of the industry that we should all hold the same views, but that majority decision must prevail."

Commodity Levies

It seems to me that we have hung on the verge of conducting a ballot to gauge support for a new levy system for the entire year. I am painfully aware of the various dates for the ballot that have been provided to you, and regret deeply our inability to make more noticeable progress in this regard.

Though it is of little solace, we are not the only industry that has been stymied by a lack of timely, consistent and reliable policy advice on the use of the Commodity Levies Act. Recent comments refer to 'the playing field being shifted'. One industry was forced to conduct a second ballot because of poor advice received prior to their first. I have a lot of sympathy with that organisation — the abilities of its leaders and the credibility of the association in the eyes of its membership would surely be damaged.

The last advice the NBA received regarding our own levy intentions was that they did not think bees were a leviable commodity, and that apiary sites was not a suitable basis for the levy. Those bridges had been crossed over six months ago. This does not sound *at all* like the empowering legislation that it was made out to be. I feel we are being impeded in expressing our industry's desire for a levy.

I will reiterate what I perceive as our intentions. We want a levy that is fair, practical and simple. Our industry produces a wide variety of goods and services. I believe the levy should apply to all people who keep bees, whether for honey, pollination services, queen and package production or whatever. Unlike most other primary production industries, the hobbyist element is an integral part of our career development and training 'pathway', as well as being closely involved with our disease and marketing concerns. The NBA does represent the hobbyist interests; the same cannot be said for fruitgrowers or poultry or the like.

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Front Cover

We had so many good photographs of various aspects of conference in Christchurch last month that we thought we should bring you a sample of those things that happened. The photographs are kindly supplied by Mary Ann Lindsay and from my camera ... the honey display was particularly well done with many and various honeys on display from all over New Zealand. Under Secretary Ross Meurant is seen receiving his gift of "Bee products" ... The President Nick Wallingford presenting an award to "Honey & Herbs" of Auckland, to Graham Cammell who received it on their behalf. Cliff Van Eaton and Murray Reid presenting their report to conference. Reg Garters, GM of NZIM Canterbury in full swing — a popular presenter during the seminar sessions on goals and goal setting. A group of happy medieval banqueters — The Eckroyds, The Taiaroas and Peter Lyttle at rear.

Labelling honey products

Summary based on the New Zealand Food Regulations 1984, current to the 10th Amendment.
Public Health Service
Healthlink South, P.O. Box 1475,
Christchurch.
Phone (03) 379-9480
by Sue McEwan

THE BASICS
what you must have on the label

1. The common name — or a description of the principal ingredients.

"Honey" — no problem! However "floral blend" or "creamed clover" without "honey" or use of just a brand name and the variety is not sufficient.

If a floral variety of honey is named it must represent the product accurately.

The terms (nouns) must be found in an English dictionary of repute.

2. The nett weight or volume or the number of contents — whichever measurement is more appropriate, e.g. liquid honey packed in bottles a volume may be more suitable.

3. Name and address — The trading name and business address of the manufacturer, seller, packer, or the owner of the rights, the agent of the food is required.

The address must include the full street, suburb or other locality, town or city.

A P.O. Box number cannot be used for the address.

e.g. Happy Hive Honey Ltd,
25 Bush Road, Fernleigh,
Rangiora.

not

Happy Hive Honey Ltd, P.O. Box 42, Rangiora.

4. Ingredient list — As honey is a single ingredient food it is **exempt** from providing an ingredient list.

Industrial honey (with water added) must declare both honey and water.

Honey products e.g. spreads with fruit or nuts or honey based confectionery, require an ingredient list with all the ingredients listed in descending order.

Special rules apply when an ingredient is a compound food (has more than one ingredient). If any food additives are used the additive class name must be declared in the appropriate order followed by the additive name and or the "E" code number.

e.g. Thickener (Guar gum, 412)
or Thickener (Guar gum) or Thickener (412)

The Optional Statements — sometimes required or your choice

1. Nutritional claims

When a claim is made about a nutrient or energy of a food either on a label or in an advertisement the label of that food is required to have a nutritional statement.

Nutritional information can be provided if no claim is made on a label or in advertising.

Nutritional information must be presented in a standard format: The information titled "Nutrition statement" or words of similar meaning.

The Energy in kilojoules (kJ) must be declared first, followed by Carbohydrate, Protein and Fat (any order) per 100g and per serving, followed by any other nutrient claimed about per 100g and per serving.

The serving size must be specified, and the correct measurements and names must be used, e.g; kJ not calories, correct name for vitamins, some measures in mg some in g.

Typical standard layout see insert, information taken from the Concise New Zealand Food Compositional Tables, 1993.

NUTRITION INFORMATION		
21g serving = 1 tablespoon	**per 100g**	**per 21g**
Energy (kJ)	**1210**	**253**
Fat (g)	**trace**	**trace**
Carbohydrate (g)	**76.4**	**16**
Protein (g)	**0.4**	**0.1**

Nutritional claims are divided into three groups;

(a) those that relate to foods intrinsically (naturally) high or low in particular nutrients or energy: the claims must be about the class of food not a specific brand. e.g. Honey is a high energy food.

(b) those that relate to foods modified in some way — must have a third more or less of the nutrient than a named counterpart.

— Compositional criteria to meet.

(c) claims about other properties;

(i) weight loss properties — unqualified use of light, lite, slim, trim — all mean "diet". The food must meet strict criteria for low energy foods.

(ii) Gluten free claims — only for cereal products.

(iii) "unsweetened", "sugarfree", "no sugar added" — must meet certain conditions e.g. no sugars in product, no artificial sweeteners, no sugar alcohols or carbohydrate sweeteners added — depends on the particular claim.

Before a claim can be made compositional requirements of the food must be met these are set out in the Food Regulations 1984 13A-13D.

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2. Use of term PURE — only to be used on single ingredient foods — must contain no additives.

3. Recipes or pictures — usually need the term "serving suggestion" or "recipe" adjacent.

4. Datemarks — required only on foods with a shelf-life of less than 90 days. Optional on other products with longer shelf-life. Use by, Packed on, or Best before, plus storage/shelf-life statements.

Closed date marks are batch numbers, or codes that the manufacturer can identify — relate to production records. Currently not required — These are very useful for products with a long-term shelf-life for stock rotation or in a recall situation.

The Do Nots —

Therapeutic claims — not permitted on food products e.g. traditional remedy for sore throats, antibiotic...,

False or misleading statements — e.g. misrepresenting variety of honey, by name or using incorrect floral pictures. Using **"Health"** in name of the food or associated with the name of food.

Negative statements — e.g. "no additives" "no colour" honey is not permitted to contain these additives so these claims cannot be made.

Claiming one carbohydrate sweetener better than any other.

Check list:

Statement	Where on label	*Minimum size of print
Common name	Principal display panel	3mm
Nett weight	Principal display panel	2mm
Both statements in same field of vision?		
Name and address	anywhere on label	1.5mm
Full street not P.O. Box		
Ingredient list	anywhere on label	1.5mm
Are all ingredients shown		
All additives declared correctly		
Nutritional info	anywhere on label	1.5mm
100g and per serving		
Serving size specified		
Does it state "Nutritional information"		
Datemark	anywhere on label	3mm
Shelf-life/storage instruction	anywhere on label	1.5mm
Negative claims used, is additive permitted in this food?		
Pictures/recipes — "serving suggestion/recipe"?		
Is each required statement in uniform style/colour/size print, easy to read?		
Is background uniform colour, is there a good contrast?		
Is label clear to read and all required statements in English?		
Is label securely attached?		

* Size of print relates to the height of the smallest letters the "x" height.

Continued from page 3

"It is not realised, by many beekeepers the importance of maintaining a strong organisation to represent the industry in all matters requiring an approach to the Government." Mr TS Winter said that to a conference back in 1954.

I can only report to you at this time that your Executive will continue down the arduous path provided by the Commodity Levies Act. We have no real alternative.

Biosecurity

In one of the more positive and 'planned' operations, our organisation is progressing steadily to protect our future regarding AFB. I sincerely congratulate Mr Terry Gavin and the members of the Disease Control Committee on the work done in the past year. Their activities are widely recognised not only within our industry but by many others as being of the highest quality — their preparation, presentation and methods have been considered, consultative and constructive.

"Government has made it increasingly clear to us over recent times that we cannot expect unlimited services out of the public purse and that many important projects must be undertaken by ourselves if we consider them important." Mr Harry Cloake said that back in 1964.

Market Access

Progress toward better market access for our products has been slow but certainly in the right direction during the past year. I would like to extend the appreciation of the industry to Mr Mervyn Cloake and members of the Export Certification Committee, without whom this could well not be the case.

For the first time in several years, exporters of queen and packages into North America had a relatively free run. After several seasons of disruption and manipulation, we were allowed to trans-ship bees through Hawaii. This permission was not without a cost. In order to convince Hawaiian regulatory personnel of our pest and disease status, as well as our clear intention to make the 'play fair', the NBA hosted two officials immediately prior to the shipping season. I believe that this visit may well have marked the turning point for us. I indicate clearly that New Zealand beekeepers have very sound arguments to obtain market access to the US, and we will be progressing this issue in spite of the protectionism and naivety expressed by some American beekeepers. This is the real world of globalisation and GATT. I think it holds a number of promises for us.

Similarly, the shipping season for packages and bees into Korea was prefaced by cost to the NBA. Mr Mervyn Cloake and Dr Jim Edwards travelled to Korea at short notice to press our case for a change to conditions as they applied to New Zealand. Perhaps more important than the improvements negotiated was the goodwill and the intent to allow progress toward a bilateral access agreement with Korea.

Marketing

The Marketing Committee, headed by Mr Allen McCaw, has again kept a high profile within and outside of our industry. Those of you who know me well know that I am a keen believer in measurable progress against plan, in the monitoring of outputs rather than outcomes. Marketing is always a difficult one in this regard, as near spontaneous action and reaction is required. I believe we are now at a stage that most of the preparation work is well bedded in. I look forward to the future work of the Marketing Committee, which I believe is working in an accountable and effective manner to express the requirements of our industry. Again, a report by the committee will precede consideration of remits related to marketing.

