

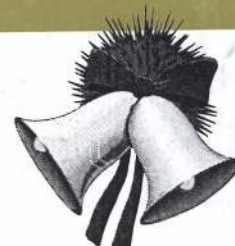
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The New Zealand BeeKeeper is published eleven times per annum; February to December. All copy should be with the Editor by the 1st day of the month of publication except for December when copy should be received by 20th November.

Notes from the President

Nick Wallingford

The NBA's levy to fund marketing and disease control activities is at a reality. On 2 December an Order in Council was made by the Governor General. This Order in Council, similar to regulations, was made upon the recommendation of the Executive Council, a group of the senior ministers of the Crown.

As you can imagine, the NBA's Executive is relieved. We can now confidently plan to go into the 1997 year with a secure funding source. Members of the

Executive and other NBA members worked extensively behind the scenes to enable the Association to continue. The issue has to varying degrees, involved considerable work for the last six years. As the current President, I must say how pleased I am that this aspect, at least, has been finalised.

Now, however, comes another difficult phase: putting the levy procedures into practice to create a fair, simple and practical method of collection. As we go

into this first year of the new levy, I urge all beekeepers to bear in mind why we are doing this at all and how the principles of the levy evolved.

The National Beekeepers' Association is an organisation worthy of support by beekeepers. As the beekeepers' representative it has often managed to protect and enhance the competitive position of our industry. In areas such as inter-beekeeper communication, generic marketing, market access and disease control, the NBA has shown its ability to enable beekeeping to be more profitable and enjoyable at all levels. When a levy order was first mooted, the Executive agreed with remits coming from previous Conferences that 50 hives (as under the Hive Levy Act) was too high a level to delineate "commercial intent". While acknowledging that all beekeepers benefit from some aspects of NBA activity (most obviously the disease control programme), the Executive realised that it would not be feasible to collect from the "true hobbyist". Accordingly, the levy threshold is set at more than 10 hives or more than three apiary sites. Beekeepers who have more than this number receive overall benefit from the work of the NBA, and are required to pay the levy to fund the activities.

The Hive Levy Act was used for nearly 20 years to fund the NBA. I don't expect beekeepers to come to grips with this new levy system overnight. I do ask you to bear in mind the valuable and useful work carried out by the NBA and provide your support to allow it to continue.

TO ALL READERS

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The people we rent the building off are selling it and we have to find a new home.

I am still here, same people, same service, just a new home.

I trust you all have a great 1997, my sincerest thanks for your comments on the Magazine, and your support.

*kindest regards
Harry Brown
Executive Secretary.*

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Letters to the Editor

If you write a letter to the Editor, or have an article you want printed as an article, can you clearly mark it as such. *Thanks, Ed*

Dear Sir

I do wish you would print some of the names of the writers of the articles so we have an idea who has written the articles.

In many of your articles you make statements so very aggressive to other beekeepers in the world, you must remain neutral and keep your beekeepers in order.

One grand example: Some beekeepers have the wish that wax from New Zealand should be marked for the markets Pesticide free. This is against WTO Agreement and should have been censored and not published in the magazine.

You may also think that you can live forever without *Varroa* mite infestation. But do not be so sure! Denmark is an Island country too, and we had a good chance of keeping free from *Varroa* infestation. This was not the case with the inclusion of Germany. Some beekeepers moved *Varroa* infected families to Denmark like sabotage. This was never the official method of spreading the disease to Denmark. You may very well experience the same thing in New Zealand. For your own good become more neutral in your writings about other beekeepers around I wish you and your colleagues all the best. There is plenty of room for everyone in this business.

Neil Lunds, Denmark

Dear Neil

Good to hear from you again and thank you for your comments. I am not aware of ever having made the aggressive comments about other beekeepers in the world that you allege, nor am I aware of making any comments about advertising New Zealand wax as pesticide free in this magazine. We hope with the border controls in place we can keep the *Varroa* mite and other such things as EFB, tracheal mites etc out of New Zealand as long as possible, but I take your comments on board as a good reminder for all New Zealanders, as the last thing we want to do is to have to feed drugs to our bees to control these diseases as is done in many areas of the world.

Ed

Letters to the editor

I wish to respond to a comment made by the president in the November 1996 edition of your magazine in relation to certain pest management strategies.

It is correct that the Minister is willing to notify the NBA's pest management strategy for American Foulbrood, but is of the view that approval should wait until the passage of the Biosecurity Amendment Bill No. 4. However, this approach applies to all pest management strategies including that of the Animal Health Board.

Although the Minister has expressed support for the general thrust of the bovine tuberculosis pest management strategy, that strategy will not be formally approved in terms of the Act until after the amendment is in effect.

In the interim, the Minister has agreed to implement some new measures for TB control under existing and transitional legislation where such changes are legally possible. However, a number of proposed measures cannot be introduced until the Biosecurity Act is amended and the strategy is formally approved.

Yours sincerely

Barry O'Neil, Chief Veterinary Officer, Ministry of Agriculture

Dear Sir

I am a beekeeper living in Ames, Iowa, United States of America. My family and I are currently seeking to move to New Zealand.

My wife is an architecture professor and I am a woodworker. I found your names and addresses on the web of international bee people.

I am looking to know what kind of opportunities exist in New Zealand for beekeepers. I worked in a commercial bee farm in Michigan and Florida for nearly ten years before I moved to Iowa. I was responsible for all aspects of the process from pollination to treatment to queening to bottling. I now keep a small independent business, selling to the local community.

David Carleton

224 North Maple

Ames, Iowa 50010

United States of America.

Telephone: 515-233-4467

E-Mail: jewel@iastate.edu

Dear Editor

I'm surprised to read in October's issue that anyone could make the mistake of calling honey "bee vomit".

Nectar (not honey) is carried in the honey sac, (or honey crop). The honey sac is also called the "honey stomach" a bad choice of words, not because it is aesthetically doubtful (depending on whether one likes or dislikes the word "vomit"), but because it is anatomically

incorrect.

The honey sac is an expansible part of the oesophagus, found in the anterior portion of the abdomen and its contents (nectar) is prevented from passing into the stomach by the proventricular valve (or honey stopper), a portion of the proventriculus. Any nectar/honey that passes through the proventriculus into the stomach proper (the ventriculus), cannot be "vomited" or "regurgitated" because of the presence of the stomodaeal valve. Nectar/honey which passes the proventriculus goes down for assimilation to meet the bee's food and energy needs.

So, far from playing with words as Paul Marshall implies, it would be better to stick to correct anatomical functions and product descriptions if he and Mr Wardle want to tidy up the image.

By the way I do wish those beekeepers everywhere who pride themselves so much on their skill as honey producers would take a little more effort and pride in their knowledge of the bees, where their honey comes from and how it is made. This would avoid these errors and put an end to the many misunderstandings and unfortunate myths.

