



# Yes or No?

You have a unique opportunity to determine the health and well being of the New Zealand beekeeping industry.

## WHAT ARE THE ISSUES?

### What are the benefits of the Commodity Levy to you?

The National Beekeepers Association of New Zealand believes the levy referendum vote is vital to the future well-being of beekeeping - both for hobbyists and commercial operations. The NBA asked 5 New Zealand Beekeepers for their opinions on the key issues and why they will be voting **YES.....**

# Beekeepers talk about the NBA and



**DOROTHY LAMSDALE**  
of Abbotsford, Otago.  
3 beehives - a pure  
hobbyist.

"Although I am very much a hobbyist, I thoroughly enjoy beekeeping. The NBA may look like it's benefiting the commercial beekeeper more than the hobbyist but in reality that's not the case. The NBA provides very good resources for hobbyists, e.g. it provides meeting speakers and the reference library (the NBA's library provided reference material for me when I sat my Certificate in Apiculture Correspondence Course).

We need a body to speak for all beekeepers on disease control. As a hobbyist I enjoy the opportunity to be able to meet with commercial beekeepers and understand the industry from their perspective. The NBA's Beekeeper magazine is a very good informative publication."



**JIM THOMPSON**  
Auckland.  
75 hives.  
Hobbyist beekeeper.

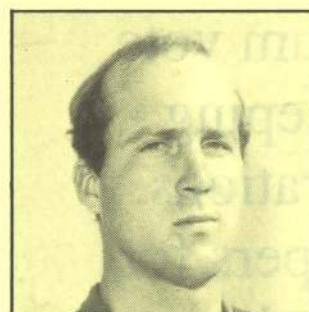
"The NBA is an essential body for the industry. It puts everybody on an equal footing in the control of all diseases.

In this day of user pays and a diminished MAF involvement the NBA is essential. The NBA's field days and seminars are very good. They provide educational opportunities for the hobbyist and quite often the hobbyist is able to in turn provide innovative information to commercial beekeepers at the meetings.

The NBA's marketing work is definitely of value to commercial beekeepers and the way they are developing an awareness of differentiated honey types has to be good for all beekeepers. The NBA's library is a very good resource, its tapes are great for meetings.

Not all beekeepers attend annual conference, but it is very good to be able to put remits through NBA branches to the industry at large and in that way all beekeepers have a say in the development and well being of their industry.

The NBA provides the infrastructure that enables the industry to be well organised and to address key issues as a responsible, credible group."



**WILL TROLLOPE**  
of Marlborough.  
Part-time commercial  
beekeeper with 100 hives.

"Beekeepers are independent people and many are proud of their independence, but it still makes sense to have an organisation that can be used for major issues. For example AFB, pest management strategy and border control.

The NBA lets hobbyists know what the commercial beekeepers are up to. It keeps hobbyists up to date. The NBA's role in financing research work has been invaluable to all beekeepers, e.g. Dr. Mark Goodwin and Dr. Peter Molan.

I initially didn't think the NBA's marketing activities would have any value to me but the way the NBA has improved the "performance" of manuka has been quite exceptional.

Add the reference library and field days... and all of these things to me add up to the decision that the NBA should stay. I will be voting "yes"."

# and it's importance to the industry....



**BRIAN LANCASTER**  
Canterbury.  
520 hives.  
Beeper.

"For me the NBA's major role has to be in pest management.

A good industry organisation can ensure that there are systems to minimise the risk of disease. My own hives have been clean for the five years that I have owned them and if the NBA structure was to disappear and with it the pest management strategy, the long term results would be diabolical."

It seems ironical to me that in 1996 people are considering walking away from the Pest Management Strategy which is to replace the Apiaries Act when in 1908 the beekeeping industry and government were concerned enough about disease spread to pass the Apiaries Act into law.

Good pest management means New Zealand keeping its drug free bee and honey status and that is a unique international competitive advantage to us.