Conclusion

The National Beekeepers Association has been more effective than many organisations of greater size. I believe that this is in part because of a relatively high degree of individual involvement in the association. If I have one real desire for the next few years, it would be that we maintain our focus on planning activities, ensuring that *as an organisation* we clearly define the things the NBA can and should do.

In 1953 the Hon Keith Holyoake said: "I know it is common thing to say, 'We are at a crossroads.' We can say that at any time, as we always seem to be at the crossroads. I wish we were getting along the highway a little more." I do not expect the NBA to make categorical leaps forward. I do, however, want to ensure that the movement is in the right direction, and at a rate the industry can afford.

I would like to thank all members for their support for the NBA during the past year. I would particularly thank the Vice-President Richard Bensemann for his assistance during this year. I would thank the Executive for the work they undertook and their support and co-operation. I would like to thank Mr Harry Brown for his work as Executive Secretary.

Finally I would like to thank my family who have shared me with the industry during this past year. When told I would be away for this week, my five year old asked if I would be going to growl at the beekeepers rather than her. I hope that will not be necessary!

I look forward to the coming year for the NBA. We have a sound and successful organisation. We have market opportunities and awareness. We have a clear understanding of our biosecurity requirements.

In 1954 Mr TS Winter said "Make this a real working conference of fair comment and discussion of your problems, and when decisions are taken, get in behind your Executive and assist them to implement your wishes as far as possible.

INVITATION

Let me warmly confirm that *The New Zealand Bee Keeper* welcomes articles and pictures, of interest to our wide range of readers, from all sources. The magazine should be of interest right across the board and not only to one sector. Please let me have your contributions. If you have any ideas for further enhancing your magazine then please let me have this too ...

Ron Rowe

Marketing

Conference a Winner

Congratulations to the Canterbury Beekeepers Branch for an excellent conference. Along with a lot of other people, I thoroughly enjoyed the eclectic mix of information that was provided on the seminar day. There was something for everyone and every one was enjoyable. I particularly enjoyed the last two speakers of course. To have a chef waxing lyrical about the organoleptic values of New Zealand's honeys, immediately followed by a scientist waxing lyrical about the profound nutraceutical and therapeutic potential values of honey, to me, summed up what the potential for New Zealand honeys, both within the domestic market and overseas.

Marketing Levy Increase Supported by Conference

I appreciated the industry's support of the strategies that the marketing committee has undertaken. The solid decision to recommend to your executive that the amount available to marketing activities should be increased, shows that a lot of people appreciate that we are moving in the right direction.

In the long term we will have an influence to the good for New Zealand's beekeepers,

I say long term of course because you can't change the profit base of an industry overnight. There are so many variables that can affect a beekeeper's income; the international honey price and of course the New Zealand domestic production, that it would be wrong for marketing to take all of the credit if things are going well. Equally, it would be wrong for marketing to get all the blame if in one particular year, things did not improve at the rate of expectation.

If the executive approves the recommendation the increased funds doesn't mean that we have to create new activities, but in effect allows us to build on these activities that have already proven successful. It means we can do more of what we have already shown can work to the industry's advantage.

The Ongoing Issue of Promoting Varietal Honeys

I noticed that a number of people are still concerned about whether our strategies are helping the basic blends and I'd like to use this column to explain what we're doing and why.

Until recently beekeepers seemed to produce either good quality clover honey, usually creamed, or "blends". Blends were difficult to quit and never got the money of a good clover ... blends had few redeeming values and were basically sold for what people could get. They were inherently "inferior" as far as beekeepers thought the market was concerned, and they got priced accordingly.

Of course if the marketing activities could overnight change the perception of the value of blends and have blends earning as much as god quality clover, then everyone would be thrilled. But it doesn't quite work that way.

If we are to change the attitude, to change the pricing position of blends, we have to go through a staging process.

The first stage is to in effect "take the blends apart" and educate consumers to realise that there are New Zealand honeys plural. To do that we have to concentrate on the mono-floral varieties.

Having done that we can then start to promote the concept of sophisticated blends, is that mono-floral varieties are great, but skilled blends of those varietal can be even better.

Once we do that, then it's up to the beekeepers to market accordingly. Already we are seeing beekeepers putting out blends and naming the dominant nectar sources in those blends.

They are starting to create the opportunity to get an increased margin for themselves.

Do be aware that if you are going to successfully market your product as being different, then you are going to have to put a bit of investment into understanding the differences, to knowing what honeys can taste like, and start exploiting the natural nectar mixes in your catchment area in a positive and exciting way.

Manufacturing Musk

I don't know who the heck invented the words "manufacturing grade honey", but could someone please write or fax to me just what the definition of "manufacturing grade" is? It's an appalling term, I object to those words being used. If anything helps to drag down the price of honey and turn it into a bottom price, discount-driven profit-riven commodity product, it's calling it "manufacturing grade".

Every beekeeper and every packer should object to it and when asked to supply a specification, should name the dominant nectar sources and should cease as of now, using the words "manufacturing grade".

(That little bit of passion from me there comes from a comment made to me by a beekeeper at conference; and I thought it was an excellent comment and so I have passed it on with all of the vigour with which it was delivered to me).

Bred for the Job

At conference I suggested that beekeepers have to start thinking of vertical integration, of developing strategic alliances with either other beekeepers, or packers or members of the distribution channel. BUT it's important of course to keep that advice in perspective. Some people are very skilled at being beekeepers. They understand the husbandry, or I suppose in this day and age, I should add, midwifery, of being a good keeper of live animals; but that may be what they should concentrate on, and stay with.

Those beekeeping skills don't necessarily mean that they will also be good at developing strategies for, and marketing/selling a consumer product and so on. So please, don't assume that your only future from my comment at conference, is the start to become a Jack of All Trades, it's not necessarily so.

In fact I read a very good article recently "What Makes a Good Salesman?"

I've always believed that salespeople were born and not made but a lot of industries have tried to prove that wasn't the case by spending a fortune on training people who eventually turned out to be inappropriate.

So what makes a good salesperson? Two things. They must have empathy and ego-drive. Empathy is the ability to feel as the other fellow does in order to be able to sell them a product or a

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service. Having empathy doesn't necessarily mean being sympathetic (you can know how the other person feels without agreeing with them). The important thing is that you know what they are feeling.

The second necessary feature is ego-drive, the need to conquer, the need to want to make a sale, the fact that you get your buzz from getting the sale.

Those two things together, empathy and ego-drive, are what makes a good salesperson. If you don't have them, stay out of the marketplace and be grateful that it might only cost between 10% and 50% for someone else to do it for you.

Hey there, Manuka Producers

We're about to undergo a very, very exciting second round of research on manuka honey. Dr Peter Molan (of MBE this year, fame!), is ready to run a set of trials. Indications from previous trials are that the results will be very positive.

However, we can't afford the full cost of the project if it includes the supply of manuka honey. If you are a producer of active manuka honey and if you're prepared and able, to supply active manuka for the trials, would you please contact me urgently, and I mean, now. Our fax number is (03) 577-8429.

If you can donate some honey, in return you will be acknowledged as one of the companies that supplied the honey we used during the trials. If the trials are successful, that's incredible value for you. If they're not, well, we tried, we gave it our best shot.

I can't know who all the people are producing active manuka honey, I have to use the *Bee Keeper* magazine as a conduit for the request, so this is the first and last time, please get in touch with me as soon as you can.

NZ Honey Display Kit in Switzerland

Our thanks to Ben Rawnsley who is going to Apimondia in Europe. Ben is taking the New Zealand Honey display with him and it can't help but be of value to all beekeepers that it is being shown in an international forum like that.

New Zealand Honey Innovation Awards

Three people received Honey Innovation Awards this year.

NBA President Nick Wallingford showing the Award Certificates.

They were: Jean Coombes for her honey-based skin care products; Country Fare Bakery of Hamilton for their marvellous honey breads and Honey & Herbs of Auckland.

Honey & Herbs then went on to win the 1995 Honey Innovation Awards Trophy for Most Innovative Use of Honey.

Graham Cammell, the Read's honey supplier accepted the trophy on behalf of the Chas and Pam Reads of Honey & Herbs as they were off on a trade mission to the USA.

Propolis, Propolis, Wherefore Art Thou, Propolis?

I have been approached by an international bank for a list of contacts for companies that can supply the raw unprocessed or processed propolis. With the best of intentions I have given them the names of those people I could find out about, but if you are in the propolis selling business, please send me details of your company so that I can pass it on in the event of another enquiry.

The Marketing Committee has a very firm policy on trade enquiries. The first is that we must, for the sake of the industry, help an enquirer where possible. We can't just ignore the request and put it in the "too hard" bin.

Secondly, we must give every beekeeper the opportunity to be involved. All we can do in that regard is to give the enquirer the names of people we know about. So if you don't tell us, we can't put you in the opportunity circle.

That's all for this month. My thanks to quite a few people who came up to me at conference, introduced themselves, and said they enjoyed the marketing column.

Regards Bill Floyd
Marketing Committee

Trials may result in honey remedy revival

With acknowledgement to Charles Elder
Health Reporter — Waikato Times

Patients hoping to beat infections could in future be heading for the kitchen cupboard rather than the bathroom cabinet.

Trials are under way at Waikato Hospital to assess the antiseptic properties of honey on patient infections following lengthy research at Waikato University.

Positive results could see a back-to-the-past revival of the folk remedy used for thousands of years before antibiotics entered the medical scene in the 1940s.

University associate biochemistry professor Peter Molan, who has spent more than 15 years studying the healing properties of honey, was last month awarded an MBE in the Queen's Birthday honours for his work.

Waikato Hospital clinicians are now helping take his research a step further by treating patients with skin ulcers with honey - particularly manuka honey which has strong antibacterial properties.

Studies show honey inhibits bacteria growth, has a moist consistency to aid the healing of wounds and a high sugar content which reduces the availability of water in which micro-organisms can breed.