As for the apparent concern about "floral honey" coming from the plant's reproductive parts what do you make of the fact that; peas, wheat, corn, rice and other seeds which we eat also come from the same area, fruits are expanded portions of plant ovaries and pollen relished by many people as a dietary aid is... well, I'll leave it to your imagination.

R.B. Gulliford

The National Beekeepers are now on E-Mail

Contact numbers is: natbeeknz@xtra.co.nz

1. Stats show our strategies are successful.
2. Air NZ flies a honeybee on it's magazine.
3. Peter Molan NZ honey's ambassador in the UK in November.
4. Standards and a unique opportunity: Are you ready for it?
5. NZ Honey Chef Champion wine a medal.
6. My favourite honey this month: and does honey improve with age.
7. Please, please send us that favourite honey recipe.

Stats show our strategies are successful

This is the last column for the year. It's been a good year for the Honey industry's marketing activities. We have now developed a data base and purchased the scan data that allows us to measure the performance of our Marketing strategies. The result is good! It's important to note of course that the scan data research is based on honey that is sold through Supermarkets that have scanning machines. It doesn't include honey put through small dairies, tourist outlets (through which I believe there is a significant volume) and, of course, it doesn't include honey "gate sales". Once again I believe there could be a significant amount of gate sales sold direct to the public. For a variety of reasons we will probably never get to know what the volume of those sales is.

Companies that have created differentiation through "floral" source or geographical place name have gained market share and increased dollar value. In looking at dollar values for branded honey's alone Manuka is now our top selling honey variety. More manuka honey is sold through the supermarket than any other mono floral honey, including clover. (Note that this doesn't include the honey's sold through "house brands").

The third highest performing mono-floral variety is thistle and the fourth is rata.

In the first beekeeper magazine next year we will have a complete breakdown of sales by variety and show comparison from 1993 to '96. But the underlying message is that packers and beekeepers are picking up on our marketing strategies and opportunities. Sales are increasing. And as a result sales of house brand honey's are down and sales of blends are down. That's tremendous news for the industry, because this differentiation will in turn lead into increased export opportunities, and those will be export opportunities at a premium, at non-commodity prices.

And of course for those beekeepers who argue that they can only source blends the answer is very clear" do exactly what wine companies have successfully done. Start to market blends based on unique geography or based on a combination of floral sources. This is already being done very successfully by some beekeepers and others can follow. There is no need to market honey as simply "creamed honey".

Air New Zealand flies a Honeybee on it's Magazine

For those of you who fly Air New Zealand or who have an Air New Zealand flight shop close by I must recommend that you call in and have a look at the November/December Aotearoa magazine. On the cover of the magazine is a most beautiful photograph of a honey bee on a Pohutukawa flower. Inside, the magazine talks about the Pohutukawa tree and how it is under threat:

Quote "a pot of pearly white native honey makes an ideal gift and it is one to treasure for the trees it comes from are under threat".

I often explain to media (and in my honey presentations to chefs) that the New Zealand Pohutukawa is the rarest honey in the world, sourced mainly from Rangitoto Island. The Pohutukawa tree produces arguably the whitest honey in the world with a unique flavour. The photograph cover is simply stunning. It is great to see the beekeeping industry featuring so predominantly in Air New Zealand's Link network magazine.

Peter Molan NZ Honey's Ambassador in the UK in November

Expect some very good publicity again for New Zealand honey's world wide. Dr Peter Molan is at present (November '96) attending the 2nd National Wound Care Conference held at Harrowgate in the UK. Peter will be presenting a poster on Manuka Honey and it's unique wound healing properties.

I traditionally find that when Peter does any thing internationally we get a huge surge of people wanting information about our honey's. Non-manuka producers will be pleased to note that one of Peter's objectives next year is to identify opportunities for non manuka honey applications. (Of course I know that everyone is quite happy with the status quo because so few beekeepers have sent samples of their non manuka honey to Peter for free testing . . . (but that's another story).

Standards and a Unique Opportunity: Are YOU Ready for It?

I'm a great believer in Standards being voluntary and being created to suit the market and costing no more than is

appropriate and can be recovered from the marketplace. In other words Standards must add value not cost. In talking to a major business entity in New Zealand I have a unique market opportunity.

I need to work with one or more beekeepers or packers on this project. I need the names of beekeepers or packers, that could produce, or secure, pack and supply at least eight mono floral New Zealand honey's. Those beekeepers or packers must (and I repeat: must!) be able to deliver a quality product that is true to label. I think I know who should be on that short list, but I wouldn't want to miss any one out. Please fax or write to me before January 18 to register your interest. If the project proceeds I would need to be able to give the buyer a short list of companies that they can negotiate with. The buyer would not allow me to offer just one name, they would want free market forces to apply in pricing. I need to be able to give them a list of beekeepers that are credible, that I know can deliver a quality product. If this project succeeds then it is of benefit to all beekeepers as we will have created another market sector that can absorb honey's.

NZ Honey Chef Champion Wins a Medal

In the October beekeeper I made reference to Rick Rutledge-Manning taking part in the Culinary Olympics in Munich. You will be thrilled to know that Rick won a bronze medal in those Culinary Olympics. The dish used Manuka honey as a key ingredient. This is a copy of the media release we sent out to magazines and newspapers:

CULINARY OLYMPIC JUDGES GET A BUZZ FROM NEW ZEALAND CHAMPION CHEF AND MANUKA HONEY

One of New Zealand's top chefs, Rick Rutledge-Manning, executive chef of The George of Christchurch, has scored a Bronze Medal in the 1996 Culinary Olympics.

More than 2000 competitors from 36 countries competed in the event, held in Munich in September. Rick Rutledge-Manning took a bronze medal in the Culinary Arts section with a dish featuring tequila-cured salmon with manuka honey dressing.

"A major problem for chefs was the severe restrictions on importing your own ingredients into Germany" says Rick. "We had to purchase all our ingredients in Munich. And two thousand chefs all wanting the best of whatever they needed put some real pressure on the suppliers."

"I wanted my salmon dish to have a unique New Zealand identity and from a world larder perspective, there really are few ingredients that aren't now commonplace in most countries. However, our NZ varietal honeys are unique and for this dish, manuka was perfect. Fortunately the German authorities allowed me to import the honey for the competition. I explained that it was special and essential for my dish".

"Most of the entries in the Olympics this year focussed on style rather than flavour," says Rick, "but I believe that New Zealand's place in world cuisine is to concentrate on the incredible intensity of the flavours in our produce. I know it sounds old hat to talk about our unique difference being in the freshness and flavour of our ingredients, but it's true. You only have to try food in many parts of the 'old world' to realise that".

"I was thrilled with the final character of my medal winning dish. It was one of ten I created for the Olympics," says Rick. "The stand-out feature of it was the dressing. Its the best I've made yet; and very versatile."