The work that is being done by the NBA is creating a good potential future for both the hobbyist and the commercial beeper. The NBA's marketing work is also showing that it is helping to create an important future for the industry.

Many people have their life's work invested in beekeeping. If the NBA ceased to exist, those people could find a dramatic drop in the value of hive products and therefore their own investment. Some beepers have trouble selling out on retirement now, if disease took a hold or drugs had to be fed and the value of honey fell, apiaries could be almost impossible to sell."



**IAN BERRY**  
A family member of  
Australasia's largest  
private beepering  
company, Arataki Honey  
Ltd, with 17,000 hives.

"The NBA is in my opinion very important to all beepers in New Zealand, whether they are commercial beepers, part-time beepers or hobbyists. Some of my reasons for saying this are:

1. Border Control - The NBA has for many years maintained good relations with border control people to help them prevent bee diseases being brought into New Zealand.
2. Disease Control - the close liaison between the NBA and the MAF over the years has kept the incidence of bee diseases to a reasonable level. It is important that the NBA's Pest Management Strategy which is currently being developed with the ultimate aim among other things to completely eradicate AFB from New Zealand be proceeded with. Other examples of the work done by the NBA working in with MAF in the area of bee diseases was the bringing of Dr. Denis Anderson and Dr. Shimanuki to New Zealand to investigate bee diseases.
3. Marketing - I see the current work being done by the NBA's marketing committee as already being reflected in better prices for many beepers, and I would predict an exciting future for beepers in New Zealand as more opportunities are taken up by the Marketing Committee to increase the public's perception of honey and other hive products.
4. Education - The NBA's commitment to support beepering education through Telford, Branch meetings and field days, National Conferences and Seminars, the comprehensive National Beepers Library and the publication of the New Zealand Beekeeper play an important part in our industry."
5. Beekeeper communications - The NBA is the link which enables all the specialty groups such as Honey Packers, Honey Exporters, Queen Breeders, Comb Honey Producers and Pollination Groups to communicate at Branch meetings and the National Annual Conference and Seminar. The mix of beepers at these meetings from large commercial producers to hobbyists provides a good forum for learning from one another.

The fact the NBA has served beepers for so many years proves it has been filling a need, and I strongly believe we should ensure it remains in place to serve the industry for the foreseeable future.



# Yes

Means that the National Beekeepers Association of New Zealand can continue its work for all beekeepers.



**NICK WALLINGFORD  
PRESIDENT  
NATIONAL BEEKEEPERS  
ASSOCIATION OF N.Z. INC.**

*Owns two hives as a hobbyist. Wrote a correspondence course for beekeepers and developed other materials and courses for beekeeping at the Bay of Plenty Polytechnic.*

"We have created this inset to explain why we believe beekeepers will benefit from the Commodities Levy being approved.

Rather than tell beekeepers ourselves we have asked a selection of beekeepers from the length and breadth of New Zealand to explain why they will be voting yes.

The beekeepers in this information bulletin were selected because they collectively represent the very diverse beekeeping practices in New Zealand.

The National Beekeepers Association will work for the interests of New Zealand's beekeepers. But the opportunity to ensure that the organisation can stay in place to do that work is over to you."

## \* THESE TWO ACTIVITIES ARE ESSENTIAL TO ENSURE NZ'S HEALTHY DRUG FREE BEEKEEPING INDUSTRY



Ensure N.Z. maintains its **BORDER CONTROL HONEY & BEE PRODUCTS POLICIES**  
Essential to keep diseases out of N.Z.



NBA's **PEST MANAGEMENT STRATEGY**  
Developed by the NBA to eradicate AFB within N.Z.

## OTHER SERVICES FOR MEMBERS



The NBA's  
**N.Z. HONEY FOOD & INGREDIENT ADVISORY SERVICE**

- \* Creating awareness of N.Z.'s unique honey types; including chef training workshops.
- \* Assisting manufacturers develop food products incorporating N.Z. honeys.
- \* School Education Beekeeping & Honey Programmes.