Waikato Hospital dermatology consultant Marius Rademaker said the natural cure could help get around problems such as patient allergies to treatments and the increasing emergence of antibiotic-resistant bacteria.

He said the pilot study, which could lead to full clinical trials, was going well.

"Honey has all the hallmarks of a wonderful dressing," he said.

Dr Molan said trials last year into the effects of honey on stomach ulcers failed to reach any conclusions because of the low number of patients treated.

Continued on page 18

American Foulbrood infections or food for thought

by Mark Goodwin and Heather Haine
Hort Research
Ruakura Research Centre
Private Bag 3123
Hamilton

Development of AFB Infections

Probably the first thing most of us do when we find that one of our hives has American Foulbrood disease is to wonder where the disease came from. We try to remember what we might have done to spread the disease. We do however tend to not look back far enough.

We have now done a number of trials on infecting colonies with AFB disease. The first thing that became apparent was that we were not very good at it, and the second was we had to wait around for a long time to find out if we had been successful. If we add up all our trials, we have fed *Bacillus larvae* spores, the causative agent of American foulbrood, to 250 hives over four years. Of these, only 39 hives (16%) developed clinical American foulbrood symptoms. All these trials were conducted on our Research Station just out of Hamilton where we manage another hundred or so hives. These hives were in close proximity (within 2km) to the hives that are being fed spores. Some of the trials required diseased hives to be kept for considerable lengths of time. Interestingly, throughout this time we have never had a case of AFB in any of the hives that were not part of the experiments. It must, however, be noted that we did not swap equipment between the experimental colonies and our other hives, and we did not allow colonies to be robbed out.

It is interesting to look at how long the disease symptoms took to develop when we were successful in spreading the disease (Table 1). All hives had a very careful full frame check every month after the spores were introduced. The average time between a larvae being fed spores and it starting to exhibit clinical AFB disease symptoms is about 12.5 days. This is, therefore, the earliest that an infection can be detected.

Table 1. The length of time after spores were fed to colonies that they first developed AFB disease symptoms.

Months after spores were fed	Percent developing symptoms
1	19
2	30
3	11
4	14
5	11
6	6
>6	8

However, most colonies need considerably longer periods of time before they start developing disease symptoms. It is interesting to consider this in the terms of normal beekeeping management.

If the infection is going to come from the honey supers that you are going to put on hives this spring (1995), the first inspection after this time will probably be when the honey supers come off in the autumn (1996). Assuming a full brood check is done at this time, it should locate about 85% of the AFB hives. However, if you only check three brood frames when you remove the honey supers or when you winter down your hives you would locate less than 60% of the AFB hives. The other 40% of AFB hives will turn up the following spring (1996) and you will probably still be finding AFB hives, that have resulted from the honey supers, in autumn 1997.

So, when you find an AFB hive you might have to consider what you have done not only last month but also one or two years ago. Likewise if you find an AFB hive in the spring it might be worth wondering what happened to the honey super you took off it the previous autumn, and which clean hive you are going to put it on.

Moving AFB hives

Now once you find an AFB hive, what should you do next? According to the Apiaries Act, colonies found to have AFB disease must be destroyed forthwith. When the entrance to a diseased hive is closed so that it can either be destroyed at the apiary site or removed to another location to be destroyed, this is usually done when the field bees are not flying. Otherwise, the field bees returning to their hive will fly into the neighbouring colonies, possibly spreading the disease. Because AFB colonies are usually found during the daytime, and closed up to be destroyed at night, this normally means a second trip to the apiary site. This can cause problems where the apiary is a long way from home. Even though it is a legal requirement to destroy these hives 'forthwith', the necessity for a trip means that the destruction of AFB hives is sometimes delayed. Delays in excess of a month are relatively common, and we have recorded delays by some beekeepers in excess of a year.

Other than being in breach of the Apiaries Act, there are inherent risks involved in delaying the destruction of AFB hives. Even if it is a light infection, which most are when found, the disease may progress rapidly and thus pose a much larger risk before the colony is removed. The hive might also be knocked over, or the colony weaken to such an extent that it is robbed by other bees.

Research Project

The purpose of this research project was to determine whether AFB colonies could be removed and destroyed during the daytime, and thus eliminate the delays. For this investigation, we were only interested in colonies with low level infections (i.e. less than 50 larvae exhibiting clinical AFB symptoms). From earlier trials we had demonstrated that field bees from these types of hives carry relatively few spores compared with other bees from the hive.

Pairs of colonies were set up so they were touching with their entrances facing the same way. One of the colonies had AFB while the other colony in the pair was uninfected at the start of the trial. The colonies remained together for several days so they were foraging normally. The AFB colony was then blocked up between 1 and 3pm during a sunny day, so that most of the field bees were left behind. This is probably the worst time to move an AFB colony because of the numbers of bees flying. When the AFB colony was removed, most of the field bees flew into the second colony in the pair. This was repeated with 25 pairs of colonies. The uninfected colony in each pair was followed for a year to determine whether they would develop AFB disease.

None of these colonies broke down with AFB which suggests that a colony with a light AFB infection can be shifted at any time of the day with little risk of cross infection.

If an AFB colony is found it should be picked up when the bees are not flying, within a day or two of it being found. However, if it becomes a choice between coming back at a much later date or picking it up and destroying it when it is found even though the bees are flying, it is probably best to remove it there and then. Whether it is safe to do this with heavily infected colonies is unknown.

Library News

Annual report to conference 1995, Christchurch

Going by the amount paid for postage use of the library increased by about 40% during 1994 and this trend seems to continue at present.

Video tapes of which we now have 20 different ones, are popular. Some extra copies have been made of those used frequently, using the good offices of Mr Gavin McKenzie of Telford Polytechnic.

Mrs Louise Donuthorne, an Auckland amateur beekeeper, Telford student and part-time bookbinder has offered her expertise in restoring books to the library. The offer has been gratefully accepted and the good lady has already done a marvellous job on one of our older and valuable items.

Inconvenience was caused by a few borrowers by keeping material far too long and by not responding to repeated reminders.

One video tape was lost in the mail. I suspect that more of the blame rested with the borrower (no notification of change of address) than with NZ Post. A claim for compensation was lodged and initially turned down but through the good endeavours of our Executive secretary NZ Post relented and has paid up. I am still trying to replace this popular tape on queen rearing.

The number of books, papers etc., keeps growing at a modest rate as may be gleaned from Library News in the *New Zealand Bee Keeper.*

A review of the catalogue will, I hope, be completed this year.

Some further additions to the video collection are expected through co-operation with IBRA.

A disease education kit is being assembled and should be available to borrowers shortly. They are very good laser copies, mounted and laminated, made from a set of large photographs borrowed from Mr David McMillan, Apiary consultant, Invermay. They clearly and extensively depict the appearance of endemic and some exotic bee diseases. Use of it will be of considerable value to branches and clubs organising disease education meetings. This kit did not come cheap but it will be money well spent if it helps to rid this country of AFB.

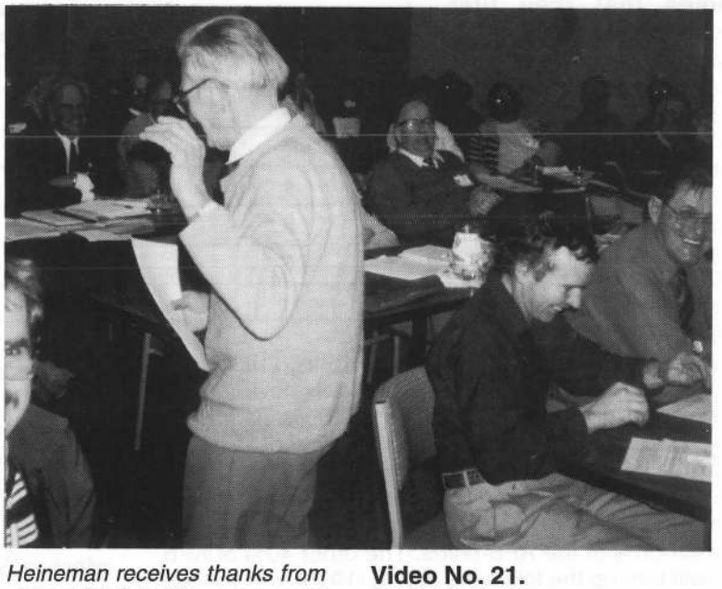
We hope to move house in the near future. The library comes with us and will be housed at 3 Jura Street, Milton. Postal address for the library will be the same as at present, also the telephone number will hopefully stay unchanged. There is of course an open invitation to any beekeeper passing through Milton to call in to have a browse through the collection.

John Heineman
Honorary Librarian

I. Hopkins.
Bee Culture, New Zealand Department of Agriculture Bulletin No. 5, 1907, 35pp, New Zealand. Thank you Brian Clements for this little gem.

Lee Brian.
Mites, bees and plagues that are and might be, 8pp, 1995, Australia. Dr Dennis Anderson thoughtfully passed on to the library this very topical article about the spread of the Asian hive bee (Apis cerarna), Varroa and the Asian mite (Tropilaelaps clareae) from Irian Jaya into Papua New Guinea, spelling disaster for the PNG beekeeping industry and a threat to our neighbours across the Tasman. Read it, it contains a very clear warning.

Brown R.
Beehive Product Bible, 1993, 225pp, USA. Purchased. Holds a lot of info re the medicinal, antibacterial, nutritious and cosmetic value of the hive products and about what is called the "apiarian Lifestyle".



John Heineman receives thanks from Conference.

NBA.
National Pest Management Strategy — American Foulbrood Eradication. Version 6.0 (5/95), 82pp.

Video No. 21.
American Foulbrood — TV. 1 Ag. Tech 2000, Oct.1994, 5½ min. A short introduction to New Zealand's worst bee disease, aimed at the general public with Dr Mark Goodwin and Nick Wallingford. Loan fee $2.

Conference 95

It was certainly **come alive in 95** at the recent conference of the National Beekeepers Association and the conference of delegates held in Christchurch and hosted by the Canterbury branch of the NBA.