"The manuka honey sets the framework for the other ingredients and the result

is a dish with a package of flavours that sums up the freshness and vitality of what NZ can offer the world in cuisine. The judges agreed," says Rick.

My favourite honey this month: and does honey improve with age.

My favourite honey this month? I found an old jar of gently granulating Blue Borage with a Honeyland label on it. I've had it for at least two years, and it's beautiful! It is of course Vipers Bugloss and I know that the industry is slowly sorting itself out over the honey from the Vipers Bugloss plant, as opposed to that from Baragio Officinalis. Vipers Bugloss honey is delightful and I'm sure that it's tastes have developed since I've had the jar. I would be keen to get comment from other people whether they believe some honey's actually improve with age whereas others are better eaten fresh. If that is the case then we need to find a way of exploring the concept. It would open up a whole new area of opportunity: that opens up the concept of honey's marketed by vintage. Now there is an exciting thought!

PLEASE, PLASE SEND US THAT FAVOURITE HONEY RECIPE

That's all from me this month. I'm looking forward to enjoying that superb

Christmas cake again. On the subject of cooking we are at the moment making up a low cost recipe leaflet, if you have any tried and true honey recipes that use lots of honey please send the recipe to us, attention Sandee.

Regards, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from

Sandee and Bill and members of the Marketing Committee: Allan, Peter, Barbara, Harry and Neil.

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Notes for beginners and others

How will the 1996/97 honey crop shape up? This month and the next will tell the tale. There are so many varieties that it is impossible to make predictions with even a degree of certainty. There are of course certain conditions acting as pointers. Enough moisture in the soil or very dry, good pasture, soil temperature warm or too low for the time of the year. All these give reason for either an optimistic or a pessimistic outlook. Ultimately it will be the day-to-day weather which is the most important factor, that seems to be still unpredictable not withstanding weather satellites and all the modern techniques. As for the long range weather forecast, well I would not know. We just have to wait and see and hope for the best.

Once the honey flow has started, the sun shines with nice calm warm days the bees will be working for long hours. Many a beginner will be astonished to discover how much a good strong colony can collect in a few days. Surprise, surprise, that super with empty combs meant to keep the bees busy for a few weeks is filled in three days and the sheets of foundation in the box on the next hive have been built out and hold a considerable amount of honey. The picture every beekeeper dreams about, but it really happens now and then.

Under favourable conditions a good hive may well gain 10kg in a day and then it does not take long before another super is required or perhaps two. If you have done your job at the right time there will be a supply of

supers with empty combs or frames with foundation waiting to be used.

It is not good beekeeping to have the hives full up with bees clustering against the outside waiting and wasting time while the beekeeper is assembling and wiring frames. That is the way to miss the boat and forfeit the good results of earlier endeavours.

When the super already on the hive is nearly filled and the bees have started capping the combs it is the right time to provide more room. Under supering or top supering is a question often asked. When no queen excluder is in use the answer is top supering, the empty on top of the full one. The combs full of honey will probably act as a barrier for the queen, no guarantee mind you.

However most of us I think are using excluders and the forest and against top — or under supering should be considered.

Under supering, which means lifting the full box off and replacing it on top of the added one or two empties is hard work and perhaps not advisable for some peoples backs. It does give the bees an incentive to take quick possession of that suddenly created space between the full super and the broodnest below. Also having that full super on top makes it easy to remove it when it becomes necessary to start extracting if one needs more empty supers in a hurry.

Bees will often store some pollen in the combs directly above the excluder. So placing a super with foundation meant for cut comb

production or a box with sections onto the excluder is not the best policy if one wants to market a top grade product. The presence of cells filled with pollen in a section or piece of cut comb means down grading. This is of course not such an important consideration if the comb honey is earmarked for own use. Some may prefer the addition of some pollen.

Some beekeepers are of the opinion that top supering will often cause the bees to start storing honey in the brood nest before they tackle the empty combs further to the top. So securing the stores where they should be for wintering down. I have seen little evidence of this and think that some colonies do look after their own interest better than others, that under supering or top supering has little to do with it.

If you are going away over Christmas and the New Year make sure before you leave that your hives will not go short of space to store that hoped for crop of honey.

And another thing: at this time passengers are not wanted. Unite that weak colony with another hive. One has to be ruthless to secure that surplus.

Returning for a moment to the matter of under or over supering it is obvious that the $\frac{3}{4}$ depth box has definite advantages over the full depth when it comes to taking care of sore backs.

May the effort you have put into the spring management of your colonies now bear fruit, all good wishes for Christmas and 1997 and that there will be many days of a 10kg gain.

Incorporated Society? Charitable Trust?

You have got together with others in your community and set up a community group to tackle a common issue. The group makes good progress and after a while decides to apply for funding to further its cause. Do you need a legal structure?

You can apply for small amounts of funding from some groups without having one, but a legal structure is required by funders such as the New

Zealand Community Funding Agency, regional health authorities, the Lottery Board (for amounts of over \$5000), and a number of philanthropic trusts. Being a legal entity also allows you to apply for charitable status so you pay no tax on your group's profits.

Legal structures take time to set up, they also carry an ongoing obligation and involve quite a lot of administrative work. That extra work

may mean that more people need to be involved in the organisation.

There are several kinds of legal status applicable to community groups: incorporated societies, Maori land trusts, and industrial or provident societies. The two most common ones, outlined here, are the incorporated society and the charitable trust.

Which would best suit you?:

Legal Structures for Voluntary Organisations

	Incorporated Societies	Charitable Trusts
Aims	Often charitable, but don't have to be	Must be charitable
Rules	Set up under Incorporated Society Act 1908. Has a constitution with rules, which must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • name of group; • objects of group; • how people can become/stop being members; • meeting arrangements; • officers and their election; • handling of money; • use of common seal; • changing rules; • winding up procedures. 	Set up under Charitable Trust Act 1957. Has a trust deed with rules, which must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • introduction: date trust was set up; why it is being set up; names; occupations and addresses of all trustees; • aims; • powers: can be as wide or narrow apply as group wants eg to employ staff, for grants, buy or lease property; • rules board will operate under.
Setting up costs	\$200	Free
Size	Minimum of 15 members	Minimum of two trustees
Charitable status	Can apply for charitable status	Can apply for charitable status
Members	Made up of members who may join or leave according to membership rules; must have up-to-date register of current members showing name, address, occupation, date they became a member.	No members. Trustees run the trust for the benefit of others Trustees remain in office until they retire or the term set out in trust deed expires.
Decision making	By members at General Meetings and by committees. Usually has an elected management committee.	By Trustees. AGM and ordinary meetings not automatically open to beneficiaries unless specified in trust deed.
Accountability	Committee is accountable to its members.	Trustees not accountable in specific way. Accountability through trust deed and Charitable Trust Act.
Ministry of Commerce requirements	Must keep list of members, and send annual financial accounts to Registrar of Incorporated Societies.	Must act within law covering trusts, but no particular reporting requirements.
Profits	Can make profits and employ people, but cannot distribute profits to members.	Any profit has to be used for charitable aims.
Liability	Members are not personally liable for debts.	Trustees are not personally liable for debts if trust is incorporated and trustees have acted responsibly.
Winding up	Can be wound up voluntarily by members, or by High Court if society suspends operations for a year, has less than 15 members, is unable to pay debts, or if individual members profit. Surplus assets can be distributed among members.	Can be wound up voluntarily by trustees at any time, unless stipulated by High Court if it believes it is just and equitable to do so. Surplus assets must be distributed to other charitable organisations.