**NBA REFERENCE LIBRARY**  
One of the most comprehensive beekeeping resource centres in Australasia.



**FIELD DAYS - SEMINARS - CONFERENCE - & The Monthly N.Z. BEEKEEPER MAGAZINE**  
- informing - educating - working for THE N.Z. BEEKEEPING INDUSTRY.



**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON ANY ISSUE OF CONCERN TO YOU PLEASE CONTACT:**

**NBA SECRETARY**  
Harry Brown  
Hastings (06) 878 5385

**NBA PRESIDENT**  
Nick Wallingford  
(07) 578 1422 (evenings)

Commodities Levies  
voting paper to gauge  
support for the levy  
proposed by the National  
Beekeepers Association.

Please read carefully!

<p>If undelivered please return to :</p> <p>National Beekeepers Association of New Zealand ( Inc ) 211 Market Street Sth. Box 307 Hastings, New Zealand</p>	<p>Postage Paid Permit no.</p> <p>384 Hastings, NZ.</p>
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**The information on this page is provided to satisfy parts of sections 5 and 6 of the Commodity Levies Act 1990**

1. The levy will be paid to the National Beekeepers Association.
2. The commodity to be levied is honey, pollen, beeswax, propolis, bee venom and any other bee product.
3. The persons primarily responsible for paying the levy are beekeepers who have more than 10 hives or more than 3 apiaries.
4. The levy will be calculated on the basis of the number of apiary sites registered by the beekeeper on 1 June of each year. Permanent and seasonal apiary sites will be levied, regardless of whether there are hives on the sites on the date for calculation.
5. The levy will be paid on the number of apiary sites
6. Beekeepers who provide a statutory declaration declaring that they own 10 beehives or less, and keep them on 3 apiary sites or fewer will not pay a levy, as they are not persons primarily responsible for paying the levy.
7. The levy will be paid directly to the National Beekeepers Association by beekeepers, the persons primarily responsible for paying the levy. A third party collector system will not be used.
8. Members of the Association will refrain from divulging details of levies paid unless required to divulge these matters by other provisions of the Act or the levy order.
9. The National Beekeepers' Association will spend the money on a bee disease control/elimination programme, generic promotional and marketing programmes and administration of the Association. In general terms, 30% of the levy collected will be used for a bee disease control/elimination programme, 20% for generic promotional and marketing programmes and 50% for administration of the association (including the costs associated with producing the industry journal to communicate with and inform members).
10. The levy will be spent by the head office of the Association and by the branches of the Association.
11. The levy will be paid annually on the apiary sites that were registered (or were liable to be registered) on the previous 1 June.
12. The levy will be paid at two rates. Each leviable beekeeper's first apiary site will be levied at one rate. A second levy rate applies for each additional apiary site.
13. The rate for the first year of the levy will be \$50 (excluding GST) for the first apiary site and \$22 (excluding GST) for each subsequent apiary. The levy rate for the first apiary includes the costs associated with the National Beekeepers' Association's journal, the New Zealand Beekeeper. This magazine will be used to inform and communicate with levy payers about the levy and the Pest Management Strategy.
14. Either levy rate could only be changed in future years by a vote at the National Beekeepers' Association Annual Meeting or any Special Meeting called specifically for the purpose. An increase to either levy rate will also require approval of the Minister.
15. The levy rates will be notified by publication in the New Zealand Beekeeper (the industry journal, sent to each levy payer) and in the New Zealand Gazette.
16. The levy will be paid on an annual basis based on the information of apiary numbers from the previous 1 June.
17. The levy will be due on 20 February of each year. The final date for payment will be 31 March. Provision for payment by instalments will be made. If a levy is not paid when due it will incur a 10% penalty for the first month it remains unpaid and a further 1 ½ % for each subsequent month it remains unpaid.