Three things stood out very markedly for me;

The first was the obvious effort and planning that had gone into the conference by **the Canterbury team so ably led by Tony Taiaroa and Brian Lancaster ...** this was a very well executed event! Well done the Canterbury team you did us and the beekeeping industry proud. The seminar day was of really good value and the speakers, over all, were extremely good. We will bring you details of the various presentations over the coming months, as space permits.

The second matter that stood out for me was the "goodwill" displayed by all. Given the ructions that had taken place prior to the conference from several quarters this could have been a conference with a fair degree of heat. All, and I mean all, should be commended for putting their cases well, and strongly, and for getting on with what this is all about ... "... creating the climate for excellence, enjoyment and profitability in beekeeping ..."

With a competent, quietly assertive, well versed chairperson you can be sure of people acknowledging the conference as being a good one, my third point ... The NBA President, Nick Wallingford must be given credit, where credit is due, for his handling of the business and the smooth running of the programme and the important place and role of the beekeepers, in that.

The remits and items of business will be printed in a future issue. Your delegates will no doubt be briefing your branch and club on the outcomes and the debate that took place.

The old adage that a picture is worth a thousand words hopefully is borne out by those we are able to reproduce in this issue. Each has a story of its own to tell ... may be someone who was there will tell you those stories ... who knows ...

Another year unfolds before us and as it does it is my pleasure to remind our readers that contributions are always sought from you ... an article ... a picture ... an anecdote ... this is your journal, it will always be as good as you make it ...

Ron Rowe — Editor

Capturing Conference in pictures

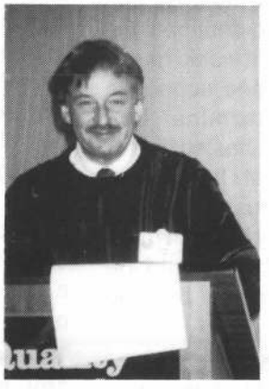
Continued over page

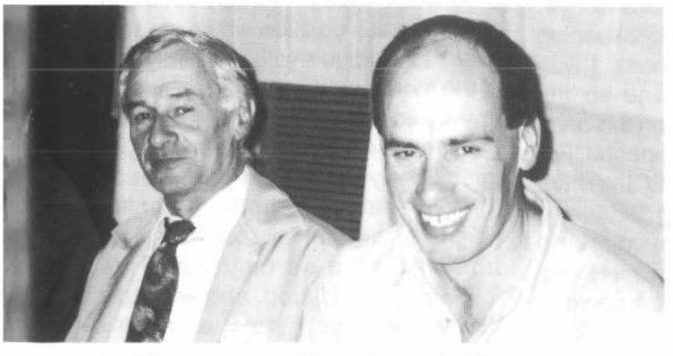
Capturing Confe

These pictures capture some of the speakers, discussions, the fu

rence In Pictures

n, the seriousness, and the expectations of conference attendees





Retirement out of beekeeping. Optimising the sale and investing for your future with minimal risk and maximum returns

by David Penrose

The famous American playwright, Tennessee Williams, wrote "It's bad enough to be poor when you are young, but to be poor when you are old is a disaster".

I hope that over the next 30 minutes I can stimulate some thought, make some suggestions, and perhaps answer some questions about this business of retirement as it affects us as beekeepers.

Before I begin I will define what I understand the word "RETIREMENT" to mean. I believe that it means that period at the end of one's working life when full-time employment is no longer necessary to sustain the lifestyle to which you have become to expect during your working years. In short, a time in your life when your financial demands are met by income without extra work on your part.

Being a beekeeper is a special occupation. You work continually with nature — endeavouring to maximise the blessings and minimise the disasters. If a beekeeper, after 30 years in the job tells you he has never really had a disaster, then he must be unique. The very spice of beekeeping is probably that unknown factor that keeps us all going. That factor that makes us philosophically say "next year" after a bad season. However it is of no use at all after working for all those years as a beekeeper if at the end of it you cannot enjoy at least some leisure in your latter years — you will have surely earnt it!

In a perfect world, planning for retirement should begin on the same day that you decide to become a commercial apiarist. In fact this probably never happens. I know that it didn't happen in my case. I was young, enthusiastic, ambitious and, at that point in time, I believed indestructible. In fact things that happened later in life proved that I certainly was not the latter! I think some things could have been easier if I had realised that I was eventually going to leave beekeeping and would need a considerable sum of money to support my wife and family in my retirement. In my early days the pushy life assurance man was my only tangible link with retirement. He made noises about leaving the "little woman" and the "wee ones" destitute.

The one thing that did make some sense was the fact that in those days much of the life premiums were tax deductible, and so together with the compulsory savings aspect I did take out what I considered, at the time, to be reasonably large whole of life policy.

What a joke, when 15 years later I decided to convert the policy from whole of life to endowment! By that stage inflation had so reduced the value of the policy that it would hardly buy a new car let alone support a family if anything terminal had happened to me. I must hasten to add, however, that from what I have heard from people in the industry, some of the cover offered today is much more focused and probably should be considered in any complete portfolio of investment.

Looking back I personally had an easy start in beekeeping. My father had really done most of the hard work in building up a successful beekeeping and honey packing business. I was able to build on this, and so my challenge was to expand on this base and in fact that is what happened. For the next 15 years I built the hive numbers up from 600 to 2400 and when I sold the honey packing operation to what was then the Honey Marketing Authority I was packing over 200 tons a year.

At this point in my career when I bought my father's business I came up against retirement for the first time. When my father decided to sell to me he planned his retirement carefully. He had purchased another home in the city some years before, and he had began to put some money aside as well. Because death duties were a major concern in those days he made sure that he predetermined his assets by selling to me on paper. This meant that I only had to find the interest each year, and this gave him a continuing income. It also meant that I had access to capital for expansion because he had left most of it in the business. By getting bigger it meant that I was more able to find the surplus money to finally pay this capital off.

Again, in my case, I decided at the age of 40 that it was going to be difficult to remain in active beekeeping because my lower back was causing me major problems. Also because honey production on the Canterbury Plains was becoming more difficult with the changing farming patterns, and the costs to produce this honey was beginning to rise out of proportion to the returns being obtained I decided to sell the business and shift to Christchurch. I did not consider that one of my sons should follow me by buying into the outfit, but rather that I would sell out and then eventually be able to help them all with access to capital to give them the same sort of a start that I had had, but in the career of their choice.

The year that I made the decision to sell had been a good one for production. This personally put me in a strong cash position which made it easier to arrange a sale. Probably one of the most important factors in exiting any business is timing. It would be most unwise to endeavour to sell out immediately following a bad season for two reasons. Firstly, potential purchases are mentally not in the right frame of mind as they would be following a good crop, and secondly the money supply is not as readily available. Time taken to plan leaving the industry is time well spent. Plan carefully how you are going to sell your final crop of honey and beeswax. For example, it has been known that quite substantial stocks of beeswax can be spread quite thinly over a few years, and so ease the immediate tax liability. This may not meet the IRD's letter of the law but don't forget that the year following your sale you will not have your normal expenses to offset

against your previous year's crop and so your tax liability could be quite horrendous. Make sure that you seek expert advice in this area, it could make a huge difference to what you have left for your retirement investment.

When it comes to the physical part of selling, most beekeeping businesses have to be split up to make a sale. Unless a potential buyer can be found, such as family or a long-term staff member who can be relied upon to protect your asset until it is paid off, then you will have no alternative to splitting it up, usually amongst neighbouring beekeepers. This process is normally fairly straight forward, but I must stress the need for a basic agreement of sale. I have, over the years, been asked to help in drawing up these contracts, and I believe that this is an area where perhaps the National Association could have a standard form which could be made available to members and they could use this as a starting point for a negotiated sale. Usually in these situations the buyer will need to split payments over a reasonable term. The term will vary of course but normally it is over three years. The purchase price is divided into three and the first payment is one third of the total on possession, the balance bearing interest at current rates, the total of which reduces as the subsequent payments are made. There are also clauses which spell out precisely what is being purchased and what happens in the case of disease occurring, in the year following the sale. Also it must be clear that nothing may be sold until it has been paid for in full. Because most lending institutions are not happy to take out a chattel security over beehives, most purchasers who do not have the cash must use this method of buying bees.

Because a lot of beekeepers, who live in rural locations, have built their homes adjacent to their sheds, when the time comes to sell they may find that they have some problems. Because of the amount of money involved in purchasing beehives and other related equipment, there is usually not enough left to also buy the house and sheds, so they may have to be sold separately if the vendor plans to move away from the area. When this happens the house can usually be sold for its market value but the sheds may have to be heavily discounted on their replacement value. An alternative to this is to lease your otherwise low value sheds to one of the incoming beekeepers, who may see an opportunity to do some contract extracting to offset his rental. This could be a very attractive option when compared to the alternatives.

Having made the decision to consider retirement as the end goal of your career in beekeeping, I would now like to become more specific and begin to discuss some of the ways in which this retirement can be achieved and still produce the standard of life which you have grown used to in your working years.

I must first make some comments so that what I will go onto say has relevance to today's costs and dollar values. This address is being given in July 1995, so what I say is relevant to today but because we will be discussing future income the figures used should relate to their purchasing power today and make sure that all investments have a built in inflation factor if possible.

What do you want for your retirement? You will want to own your own home and on today's costs this will probably be worth around $250,000. You will need at least one car more probably two, this would cost about $60,000. Being a Kiwi you will have a boat and maybe a holiday crib or caravan, cost of this around another $100,000. On top of this you will need to have an annual income of at least $50,000 before tax. To generate this kind of money you are going to require an investment of about $500,000. The total of these figures up to now is around $900,000 and I can see that by now, some of you are beginning to say — impossible!! But in fact with good forward planning it is not beyond most of you.