Thanks to NZFVWO

From the Colonies

Auckland Branch Field Day

Date: Saturday, 15th February 1997

Time: 9.30am - cuppa. 10am - Open Field Day

Venue: Pukekohe High School, Harris Street, Pukekohe

Directions: Take the Bombay/Pukekohe off-ramp to Pukekohe, veer left at State Highway 22 and ringroad, left at first roundabout, then right into Harris Street. Watch for sign-posting.

Cost: \$5.00 Registration only.

Speakers

Denis Anderson AM and PM

Robert Rice

or Peter Molan (Waikato University Honey Research Unit)

Also...

Alternative income from bees.

Added value from bees.

Lunchtime auction.

Plus...

Interesting programme to be finalised.

Barbecue food and salads available.

Room to display whatever you wish to share.

Limited overnight accommodation available.

Book early

For further information contact:

Brian Phone: (09) 420-5028

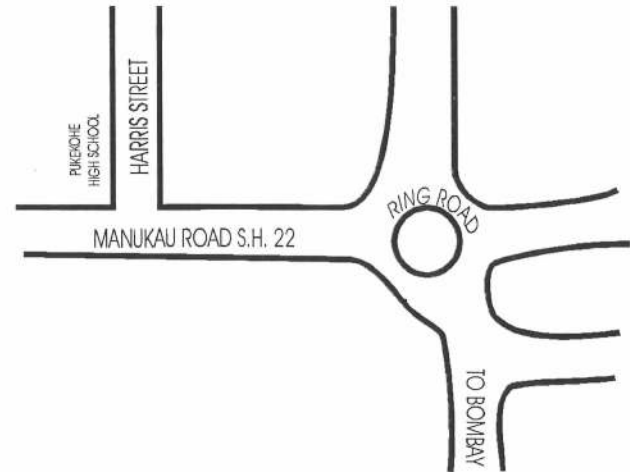
Jim: Phone: (09) 238-7464 Fax: (09) 232-8429

PUKEKOHE Not North or South but West of the Bombay Hills, Pukekohe is often classed as the Market Garden of Auckland City, but our garden produce can be found throughout the country and we export thousands of tons of squash and onions.

As the centre of the Franklin District and home of Counties Sport, Pukekohe has a lot to offer in the way of local shopping requirements while Manukau City and Rainbows End is a mere ½ hour motorway drive away and Auckland Central a further ¼ hour.

Together with dairying, fatstock, sheep and goat farming, market gardening and horticulture, a steel mill producing flat iron and the finest tool stool, there could be few districts that could offer a more interesting visit.

Beekeeping however, is not over productive here but beekeepers of the Auckland Branch area from Warkworth in



the North of Meremere in the South, find pollination of our extensive kiwi-fruit orchards, a good cash crop.

On February 15th we will be introducing an interesting programme for our Field Day, while our local A. & P. Society, by accidental design, are having their annual show, which could help to entertain the rest of the family.

Pollination will be well over, hive build-up complete with a brief respite before honey gathering, so pack up mum and the kids and enjoy the company of the Auckland Branch members.

Around the colonies

Prospects for a good season in Auckland South are not promising. Those with willow sites started off well after a warm winter, but barberry after an early start was of short duration. Coastal sites, normally a fortnight earlier than the main flow, are not working the clover yet.

Here it is late November and our evenings have that chilly wintry feeling and a rush to change into longs. So it could be a late start to the main flow. Cabbage trees have one of the best showings I've seen in many a year and for those who can read the signs, could indicate the weather pattern for the rest of the season. They tell me that manuka is producing well north of the city.

Our motorway seems to be a potential source of nectar in the future as millions of our dollars are being used to make them attractive and they are now showing up well.

Southland Branch News

Wind, rain, mud, and hives full of starving bees are the unwelcome sights facing Southland beekeepers this month as they struggle to keep up with the essential feeding and refeeding of their hungry hives.

A good cold winter and pleasant early spring ensured that winter losses were low and the bees got away to a flying start. But of course it couldn't last and winter has returned with a vengeance. Good early matings have been followed by poor results with October cells, particularly closer to the coast. Strong hives are cleaning up tonnes of syrup and some beekeepers are finding that the difficult paddock conditions are causing fatal delays to their feeding programmes.

So once again we are hanging in and waiting for the weather to break so that bees can fly and the temperatures improve.

Travellers around Southland are noticing the unsightly remains of trees, shrubs and flaxes which were killed by a week of the strongest frosts to hit the south in over a century. There seems to be little pattern to the kills with many instances of casualties and survivors only a few metres apart. Many of the victims were nectar sources and we hope their replacements will also be of value.

The '97 Southland field day will be held at Andersons Park in Invercargill on 8 February. The theme is Dollars from Hives, so bring your ideas, we certainly need them.

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QUANTITY	GRIDS ONLY	ASSEMBLED WITH WOODEN FRAME
1000 or more	\$5.95	\$7.75
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100 to 199	\$7.20	\$9.00

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For the above prices to apply, payment must accompany your order
(even for our very best customers).

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William Charles Cotton

Grand Bee Master of New Zealand

Part V

Questions, Questions ... & Other People's Bees

The bees embarked on the Tomatin had somehow been lost. Cotton tried to acquire some during his stopover in Sydney and succeeded in contacting beekeepers who might help him in future. The subject must have still been on his mind on arrival in Auckland on 30 May 1842 and later at the Bay of Islands when he and Selwyn landed from the Wave on June 20.

Beekeepers Hobson & Taylor

Bishop Selwyn's journal for 31 May 1842 noted "Went to stay with the Governor and Mrs. Hobson, whom I found most hospitable and agreeable." This Auckland visit most likely had Cotton in attendance, for earlier on May 20, Cotton recorded in his journal "Landfall at Auckland ... Kindly lodged by the Governor." The Hobsons had brought bees with them from Sydney in February 1840. Could a conversation have gone - Cotton: 'Your Excellency, have bees been introduced as yet?' Hobson: 'Yes, I did bring a hive from Sydney to Waitangi some two years ago, but left it with Rev. Taylor at Waimate. They could still be there now'. Cotton's question after meeting Taylor may have been met with 'My dear Cotton, I regret to say that they did not survive.'

Mary Bumby's diary entry for 11 February 1840 reads "Captain Hobson arrived here (sic) today along with five gentlemen and two Church Missionaries, Mr Clark (sic) and Mr Taylor, he (ie., Hobson) is appointed Governor of New Zealand." At the meal table - two beekeepers (Hobson & Bumby), each the owner of at least one hive, one future beekeeper (Taylor), and possibly a dish of honey in the comb before them, all under the same roof! What chance their common interest might be raised?

The naturalist Dieffenbach, a visitor to Waimate in December 1840, mentioned a hive of bees there thriving remarkably well with Rev. Richard Taylor. Earlier in July, Mary Bumby at Hokianga received a note from Taylor "consoling me on the sudden removal of my dear brother". Taylor's hive must not have survived and was likely the remains of one that Captain Hobson brought over from New South Wales. Taylor very likely knew that hives were accessible a few days travel away on the west coast, but was Cotton ever made aware of this?

A 'Bumby' Bee Opportunity

Was Cotton aware during his first beeless year at Waimate, inland from the Bay of Islands, that Mary Bumby over at Mangungu could have supplied him with some bees he so eagerly sought?

A window of opportunity to acquire some 'Bumby' bees existed between June 1842 (Cotton's arrival at the Bay) and August 1843 (Busby's delivery of three hives at Waitangi). Thriving bee colonies were in Mary Bumby's possession no more than a few days journey to the west. Surely James Busby, the British Resident up to February 1840 would have had detailed knowledge of all the British nationals and their situation. Was he unaware of the Hokianga bees?

Rev. William Woon recorded in his journal for 11 August 1840 an entry dealing with John Bumby, who appears to have been a beekeeper along with his sister "On his arrival here he brought with him a swarm of bees which were kept in his garden at the back of the Mission House." The survival of the bees that John and Mary Bumby brought out on the James in March 1839 is beyond doubt. Isaac Hopkins recorded in his

Continued on page 24

PIERCO

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500 to 999	\$7.00	\$9.50 +GST
200 to 499	\$7.40	each per 100
100 to 199	\$7.90	
10 to 99	\$9.00	

These lids are from prime first grade material, and are pre-folded to perfection by automated machinery. Standard internal dimensions are 515mm x 408mm x 84mm. If you require a different size, we may be able to accommodate your requirements at the above prices.

FRAME WIRE, 3kg reels, 0.46mm

2 reels	\$23.00 ea	+GST	USUALLY
6 reels	\$21.00 ea	+GST	\$25.78 +GST
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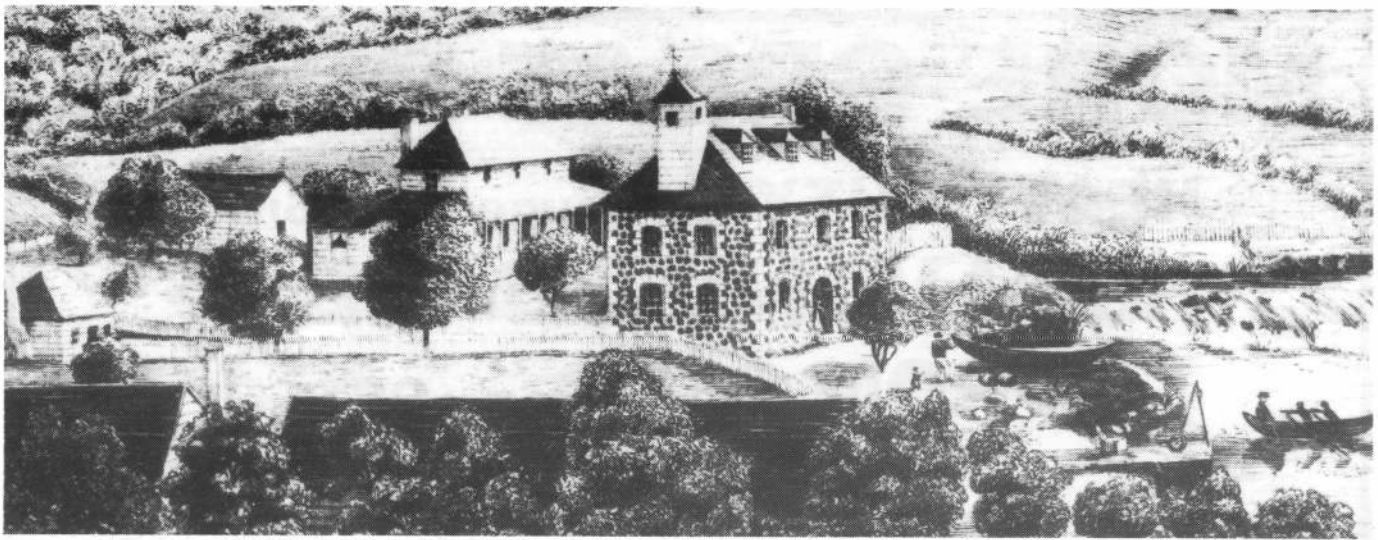


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The Stone Store on the Kerikeri waterfront, which Cotton used as a staging Post for Auckland.

Continued from page 20

1916 Reminiscences, some contents of apiary notes that Mary kept during 1843-5. The hive named 'King Henry VIII' was a swarm from her original stock which issued on 27 December 1843. Another swarm rose on 3 October 1844. 'Henry VIII' produced at least three swarms throughout 1844, 'Edward', 'Marianne' and 'Samuel', as well as a harvest of 46 pounds of honey.

Mary Bumby's travels can be mapped by the record of a marriage, one death and several births. In December 1840 she was married to Rev. Gideon Smales at Mangungu, Hokianga, on the western side of the far north of the North Island. The Bay of Islands, Cotton's boating playground, is on the opposite coast.

Mary Anna Bumby

Mary's eldest son, John Bumby Smales, was born in October 1841 after the young couple were posted to the mission station at Pakanae further down the Hokianga. Two weeks before the birth of her second son, Horatio Hewgill Smales, Cotton visited there on 29 November 1842. From his journal "Tuesday ... walked on about a mile & a half over the land to the house of one of the Wesleyans, named Smaile (sic) ... The house was neat within and Mrs S seemed to have a good many books, and is I believe the best informed of all the party out here. He is married to the daughter (note: should be the sister) of Mr Bumby the late head of the mission who was drowned in the Thames shortly before our arrival." Had Mary relocated her bees from Mangungu to Pakanae or were they still in place up river overlooking her place of marriage? Was she absent at the time of the beemaster's visit? Cotton made no record on the presence of bees about her house.

From late 1843, the Smales' residence on the south west coast kept the two beekeepers well apart. The possibility of Cotton's contact with them was therefore greatly limited.