You must begin by identifying your needs and then putting in place those things which will allow you to achieve them. In the first instance make sure you are in an area that is not usually affected by drought, or if it is then irrigation is available. This irrigation is not necessarily the complete answer but at least it gives you a fighting chance! I know that these may sound like fairly dumb comments but when you realise that honey is only soil moisture which the bees gather by way of a flower then it stands to reason that if you are in an area which has a normally consistent rainfall of around 35 inches per year you stand a reasonable chance of getting good honey crops from pasture sources. If you can then maximise your returns by producing high value product such as quality comb honey or at the present time at least, manuka, or one of the other honeys which can find a ready niche market then you are well on the way to working "smarter" but not necessarily "harder". You must also determine at the outset the minimum number of hives that you must have to generate the kind of income that you will need to be able to save for your retirement income. This will involve obtaining the best local production advice you can get and then aiming to achieve that target number of hives as quickly as possible.

Once you are in business with say 1000 hives which you have purchased partly from your own savings and the rest from either family or vendor finance, then the first five years should be spent making your plant and hives freehold. Make sure of the assistance and advice that the Rural Bank can offer and make sure that you have the help of a good business advisor if for no other reason than to bounce ideas off.

I have always held the belief that investment for retirement should be based on ensuring that your CAPITAL sum is SAFE and that the returns are in line with about an eight to ten percent return over and above inflation. This means that your asset is making you a constant real gain.

With this philosophy in mind, after your production base is paid off, you should then begin to put aside say $250 per month into an investment account. Make this an auto payment and try not to touch it for two years.

This article was presented as an address to Conference and will be continued in the September issue of the *New Zealand Bee Keeper.*

Thank you David for a timely and informative reminder to us all...

Ed.

MAF Quality Management (MQM) Report to the Annual Conference of the National Beekeepers' Association of New Zealand, Christchurch 13-14 July 1995

1.0 Organisation and Personnel

Dr Stephen Ogden resigned during the year to take up a position with the Regulatory Authority. We have been able to secure the services of Dr Robert Rice as Apicultural Services Manager Lincoln. Robert and his father formerly owned and operated Rice's Aussie Bee Farm in Queensland where they were the largest producers of queen bees in the southern hemisphere.

2.0 Beekeeping Statistics

2.1 Beekeepers, Apiaries and Hives

There were 5409 registered beekeepers owning 293080 hives of bees as at 30 June 1995 (Table 1).

2.2 Honey Production

The total saleable crop was assessed at 8047 tonnes (27.5kg per hive) which is a significant decrease over the previous years record crop of 11819 tonnes (40.8kg per hive). The six year average is 8759 tonnes or 29.0kg per hive (Table 2).

3.0 Exotic Disease and Pest Response (EDPR) Capability

Training of MAF staff continued and further simulation exercises were held for Headquarters (HQ) personnel, as well as laboratory staff and Field Team Leaders. Systems and procedure manuals were accredited by the Regulatory Authority.

A major simulated exercise was held in Canterbury in September 1994 which involved an HQ, Field Team Leaders and Field Team Members. Beekeepers supported the exercise and acted as Field Team Members. Numerous visitors from the press, senior MAF management as well as politicians visited the HQ and were impressed by the commitment and professionalism shown by both MAF staff and beekeepers.

EDPR training and preparedness will be funded by government through the Regulatory Authority (RA) at least until 30 June 1996. However, under the Biosecurity Act, there is a requirement for interested parties to prepare.

Table 1 BEEKEEPER, APIARY AND HIVE STATISTICS FOR NZ APIARY DISTRICTS AS AT 30 JUNE 1995

Apiary Register Location	Beekeepers			Apiaries			Hives		
	1995	*1994*	*% Change*	*1995*	*1994*	*% Change*	*1995*	*1994*	*% Change*
Whangarei	1213	1225	- 1.0%	2898	2972	- 2.5%	29101	29848	- 2.5%
Hamilton	551	584	- 5.7%	2905	3100	- 6.3%	43742	43749	+0.0%
Tauranga	537	598	- 10.2%	3531	3696	- 4.5%	50631	50282	+0.7%
Palmerston North	1352	1358	- 0.4%	4011	3957	+1.4%	37245	35839	+3.9%
Blenheim	469	474	- 1.1%	2037	2083	- 2.2%	22679	21190	+7.0%
Lincoln	735	771	- 4.7%	5270	5315	- 0.8%	58861	58155	+1.2%
Invermay	552	555	- 0.5%	4112	4208	- 2.3%	50821	50812	+0.0%
TOTAL	5409	5565	- 2.8%	24764	25331	- 2.2%	293080	289875	+1.1%

Table 2 NEW ZEALAND HONEY PRODUCTION, IN TONNES AS AT 30 JUNE ANNUALLY

YEAR	Northland, Auckland, Hauraki Plains	Waikato, King Country, Taupo	Bay of Plenty, Coromandel, Poverty Bay	Hawkes Bay, Taranaki, Manawatu, Wairarapa	*NORTH ISLAND*	Marlborough, Nelson, Westland	Canterbury*, North Otago	South & Central Otago, Southland	*SOUTH ISLAND*	NEW ZEALAND	Yield per Hive (kgs)**
1990	660	1154	1296	894	4004	471	2774	1503	4748	8752	27.5
1991	668	1057	1470	811	4006	265	1965	1054	3284	7290	23.3
1992	1200	1068	998	1231	4497	650	2870	1543	5063	9560	31.4
1993	1033	811	958	577	3379	560	1611	1536	3707	7086	23.3
1994	1295	1946	1524	1442	6207	493	2883	2236	5612	11819	40.8
1995	354	962	1426	1200	3942	499	1685	1921	4105	8047	27.5
6 yr ave	868	1166	1279	1026	4339	490	2298	1632	4420	8759	29.0

* Includes honeydew

** Total estimated production available for extraction divided by total number of registered hives

Table 3 PERFORMANCE OF MQM INSPECTORS* NBA AFB DISEASE CONTROL PROGRAMME YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 1995

Apiary Register Location	MQM Staff	Contract Inspectors	Apiaries Inspected		Hives Inspected	AFB Found (% Inspected)	
			Target**	Completed (%)		Hives	Apiaries
Whangarei	3	4	118	126 (106.8%)	573	19 (3.3%)	12 (9.5%)
Hamilton	5	1	116	122 (105.2%)	788	25 (3.2%)	16 (13.1%)
Tauranga	3	1	140	147 (105.0%)	1632	222 (13.6%)	54 (36.7%)
Palmerston Nth	1	4	154	144 (93.5%)	906	100 (11.0%)	42 (29.2%)
Blenheim	3	0	79	81 (102.5%)	701	31 (4.4%)	15 (18.5%)
Lincoln	2	0	201	203 (101.0%)	1713	54 (3.2%)	22 (10.8%)
Invermay	5	0	171	170 (99.4%)	1176	55 (4.7%)	27 (15.9%)
TOTAL	**22**	**10**	**979**	**993 (101.4%)**	**7489 (7.5)*****	**506 (6.8%)**	**188 (18.9%)**
1993-94	**37**	**4**	**973**	**1004 (103.2%)**	**8170 (8.1)*****	**532 (6.5%)**	**166 (16.5%)**

* Includes beekeepers employed by MQM

** Based on programme target of 3.9% of apiaries per Apiary District (June 30, 1993 statistics); 1993-94 programme based on 3.9%.

*** Average hives per apiary (>6 hives/apiary required)

Table 4 PERFORMANCE OF VOLUNTEER INSPECTORS NBA AFB DISEASE CONTROL PROGRAMME YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 1995

NBA Branch	Warrants Issued	Warrants Used	Apiaries Inspected			Hives Inspected	AFB Found (% Inspected)	
			Target*	Completed (%)**			Hives	Apiaries
Far North	0	0	30	0	--	0	0 --	0 --
Northland	9	9	61	24	(39.3%)	155	8 (5.2%)	6 (25.0%)
Auckland	3	3	94	4	(4.3%)	36	4 (11.1%)	2 (50.0%)
Waikato	30	0	182	0	--	0	0 --	0 --
Bay of Plenty	25	19	146	146	(100.0%)	1016	74 (7.3%)	15 (10.3%)
Poverty Bay	6	6	73	70	(95.9%)	267	6 (2.2%)	5 (7.1%)
Hawkes Bay	14	14	61	36	(59.0%)	163	2 (1.2%)	2 (5.6%)
S'thern North Island	10	9	181	87	(48.1%)	230	32 (13.9%)	8 (9.2%)
Marlborough	9	7	44	44	(100.0%)	359	14 (3.9%)	6 (13.6%)
Nelson	15	6	55	38	(69.1%)	235	45 (19.1%)	3 (7.9%)
West Coast	4	3	25	21	(84.0%)	155	8 (5.2%)	5 (23.8%)
Canterbury	3	1	224	301	(100+%)***	1308	25 (1.9%)	13 (4.3%)
Sth Canterbury	11	10	90	74	(100+%)***	277	13 (4.7%)	10 (13.5%)
North Otago	0	0	56	0	--	0	0 --	0 --
Otago	6	6	138	16	(11.6%)	223	2 (0.9%)	1 (6.3%)
Southland	5	5	73	19	(26.0%)	234	25 (10.7%)	6 (31.6%)
TOTAL	**150**	**98**	**1533**	**880**	**(57.4%)**	**4658**	**258 (5.5%)**	**82 (9.3%)**
1993-94	**194**	**128**	**1522**	**867**	**(57.0%)**	**5257**	**192 (3.7%)**	**107 (12.3%)**

* Based on programme target of 6.1% of apiaries in Apiary Districts (June 30, 1993 statistics); 1993-94 programme based on 6.1%

**As reported to MQM by Branch Disease Control Coordinators

***South Canterbury branch assisted Canterbury branch EDPR exercise; combined totals more than exceeded individual targets for both branches.

management plans for exotic and endemic pests and diseases of concern. Preparation and management of these plans or Pest Management Strategies (PMS's) will be the responsibility of beekeepers unless they can persuade government to be a partner. This message was delivered to the conference in Tauranga and the same message continues to come from the Regulatory Authority.

4.0 Surveillance

The Honey Bee Exotic Disease Surveillance Programme is comprised of four parts; the apiaries register, hive sampling, management of the restricted areas and border protection.

4.1 Register

The maintenance of this Register (in the form of a computer database) is a legal requirement for the Government under the current Apiaries and Biosecurity Acts. The database relies on accurate statements of inspection provided by the beekeeper each spring. However once again, this year, around 50% of beekeepers failed to provide such statements of inspection by the deadline of 7 December.

4.2 Hive Sampling

In the past 12 months, MAF staff have inspected 338 apiaries for the presence of exotic bee diseases and taken samples for laboratory analysis for internal and external parasitic mites. In addition, 76 samples were taken for European foulbrood diagnosis and one sample was taken for Africanised honey bee analysis. Apiaries were sampled in at risk areas including sea and airports, garbage dumps and areas with a lot of international travellers. A further 542 samples of bees were tested for live bee exports at Invermay a part of the export certification programme. The samples were analysed for the presence of exotic internal and external parasitic mites. MAF Quality Management wished to thank the beekeepers for providing samples. No specimens of exotic disease pests were found and New Zealand continued to claim country freedom from a number of bee diseases. This is of considerable economic advantage to exporters of honey and live bees.

4.3 Quarantine Service

The beekeeping industry continues to have a high profile in the work of MAF's Quarantine Service with numerous consignments of honey and other bee products being intercepted at the border. Every opportunity was taken to bring the risk of importing honey and bees to the attention of the travelling public.

5.0 Export Certification

Considerable work, involving the industry, MAF Regulatory Authority (MAFRA) and MAF Quality Management (MQM) took place during the year to develop workable protocols and delivery systems to facilitate the export to develop workable protocols and delivery systems to facilitate the export of live bees to Korea, and to Canada via Honolulu. It was gratifying to MQM to see these systems working and exports proceeding to both these markets.

Further work will be necessary this year to maintain the impetus with the Korean Authorities for the development of a bilateral protocol which recognises New Zealand's disease free status. This will have to be driven by the beekeeping industry and MAFRA. Further work is also required to ensure that exporters of both bees and bee products retain access to the European markets with minimal compliance costs.

New agreements under the GATT and the setting up of the World Trade Organisation should enable exporters to market their products more easily as trade barriers come down. However this will not happen overnight, nor will it happen without effort on the part of the beekeeping industry, through the Export Committee of the Executive to maintain pressure on importing countries to justify their import requirements.

6.0 American Foulbrood and NBA AFB Control Programme

For the fourth successive beekeeping season, MAF Quality Management was contracted in 1994-95 to provide an AFB control programme for the NBA. The contract, which included a $5000 increase in expenditure compared to

Continued on page 18

Table 5 APIARIES AND HIVES WITH AMERICAN FOULBROOD FOUND DURING NBA DISEASE CONTROL PROGRAMME OR REPORTED TO MQM BY BEEKEEPERS TO 30 JUNE 1995 (1994 FIGURES IN BRACKETS)

MQM Apiary Register Location	Apiaries Found with AFB: By MQM Inspectors*	By Volunteer Inspectors**	Reported by Beekeepers	Totals	Hives Found with AFB: By MQM Inspectors	By Volunteer Inspectors	Reported by Beekeepers	Totals
Whangarei	12 (13)	8 (10)	75 (94)	95 (117)	19 (103)	12 (28)	150 (155)	181 (286)
Hamilton	16 (18)	0 (11)	135 (196)	151 (225)	25 (50)	0 (15)	234 (283)	259 (348)
Tauranga	54 (27)	20 (19)	101 (187)	175 (233)	222 (47)	80 (37)	199 (318)	501 (402)
Palmerston Nth	42 (27)	10 (8)	115 (62)	167 (97)	100 (65)	34 (10)	308 (86)	442 (161)
Blenheim	15 (19)	14 (18)	124 (140)	153 (177)	31 (51)	67 (32)	233 (460)	331 (543)
Lincoln	22 (30)	23 (33)	148 (197)	193 (260)	54 (93)	38 (57)	312 (355)	404 (505)
Invermay	27 (32)	7 (8)	84 (133)	118 (173)	55 (123)	27 (13)	170 (281)	252 (417)
Total	188 (166)	82 (107)	782 (1009)	1052 (1282)	506 (532)	258 (192)	1606 (1938)	2370 (2662)

* Inspectors employed by MQM (including beekeepers)
** Beekeeper inspectors under MQM direction (diseaseathons)

Table 6 INCIDENCE OF AMERICAN FOULBROOD IN APIARY DISTRICTS TO 30 JUNE 1995 (1994 FIGURES IN BRACKETS)

MQM Apiary Register	Diseased Apiaries/ % of Total District Apiaries		Diseased Hives/ % of Total District Hives		Apiaries Inspected NBA Programme*/ % of Total District Hives	
Location	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Whangarei	95 (117)	3.3% (3.9%)	181 (286)	0.6% (0.9%)	154 (158)	5.1% (5.1%)
Hamilton	151 (225)	5.2% (7.2%)	259 (348)	0.6% (0.8%)	122 (231)	4.1% (7.3%)
Tauranga	175 (233)	5.0% (6.3%)	501 (402)	1.0% (0.8%)	363 (337)	10.1% (9.4%)
Palmerston North	167 (97)	4.2% (2.4%)	442 (161)	1.2% (0.4%)	267 (246)	6.7% (6.3%)
Blenheim	153 (177)	7.5% (8.9%)	331 (543)	1.5% (2.7%)	184 (235)	9.0% (11.7%)
Lincoln	193 (260)	3.7% (4.9%)	404 (505)	0.7% (0.9%)	578 (401)	11.2% (7.5%)
Invermay	118 (173)	2.9% (4.1%)	252 (417)	0.5% (0.8%)	205 (263)	4.7% (6.0%)
TOTAL	1052 (1282)	4.2% (5.1%)	2370 (2662)	0.8% (0.9%)	1873 (1871)	7.5% (7.5%)

* Includes both MQM and beekeeper inspectors, whether employed by MQM or under MQM direction (diseaseathons); apiaries inspected as a percentage of apiaries registered on June 30, 1993.

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NEW ZEALAND BEEKEEPER, APIARY AND HIVE STATISTICS BY APIARY DISTIRCT AS AT 30 JUNE 1995

Apiary Register Location	0-5 Hives			6-50 Hives			51-250 Hives		
	Beekeepers	Apiaries	Hives	Beekeepers	Apiaries	Hives	Beekeepers	Apiaries	Hives
Whangarei	896	950	1808	260	609	3640	35	362	4178
Hamilton	352	410	850	144	295	2055	24	245	3485
Tauranga	297	330	696	142	314	2393	51	485	6175
Palmerston Nth	934	1046	2117	356	813	5153	37	462	4451
Blenheim	309	353	682	108	337	2123	22	249	2703
Lincoln	462	571	1036	179	528	2882	44	473	5105
Invermay	335	386	734	122	248	1726	41	482	5048
NEW ZEALAND	3585	4046	7923	1311	3144	19972	254	2758	31145

Apiary Register Location	251-500 Hives			501-1000 Hives			More than 1000 Hives		
	Beekeepers	Apiaries	Hives	Beekeepers	Apiaries	Hives	Beekeepers	Apiaries	Hives
Whangarei	10	178	3814	7	258	4194	5	541	11467
Hamilton	6	151	2854	15	664	13002	10	1140	21496
Tauranga	13	265	4785	21	707	13302	13	1430	23280
Palmerston Nth	10	266	3359	8	395	5500	7	1029	16665
Blenheim	19	482	7220	8	380	5665	3	236	4286
Lincoln	16	395	6296	19	1197	14509	15	2106	29033
Invermay	20	544	7391	20	962	13846	14	1490	22076
NEW ZEALAND	94	2281	35719	98	4563	70018	67	7972	128303

Apiary Register Location	0-50 Hives			More than 50 Hives			Totals		
	Beekeepers	Apiaries	Hives	Beekeepers	Apiaries	Hives	Beekeepers	Apiaries	Hives
Whangarei	1156	1559	5448	57	1339	23653	1213	2898	29101
Hamilton	496	705	2905	55	2200	40837	551	2905	43742
Tauranga	439	644	3089	98	2887	47542	537	3531	50631
Palmerston Nth	1290	1859	7270	62	2152	29975	1352	4011	37245
Blenheim	417	690	2805	52	1347	19874	469	2037	22679
Lincoln	641	1099	3918	94	4171	54943	735	5270	58861
Invermay	457	634	2460	95	3478	48361	552	4112	50821
NEW ZEALAND	4896	7190	27895	513	17574	265185	5409	24764	293080

the previous year, called for the inspection of 3.9% (979) of registered apiaries by MQM personnel, the provision of inspection lists for NBA inspectors and diseaseathons, and various other services relating to disease control and reporting. Unlike previous contracts, all inspections were to be targeted to known areas/ beekeepers with disease problems. The $5000 increase in the contract was earmarked by the NBA executive to provide additional counselling for beekeepers with AFB problems.

As in all previous contracts requiring MAF Quality Management to conduct inspections, the MQM target was exceeded, with 993 apiaries inspected. The average apiary size was also exceeded, with inspection apiaries averaging 7.5 hives (target apiary size = six hives). A total of 22 MQM staff and contract beekeepers were used in these inspections (Table 3).

NBA branch inspections totalled 880 apiaries, or 57% of the 1533 necessary to achieve the target set by the NBA executive of 6.1% of registered apiaries. Four of the 13 branches carrying out inspection programmes either met or exceeded their target of district apiaries inspected, while a further branch came within 4% of their target (Note: members of the South Canterbury branch assisted the Canterbury branch in carrying out volunteer NBA inspections as part of this spring's EDPR exercise. The total of the two branches' inspections more than exceeded the individual targets for the branches). A total of 150 letters of appointment were issued to beekeepers who wished to assist in NBA inspections, with 98 letters of appointment being used (Table 4).