Around November 1843 the Smales' family removed south to Kawhia before taking over the Aotea circuit at Rauraukauere in January 1844. Young Horatio died at Kawhia in December 1843 after catching a chill on the voyage. Their missionary work in the Taranaki region paralleled Cotton's residence at Waimate inland from Paihia and the Bay until November 1844 and his subsequent stays at Auckland and Wellington. At Aotea, Mary had four daughters and a son between September 1844 and April 1852. In 1846 Cotton made a voyage south to Wellington and Otaki, then north to Auckland via Whanganui and Taranaki, the southern boundary of Smales' territory.

Rev. John Hewgill Bumby

Rev. John Hobbs preceded Mary and her brother John Bumby at Mangungu. He was a friend and visitor of the Smales and also a Wesleyan. Cotton recorded in his diary for Friday 8 March 1844 "Mr Hobbs of the Wesleyan mission at Hokianga came to breakfast." On this occasion or on others, might conversation have turned to bees and honey, with the

observation that Mary had brought bees to the west coast five years previously?

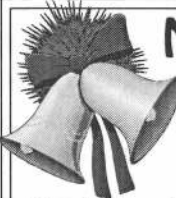
Cotton had had his own bees since March 1844, and Busby had a viable hive in August 1843 to Cotton's delight. In late 1847 Cotton returned to England.

Answers may never be forthcoming to Cotton's apparent ignorance regarding the Hobson - Bumby - Taylor contact with honeybees. As late as July 1843 Cotton eagerly sought to acquire some hives, for he recorded at the sailing of the Shamrock for Sydney "I also sent a note to Mrs McArthur of Parramatta begging her to fulfil her promise of sending me some Bees."

Peter Barrett, August 1996

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NBA OFFICE HOURS
During the holiday
season

The National Beekeepers office will close on the 24th December till Monday, 13th of January, 1997.

The phone will be diverted to my home so you can still call or leave a message, my home no. is (06) 843-8930. We would like to take this opportunity to wish you a very happy Christmas and all the very best of everything for 1997.

Kindest regards
Harry Brown, Editor and Secretary

BEEFAX

Vol. 2, No. 3



December 1996

BEEFAX COMES ON BOARD

If you are already a *BeeFax* subscriber, you'll know that this is the first issue of our newsletter in its new format. The executive of the National Beekeepers' Association (NBA) has kindly decided to include *BeeFax* as a regular insert in *The New Zealand Beekeeper* magazine. My colleagues and I are really delighted to be part of the NBA's monthly journal, and we'd like to express our sincere thanks to your organisation for allowing us to take part.

For those of you who are new to *BeeFax*, welcome! We hope you will find much of interest in these pages, whether you are a one hive hobbyist or a large commercial operator. *BeeFax* began publication in October, 1995, and is designed to combine the best elements of the old Apicultural Advisory Officer (AAO) newsletters and the NBA's *Buzzwords* newsletter.

The AAO newsletters were a feature of New Zealand beekeeping in the '70's and '80's. They contained lots of interesting information on a variety of beekeeping matters. But when user-pays hit the scene in the early '90's, the newsletters (at least on a district basis) could no longer be made to fit into the budget.

Buzzwords, of course, was a more current-events style publication, and I had the good fortune to be the publication's editor for two years until it was replaced with the monthly *New Zealand Beekeeper* magazine in 1993.

I've personally always enjoyed writing and editing beekeeping newsletters, mostly because I believe that communication is one of the most important roles an AAO can provide to the beekeeping industry.

So in producing *BeeFax*, we've tried as much as possible to assist in that communication process, by including lots of beekeeping information (à la the AAO newsletters), together with a bit of *Buzzwords*-style current events. Highlights of our first year included:

- excellent articles on nosema and EFB by Robert Rice, our resident expert (Robert is doing his PhD on nosema)

- an Australia special edition, in which we reported on an EFB study tour to Queensland last September
- descriptions of new honey processing machinery seen at the Apimondia world beekeeping congress (including a new system of dealing with extraction cappings and a machine that removes crystallised honey from drums without using heat!)
- news regarding a bee-safe apple thinning spray which will replace the use of Carbaryl
- updates on the world honey market and the big hive losses experienced in North America last season
- A guest article on breeder queen management by Norm Rice, for many years one of the Southern Hemisphere's largest commercial queen producers
- a review of the world-wide debate about the ecological effects of honey bees on native environments
- a continuing series on beekeeping's place on the rapidly expanding Internet

For the future, our promise is more of the same. We'll make sure to include as many new products and ideas

ABOUT THE BEEFAX LOGO



The drawing of the two bees, which is the *BeeFax* logo, displays a behaviour commonly known as "food exchange". The technical term is *trophallaxis*, and while the transfer of nectar or honey is certainly involved, according to *The Hive and The Honey Bee* (one of the world's great texts on bees and beekeeping), trophallaxis is more important as a form of communication; a sharing of information about food sources and the all-important pheromones which are essential to the life and cohesion of the colony. That's also what *BeeFax* is all about -- communication and the sharing of information which is so vital to the well-being of our beekeeping industry.

as possible into our *Gadgets and Gismos* section, and we'll have more articles on bee diseases. We'll keep you up-to-date with what's happening in beekeeping overseas, and we'll include reports from time to time on the New Zealand retail honey market.

In fact, the only thing that has changed is the way we distribute the newsletter itself. The play on words that is the title of this newsletter comes from the fact that for the first volume, at least, subscribers had the option of receiving *BeeFax* in the traditional way through the mail, or more immediately through a high-tech broadcast fax.

Now, of course, *BeeFax* is being included as an insert in *The New Zealand Beekeeper*. But for those beekeepers out there who want to get their newsletter "hot off the press", you can still do so by contacting David McMillan, AAO, Invermay (see the back page for contact details). For a transmission fee, David can put your fax number on his computer fax program and send you a copy of *BeeFax* on the first working day of every month. A full set of the first volume of *BeeFax* is also available from David, at the cost of \$30 (incl. GST).

- *Cliff Van Eaton, AAO, TAURANGA*

CEREAL BOX SCIENCE

Times are tough for honey bee research in North America. Budgets have been slashed, staff are being made redundant, and there is even talk of research centres closing. And all this is at a time when honey bees in that part of the world are under serious threat from parasitic mites (varroa and acarine mite) and the Africanised honey bee.

But rather than take the budget cuts lying down, a group of scientists and beekeepers in the United States have done some lateral thinking, and the result is a most ingenious means of raising much needed research dollars while at the same time publicising the importance of honey bees to the nation's economy.

General Mills, a multi-national breakfast cereal manufacturer, together with entomologists and representatives from the American Honey Producers' Association, has launched a national campaign to raise funds to "accelerate study of a crisis that threatens to eradicate America's honey bee population and devastate American agriculture."