The NBA AFB Disease Control Programme therefore resulted in the inspection of 7.5% of New Zealand's apiaries (MQM: 4.0% + NBA: 3.5%), equal to the percentage inspected by the programme in 1993-94. The target inspection level set by the NBA executive for the programme was 10% of apiaries. A total of 12,147 hives were inspected (MQM: 7489 + NBA: 4658). This figure represents 4.1% of the beehives in New Zealand registered at the time the contract was let.

MAF Quality Management inspectors (and beekeepers contracted to MQM) found 506 hives and 188 apiaries infected with American Foulbrood (6.8% of hives/ 18.9% of apiaries inspected). NBA inspectors found a further 258 hives and 82 apiaries infected (5.5% of hives/9.3% of apiaries inspected). Beekeepers reported an additional 1606 hives and 782 apiaries to be infected, down 332 (-17%) and 227 (-22%) respectively on 1993-94 (Table 5).

The overall reported incidence of American foulbrood in New Zealand beehives in 1994-95 was 0.8% of hives and 4.2% of apiaries, down from 0.9% (11% reduction) and 5.1% (18% reduction) respectively in 1993-94 (Table 6).

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He said trials on external infections were needed to provide hard clinical data following promising lab tests.

"What we do not know is how effective honey will be on a wound rather than in a petri dish in a laboratory," he said.

Waikato Hospital plastic surgery consultant Michael Klaassen said the benefits of natural healing agents were being increasingly recognised.

He said the absorbency and antiseptic properties of sphagnum moss from the West Coast was also being looked at as a possible dressing.

Letters to the Editor

Regional Air Plan

Dear Sir,

The Hawke's Bay Regional Council released its Draft Regional Air Plan in June. It is expected that other regional councils will be publishing a similar document in line with the requirements of the Resource Management Act 1991.

One of the major sections of our draft concentrates on Agricultural Spray Drift a subject dear to the hearts of beekeepers. It mentions the responsibilities of applicators to prevent spray drift risks to non target vegetation, to the environment and to human health.

Notification of affected people is inadequate. It requires advice of spraying to the owner or occupier of any property within 50 metres of the proposed discharge. This entirely misses the beekeeper who often is not an owner. Occupier presumably refers to an owner or lessee but is not defined in the draft.

While requiring application in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions there is no specific requirement to cover hives on or within two kilometres of an application.

On the brighter side the regional council has included a policy to support a reduction in the use of agrichemicals.

Our branch will be making a submission on this draft and we encourage other branches to be aware of regional air plans in their areas.

Yours faithfully
Ron Morison

Dear Editor,

My husband Richard and I are keen readers of your magazine.

I am a teacher of Form 1 and 2's at St Peter's Catholic Primary in Cambridge. My class recently completed a study of bees. They had been very keen and had many varied ideas of what was involved with beekeeping. One general idea was beekeepers, (my husband Richard is one) only worked a couple of months a year over summer to collect honey.

After Richard came in as the visiting "expert" showing them equipment and explaining the profession of beekeeping they became extremely interested. This generated independent research and writing. This poem — completed by a Form 1 girl — Katrina — was a fine example of their work. I thought that other beekeepers may also enjoy a "young adult's" perception of a bee's life.

The class thoroughly enjoyed the study and have a new respect for the profession of beekeeping.

I hope that you will be able to publish this poem.

Regards Moira Haddrell
Cambridge Bee Products

Bee Poem: The Sting

When I first think of a bee,
I think "Oh, no, it's going to sting me."

But then I remember to stay calm,
and save myself from an aching leg, foot, or arm.

I've never been blessed with any type of sting before,
and I hope I don't have to be, and that's for sure.

Bees are annoying, little pains,
and their making honey is for the beekeepers gain.

But think of all the importance of bees,
And how one would be much worse off if she stung me.

'Cos while I'd scream out in pain and cry,
she would be about to die.

Katrina Conaglen
Aged 11yrs
St Peters Catholic Primary
Cambridge

Dear Sir,

I recently spent some time with pupils at the Wakanui Primary School here in Mid-Canterbury. I spoke to them one morning covering a variety of bee related topics. At question time I was pleasantly surprised at the level of questions that the pupils asked. They had spent quite some time studying the life of the honey bee.

One of the pupils (Richard Girvan) approached me just as I was to leave and showed me a poem he had written. I was quite impressed with his work. Later that week I was talking to the teacher again and mentioned that the poem may be okay for publishing in our "Journal". The teacher has been able to supply this copy that I have sent to you for your appraisal. I will leave the decision with you.

Yours sincerely
G.P. Bongard

BEES

Bees are lovely,
Bees are kind,
Traces of pollen they leave behind.

Do they flutter
Thru' the nights?
Do they go on moonlit Flights?

Is the comb
To comb the Hair?
Or does it keep the brood so fair?

I Think I will call
That one there Ed.
Do you Know how they go to bed?

What do you think
Of these little wee bees?
Do you think they're just the bees knees?

Richard Girvan
Aged 11yrs
Wakanui School

Carniolans

Dear Editor

I looked up Carniola on the map and found it about 240km due west from my part of Hungary. This is about the same distance as Waiotemarama to Mercer, "and where on earth are they?" says some ignorant person. I give up, Hokianga Harbour to just south of Auckland.

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Letters continued ...

I met three Hungarian queen breeders and one beekeeper who kept 32 hives in a caravan, they all had Carniolan bees which at first glance looked like my old enemies — the British Black (they don't make bees like that now-a-days). "Hooray" says George. Now the great thing about keeping bees in Hungary is that if you are wearing your togs and your wife has on a summer dress you can both go out and keep bees, it's just like keeping blowflies except that you get honey and not just maggots. All three queen breeders kept more than 100 full size colonies and all their queen mating nucs in suburban back gardens and their neighbours couldn't care less.

The Hungarian main honey crops from Robinia and Linden switch on early and their bees are ready in time for these early crops. This would suit me fine for manuka which is ready from late November to the end of December. The beekeeper in the caravan had bees working sunflowers and this was late in the season in August with the ground dry as dust.

These Carniolans had, to my way of thinking, two other great advantages, the almost total absence of propolis and brace comb. This means that the combs are never stuck together, to disintegrate when you endeavour to remove them with a hive tool. The nature nuts won't like it "Good Heavens, "no propolis on our vitamin enriched toast!"

The questions I did not ask, what about disease, what about Varroa, what about acarine, what about wasp attacks on these incredibly gentle bees? My fairly poor grasp of the Hungarian language was partly to blame but I am somewhat better now with much more study behind me.

I don't really understand the fuss about nasty crosses with other bees. I get beautiful tempered bees from David Yanke and fill my mating yard with them. Off go my gentle virgins to mate with Miss Bumby's blacks and in about two years I go back to David to get some gentle bees again, tired of being "met at the gate." The worst lot I ever bred were bright yellow like wasps, I used to leave them to last when working their apiary and then go in with a smoke screen, bang the lid back and run as soon as possible. If I started with the even more gentle Carniolans the result would probably be no worse. Some people can stuff up everything!

Yours sincerely
George Nichols
Nicholbee Honey Hokianga

Dear Sir,

I am a Bangladeshi and received Beekeeper Technician Training Course from Fairview College, Alberta in Canada. A copy of my certificate attached with this letter for your kind consideration. Now, I am looking for a job related to my experience. It is mentioned here that I am working with beekeeping since 1979 both Apis Cerena India and Melifera.

From a reliable source I came to know that you have such abilities to arrange a job in your country.

So, I hope that you will kindly arrange an opportunity through your kind abilities. I shall be ever grateful to you.

Thanking you.

Yours sincerely
(MD Abdul Alim Bhuiyan)
152 West Monipur
(2nd Floor — South Side)
Mirpur — 1
Dhaka — 1216
Bangladesh.

Editor's Note: If any person wishes to follow up please contact the writer directly — We have sighted the certificate "referred to".

Bees to feature in major art exhibition

The Auckland City Art Gallery is organising an unusual contemporary exhibition of self-transforming artworks by more than 20 artists, including a sculpture made by a hive of bees. Curator, Andrew Bogle, who is organising the exhibition by artists from around the world, says that the bee sculpture will be one of the more unusual exhibits, but not the only one involving living organisms. He learned about the artist, Garnett Puett (who is a fourth generation American beekeeper and professional artist) from an exhibition catalogue and considered he would be perfect for the Transformers exhibition. Puett, who in 1988 received a National Endowment for the Arts Grant to further his art, was born in Georgia in 1959. He graduated with a Master of Fine Arts degree from the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn in 1983 and now lives on the island of Honolulu in Hawaii. His wax sculptures are built by the combing bees upon an armature that the sculptor fashions from steel and wood, usually in a geometric configuration. One such sculpture, 'Turbine' 1987, is a symmetrical structure of vanes like turbine blades, formed out of honeycomb.

For the Transformers exhibition, Bogle says the bees will go to work inside a glass case connected to the outside world by a clear acrylic tube so that they can come and go. Repeat visitors to the exhibition will see the sculpture transform during the 12 weeks of the event. Puett will need to obtain a hive locally and get the sculpture started, but when he leaves the work will progress in his absence.

Because of the expense of bringing a large number of artists to Auckland to install their self-transforming artworks, the Auckland City Art Gallery is hoping that the beekeeping community will offer support for Puett in the way of accommodation and hives. Bogle is also hoping that a major honey producer will sponsor the artist's airfare from Hawaii. He sees the exhibition as a way to involve a wide spectrum of interest groups in the Gallery's activities. "Because this is such a weird and wonderful exhibition it will appeal to a broad public. But we've never been involved with the beekeeping community before. Having the artist here will mean he will be able to give a public talk about his work and publicise the exhibition, which will be one of the Gallery's biggest events on the Galley's 1996 calendar". Beekeepers wishing to offer support for the Hawaiian artist/ beekeeper can contact Andrew Bogle at the Auckland City Art Gallery on telephone (025) 747-114, or by faxing him on 302-1096.

Editors Note:
Auckland Branch are to provide bees and accommodation. Garnett Puett will be involved.

Chefs acknowledge the use of honey in their menus

Two of the finalists in the prestigious Cervena Plates competition included honey in the final "entree" plates. The cuisine is shown below.