According to Dr. Eric Mussen, Professor of Entomology at the University of California, Davis, the invasion of honey bee parasitic mites "now represents the single greatest threat to ever confront the food chain and America's agricultural industries." Almost all of America's feral honey bees have been

eradicated by the mites since they first arrived in the U.S. As well, more than 60 percent of America's commercial honey bees have been killed.

The campaign centres around Honey Nut Cheerios, one of the most popular breakfast products produced by General Mills (honey is obviously an important ingredient). As part of the Honey Nut Cheerios "Save the Honey Bee" campaign, between now and January 31, 1997, General Mills will donate 25 cents for every honey bee logo clipped from the front of a Honey Nut Cheerios box and mailed to the company. The cartoon-like drawing of the honey bee has appeared on the front of the Honey Nut Cheerios boxes since 1979.

General Mills stands ready to donate up to US\$100,000 for honey bee research. The funds will be evenly distributed to three of America's premiere honey bee research centres: the University of Minnesota, Michigan State University and the University of California, Davis. Each school has honey bee research programmes that have been working on the mite problem.

General Mills is also running an 0800 "Help Save the Honey Bees Hotline" number for those people who wish to find out more about the programme. Callers receive a free honey bee information packet.

Source: BEE-L Internet Bulletin Board, October 25, 1996

SATNAV FOR HIVES

Some of you may be wondering why we ask for apiary grid references on Statements of Inspection and Apiary Registration forms. The idea originally came from beekeepers who took part in the Nelson Emergency Pest and Disease Response (EDPR) in 1991. They found that the landowner and road name information supplied just wasn't good enough to locate hives quickly and cost-effectively. We have also come to realise since then that grid references make the job of area clearances for beekeeping industry exports both easier and less time-consuming.

The map references you've given us have been used for locating hives during EDPR exercises that we've been holding all over New Zealand in the past couple of years. With a map reference and 260 series map, our inspection teams have been able to find most sites without too much trouble, provided that references are accurate and that the hives can actually be seen from the road.

Now we also have another tool that we can use. MAFQual has recently purchased a Trimble GPS (Global Positioning System) unit. This small, hand-



held device can give its position accurately to within 100m anywhere in the world! The "Scoutmaster" model we have gives coordinates in latitude and longitude as well as NZ 260 nomenclature.

You can also type the coordinates of a site into the unit, and it will show you in which direction to travel to get to the site. Once you are moving it also tells you your compass heading, your speed, and the time it will be when you arrive at the site. The information is updated every few seconds and is quite accurate, even in a car at 100kph.

In an EDPR, these machines will be invaluable for finding and pin-pointing the locations of hives, especially where the inspectors looking for them are not familiar with the district, or were we need to accurately log the position of every site in a district.

All we need now is for everyone to give us grid references for all of their apiary sites. If you don't have grid reference maps, or would like some help in working out how to calculate grid references, you can contact your local Apicultural Advisory Officer. They keep a complete set of maps for their Apiary District, and you can spend as much time as you need in their office filling in the appropriate sections on your Statement of Inspection.

- Phil Sutton, AO, TIMARU

LEAFCUTTERS DOWN-UNDER

Draft quarantine requirements for the importation of the leafcutter bee (*Megachile rotundata*) are currently under development in Australia. The proposed conditions (if implemented) would potentially enable the importation of leafcutter bees from the same countries as those from which the European honey bee (*Apis mellifera*) can be imported.

The proposed health certification requirements for leafcutter bees insist that the source apiaries are free of leafcutter bee chalkbrood (*Ascosphaera aggregata*). To ensure freedom from chalkbrood, importers will have to carry out two culture tests, the first before shipment and the second on arrival into the Australian quarantine facility. *Ascosphaera aggregata* is specific to leafcutter bees, and along with honey bee chalkbrood (*Ascosphaera apis*) is the only other aggressively pathogenic species of chalkbrood found on bees.

During the development phase of the quarantine requirements, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) conducted transmission studies to determine if varroa mites could be introduced via leafcutter prepupae and/or cocoon material. The results from this study showed that transmission of varroa mites by this mode was not possible.

Nevertheless, on arrival in Australia the leafcutter bee pupae will be hatched in quarantine and screened for other parasites.

It is my understanding that the leafcutter bees are initially to be used for the pollination of lucerne crops for seed production in South Australia. If approval is granted, the introduction of these bees may also have an effect on the Australian honey bee industry. For many years Australian beekeepers have tried to establish a serious pollination industry, and have had at least some measure of success.

Unfortunately, however, contract pollination has not developed to the same extent as in New Zealand and many other countries. Beekeepers in Australia continue to rely on honey production as their primary source of income. Often beekeepers provide hives for crop pollination at no cost to the farmer in an effort to guarantee access rights to properties for honey production.

If leafcutters are brought in to the country, for the first time these "new beekeepers" will charge for their services, since they will no longer have honey production to fall back on from their bees. Many of the traditional beekeepers have resisted this change for fear of losing prime honey production country to the "new beekeepers". This, of course, is not likely to happen, as often honey bees and leafcutter bees are kept side by side in many countries (eg, Canada), and leafcutter bees don't produce honey.

One would hope that the Australian industry would take up this opportunity to explore new avenues of beekeeping, especially with the threat of varroa just off Australia's northern shores. Perhaps if leafcutter bees are introduced into Australia, and developed as a commercial industry, than an opportunity may exist for the New Zealand beekeeping industry to observe, learn and re-establish a similar new industry here. Leafcutter bees were introduced into New Zealand in 1971, but so far leafcutter bee pollination hasn't become a true commercial activity here.

- Robert Rice, AAO, LINCOLN

PESTICIDE WOES

In last month's *BeeFax*, we reported on the development of a new apple thinning spray to replace Carbaryl, which has been killing honey bees in the Hawkes Bay and other apple growing areas.

Now, with a solution on the horizon for that particular pesticide problem, comes word of another potential threat to honey bees. This time it's Orthene on boysenberries. The chemical has been used in several important berry growing districts in New Zealand this year to deal with a viral disease which



has been publicised as the "AID's of boysenberries". The Orthene is applied to kill aphids, which have been shown to inject the virus when sucking on plant tissues.

The only problem, of course, is that the active ingredient in Orthene is acephate, a powerful organo-phosphate. We understand that applications of the chemical on boysenberries before and during the flowering period this year has resulted in bee deaths, and a reluctance on the part of bees to visit boysenberry flowers and do their vital pollination job.

It appears that Orthene may not be registered for use on boysenberries, and the label directions state "toxic to bees - spray must not contact plants from 7 days of flowering to petal fall if the plants are likely to be visited by bees." Unfortunately, however, some growers have still used the product, since the insecticide is one of the few weapons they have in dealing with what is a very destructive berryfruit disease.