Entrée: Cervena cured in vodka and manuka honey with a sevruga caviar oil and sour dough blinis.

Main: Cervena roasted in a herb-infused salt crust with chestnut risotto and porcini consommé.

Entrée: Cervena served on an onion tart with spinach salad, kikorangi honey vinaigrette and garnished with a red capsicum oil.

Main: Cervena wrapped in bacon, served on caramelised sweet potatoes, with a pear muscat and cracked pepper jus.

Notes for beginners and others

It has been a pretty tough winter in most parts of the country. Hard frosts, big snowfalls, storms and floods. Tough on people and tough on animals including bees. No matter how good autumn management and pre-winter preparations of hives have been, some colonies will have fallen by the wayside while others may, thanks to the prolonged inclement conditions, not be in the best of shapes. Just gathering up hive gear of colonies which have died during the winter is not good enough. A postmortem of the dead ones and a diagnosis of what is causing trouble in some hives is really very important. Part of learning and curbing the spread of bee diseases.

The causes of death we can think of:

1. Disturbance by livestock, humans, storms etc., with the resulting exposure of the colony to rain or snow etc. Combs are in a mess and often damaged. Gather up, make sure there is no sign of Am. foulbrood, clean, dry out and cut your losses that is disregard (melt out) any poor combs.

2. Starvation. Dead bees with their heads in the cells, nothing in the way of honey stores but often with plenty of pollen left in the comb. Sometimes honey stores may still be present but the cluster has been unable to stay in contact. This could be the result of an inadequate amount of stores or bad arrangement of the feed combs. The beekeeper is to be blamed. An odd colony is just a born gutser, consumes so much that it becomes uneconomic and it is really better to be rid of it.

3. Robbing. A telltale sign are the ragged edges of the cells with probably a lot of wax flakes on the bottom board. Wasps can have had a run on such a hive early in the winter. Wasp bodies should be apparent amongst the debris on the floor board, for the bees will have tried to defend themselves before its stores were carted away. Or another colony of bees may have stolen the goodies. It is often the weaker colony which becomes the victim.

4. Queen loss. If happened early in the winter will mean a weakened colony and loss of morale, opening the door to robbers or simply resulting in the cluster diminishing to such an extent that survival is impossible.

5. Disease namely Am. foulbrood. Hive went into the winter already diseased and died as a result of the infection and further complications. Obvious signs of some left diseased grubs in cells and probably telltale scales. If there are also signs of robbing done by bees from another hive we face the worst possible scenario. Close up all possible entrances, disinfect hive tools etc. Deal with it in the approved manner. IN ALL THE ABOVE CASES BEFORE REMOVING EQUIPMENT MAKE CERTAIN THAT NONE OF IT IS INFECTED WITH AFB. For your own good as well as for that of your fellow beekeepers. Not dead but far from prospering. What can be the reason? The majority of colonies will have a certain amount of brood by now. It is the looks and the pattern of that brood which always has a story to tell.

6. Queenless. When you lift the inner cover you hear a loud buzzing (roaring), different from the usual noise bees make. A sure sign that there is no queen present. You may find some scattered cells with drone brood or with more than one egg. That is a sign of laying workers. The hive is really beyond redemption. Put remaining feed and bees into one super and unite.

7. Brood absent. One may come across the odd hive which is very conservative and the queen has not commenced laying. However the chances are that you may find an old queen which is at the end of her life or a young queen raised late in the autumn because of an emergency or supersedure, too late to be mated, so she is still a virgin. If the hive is still strong enough it could be saved by giving it some young bees and brood and introduction of a laying queen, if one is available. Otherwise unite.

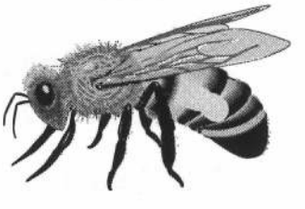
8. Drone layer. Reasons for this condition is under 7. Remedy is the same.

9. Shortage of tucker. Just at the edge of starvation. Little or no stores, brood perhaps chewed. Feeding urgently needed. Pour some syrup into the combs nearest to the cluster so that bees have access to it immediately, also some combs with feed honey (not crystalized) and follow up with more syrup feeding after hive has recovered. Beware of robbing. If too weak just unite.

10. Vermin. When opening up a hive you may smell it: ammonia, urine. There will be a mouse nest, likely in the bottom box. Remove second super, block up entrance. Remove a comb at the time and kill the little sods if you can. Clean out nest and debris from floor board, take away damaged combs and replace with good ones, preferably full with stores.

11. Dysentery, nosema. Hive is wet inside, outside combs mouldy, other combs including capped honey apparently damp. A very poor environment for a colony. The bees won't thrive. Some of the bees will look bald and greasy. Excrement may be apparent on the top bars and other hive gear. Bad news for it means ongoing infection, a vicious circle. First of all improve on the living conditions by removing and replacing soiled equipment, perhaps shift the hive to a better place, feed good quality stores and re-queening later on is probably a good thing.

Why advocate uniting when giving combs with young larvae or eggs with some young bees may make a colony raise a new queen? They may raise a queen alright but I have not seen any good mature drones flying about at this stage and they are needed to produce a good mated queen. Too early, anyway for our part of the country. So uniting with another hive is the answer to minimize the losses. This shows the value of having some overwintered nucs on hand.



Canterbury Branch Meeting

The next meeting of the Canterbury Branch wil be held on the 3rd Tuesday i.e. **22nd August** at the Merivale Rugby Clubrooms. Agenda — Wind up of conference details and general business.

Speaker:

Robert Rice of MAF
(to be confirmed)

New Zealand Trade Centre in Auckland often receive calls for bee products (propolis, pollen and such like) and don't know who to immediately contact. The NBA office can put callers on to known suppliers ... if you would like to have your name and products that you have available to supply included in our listing please advise the NBA Executive Secretary Harry Brown, and supply any promotional material. This is a no cost service to you.

For Sale

Metal containers with wing openers suitable for polish etc ...

Outside dimensions 32mm high X 110mm diameter.

Contains 170ml.

Please contact:

Zan van Hoof

Phone: (03) 693-9760

The History of the NBA

There has been some interest and comment on the centrefold history in the July issue of the *New Zealand Bee Keeper*. If anyone has any comments please do not hesitate to contact Nick Wallingford directly or advise the editor. We have one additional note from the Lorimers of Waikato ... who advise that the 1957 conference was held in Hamilton at the Wintergarden ... part of the (then) Winter Show complex.

Waikato Branch Field Day

The Waikato Branch of the NBA cordially invites everyone interested in beekeeping to attend our Spring Field Day.

This year we have broken with the long term tradition of autumn field days to bring you an exciting programme on how to make beekeeping more enjoyable and more profitable. Don't miss this important opportunity.

Put aside Saturday, 9th September 1995 to attend our Field Day at the Social Centre, Ruakura, Hamilton. The Social Centre is near the roundabout at Ruakura.

Starting Time: 10am.

PROGRAMME

10.00 Get together over a cuppa.

10.20 President's Welcome.

10.30 Russell Berry will bring you up-to-date on industry matters including the Commodities Levy. How will the Commodity Levy affect us? What will happen if the NBA becomes a voluntary organisation?

11.00 Cell Raising — Stephen Lee

Young queens are essential. There are many ways to rear queens - it is not difficult. Come, hear and look at some options.

11.30 Two queen beehives — Rob Harwood

Two queen beehives don't give you double the crop, but may triple your profit. See this practical demonstration. Find out how less hives will give you more money!

12.00 Truck maintenance — How to save $$$s by doing it yourself. What special attention do beekeeper's trucks require?

12.15 BIO GROW — Would it work for Waikato beekeepers?

12.30 Lunch (There is a BBQ if you would like to cook a hot lunch).

1.20 Gadget Shield Competition. Please assemble your gadgets during lunch time so you do not miss the opportunity to win this sought after shield. Challengers from outside the Waikato are welcome! But they will have to be good to win!

1.30 Apimondia — Murray Reid. Just back from the 1995 Apimondia. Hear how this huge gathering of beekeepers "ticked". Can New Zealand really host an Apimondia?

2.00 Diseases and Disorders: Dr Mark Goodwin.

Workstations in the lab — AFB, Chalkbrood, Sacbrood, Nosema, and Halfmoon.

Other Viruses — Photos on EFB, Varroa, Tropilaelaps, Trachael Mites and M. Alvearius

Please bring in samples of anything that you are unsure of the diagnosis of (clinical symptoms only).

3.30 Afternoon Tea and Socialising

Cover Charge: $5 per adult to cover costs of this pleasant and interesting venue.

Trade displays welcome. Please ring our secretary, Tony Lorimer, Phone: (07) 856-9625.

The Waikato Branch is looking forward to meeting friends from throughout New Zealand.

NZ BEESWAX LTD

BEESWAX COMB FOUNDATION PRICE LIST

Foundation	Dimensions mm	Sheets per kg approx	Kg per carton	Prices per Kg	
				Conversion	Ex stock
Medium Brood Full Depth	422 x 200	17.5	12.5	$2.17	$9.94
Medium Brood ¾ Depth	422 x 145	21	12.5	$2.17	$9.94
Seven Sheet Special	422 x 200	15.5	13.5	$1.99	$9.81
Extra Heavy Brood	422 x 200	13.25	16	$1.79	$9.65
Thin Super Full Depth	422 x 200	26.5	12.5	$2.99	$10.53
Thin Super ¾ Depth	422 x 145	35	12.5	$3.40	$11.16
Thin Super ½ Depth Std	394 x 98	57-61	12.5	$4.11	$11.68
Thin Super ½ Depth	422 x 98	53-57	12.5	$4.11	$11.68
Thin Super ½ Depth 108	422 x 108	45	12.5	$4.11	$11.68

All prices GST exclusive. Cartons $4.00 each. Cartons in good condition, complete with layers and dividers, net-returnable at $3.00 each. Incomplete cartons without layers and dividers $2.50 each. For less than carton lots 30% surcharge applies.

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