One concern of beekeepers whose hives have been affected by the spray has been the possibility of the chemical getting into the nectar collected by the bees, and hence into the hives themselves. Acephate is a systemic, meaning that the material is absorbed into the plant itself and travels in the plant's sap. That's why it works so well on aphids.

However, the good news is that according to leading experts on pesticides and bee toxicity, most pesticides have not been found in nectar or honey. Drs. Carl Johansen and Dan Mayer, in their book *Pollinator Protection*, report that they have only ever found two insecticides (aldicarb and dimethoate) in nectar in quantities significant enough to cause contamination. Bees that do gather poisoned nectar usually die in the field or in the hive before giving up their contaminated load. Sick foraging bees making it back to the hive demonstrate abnormal behaviour and house bees remove them from the hive before they expel their load of nectar.

The authors state that "in bee poisoning investigations, detectable residues of pesticides have often been found in dead bees, pollen and bee brood, but not in honey. In those instances where insecticide contamination has been detected in honey, the amounts found were considered too small to be significant. Also they were only found in honey cold-extracted from frames and not filtered; they were not found in commercially processed honey."

GETTING BEES OUT

Extractor Fans - It's difficult to keep bees out of honey houses, especially in large, open-plan buildings designed to take forklifts. Several beekeepers in the Waikato and Rotorua areas have installed medium to large-sized extractor fans in their sheds in recent years, and these seem to reduce or

even eliminate the number of bees being attracted into the building. The fan sucks air out of the shed and seems to work by either creating a slight negative vacuum, or by eliminating or reducing the smell of honey. Bees will still come in with honey boxes, but they often get minced up in the extractor fans, especially if a light is set behind the fan.

Window Escapes - an idea that works well exploits the phototactic response of bees (ie, bees are attracted to light, so naturally they go to windows). Once on the window, they can be directed to the corners where you can make a hole covered by a wire cone or bee escape to encourage the bees to go outside (and not be able to get back in). The trick in getting them to the corners relies on the ability of bees to see colour interfaces (ie, dark and light boundaries). Simply paint a black V shape from each corner and down about 100 mm or so. The bees crawl up the window until they hit the black line, then scoot along the line until they reach the corner exit hole.

By the way, this interface business is the reason you get a lot of stings around the wrist if you are not wearing gloves. There is a nice colour boundary where your white overalls meet your arm. The same thing happens if you tuck overalls into black gumboots. Some people think stings around the ankles or calves is due to the smell from your boots, but it has really more to do with the colour boundary making these parts stand out. Come to think of it, maybe not-so-sweet smelling feet might have something to do with it as well!

Vacuum Cleaner - a good way to get rid of bees off the top of honey boxes or window sills is to use an old, or "dedicated" vacuum cleaner. The main thing to remember is to empty the cleaner each day or... "poo-pong!" You may need to tip the bees into a bucket of hot water or in the front of a hive since they can stay alive for some time in the vacuum bag.

- Murray Reid, AAO, HAMILTON



BeeFax is a publication of the National Apiculture Business Unit, MAF Quality Management. Editorial production is by Cliff Van Eaton, MAF Qual, Private Bag, Tauranga.

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LOOKING FOR WASP NESTS

(and shutting the door before the dog bolts)

While around here at any rate, it's not the normal time of year to go looking for wasp nests, there are always the odd one or two around in the spring. These nests have a huge head start on the queen wasps over-wintering, which have to start from scratch. If you move away the hives in the autumn these nests almost invariably die out, but if it's a spring site where you want to move bees in it's a real problem. Even with wasp blocks just one nest will cause major economic loss by harassing the hives all winter with the result that come spring, there will be more dead hives, more hungry hives, (which may well starve before you get to them) and a whole lot more weak and struggling hives. The worst yard we've done so far this spring, is being annoyed by a smallish number of wasps, it's a willow site put there so that the bees can build up for pollination and if we don't find the wasp nest before next winter, we'll have to move all the hives out in the autumn and not move them back till the end of winter, by which time the nest should have died out.

So how do you track down wasp nests?

The first rule is that wasps harassing bee hives are usually within 50 metres of the hives and almost always within 200 metres. This is helpful, except that they're usually in an obscure place down a cliff or on the other side of a swamp.

The second rule is that wasps fly in a straight line from the hives to their nest. Or rather, in as straight a line as practicable allowing for the terrain. Don't be fooled by foraging wasps and in the autumn, mating drone wasps which fly all over the place. The drones in particular fly around in droves around the tops of bushes and scrub. However, if the wasps are robbing your hives they will fly as straight as they can homewards. If you ever get on to a good line of flying wasps where there are bees flying at the same time you will notice the difference easily, wasps fly straight, bees veer all over the place. Wasps fly in cooler conditions than bees so if you can get to the yard in question early in the morning, or late in the afternoon, on a sunny day with the sun low and not many bees flying, you will have a much better chance of tracking the wasps. The absence of bees, which tend to confuse the issue somewhat, and the low sun angle, both help to pick up the wasps flight path.

So you stand next to a hive that is being thrashed and try to see which way the wasps are flying off, if you are lucky enough to see one carrying a piece of bee, run after it, as they are a lot slower, but anyhow get the direction of flight. Then, taking a bearing on a landmark in the same direction, walk along the line of the flight path watching for more wasps. When you see them curl around and head downwards you've found the nest and a little bit of insecticide powder in the entrance will soon put thing right.

Of course it's not always that easy. The entrance may be in the shade which makes them very hard to see unless you are right on top of them, or there may be multiple nests all around the yards. In this situation it helps to know where wasps nests are most likely to be found, remembering that most of them will be quite close to the hives. In pumice country they can be anywhere but even then they are usually situated on a bank in, or more often under, a log or stump, or under a pile of rubbish. The most common situation I've found them in, is on a bank, be it a stopbank, a small rise in a paddock, the edge of a ditch or a steep face running down to a river. I've also killed them in Carex (the tall grass things in swamps), toe-toe, the tops of pampas, in buildings (including above the door of the office at work) and inside the long drop at Puketitiri hot springs. So if all else fails look in the most likely places and walk the tops and bottoms of banks taking advantage of light conditions to spot the wasp's and get a flight line which you can then follow to their nests.

A word of warning here, watch you don't stand on top of the nest and, as the saying goes, put your foot in it. Stand to one side of the nest, upwind so you don't catch the insecticide and if it's a big nest wear all your protective gear. Don't be fooled by the hole size, it's the number of wasps going in and out that counts. Big nests have rows of guards waiting like sharks just inside the entrance. Just remember the procedure, approach quietly from the side, flick in the powder and run like hell.

I remember one autumn up Putere, which is pumice country and the headquarters of the local vespula gang, we were looking for wasp nests by a yard in which 14 out of 16 hives were lost to wasps the previous year. We had tracked some wasps down the road and across the gully to their nest and were just walking back up to the truck when we came across this pig dog. Well talk about an ugly pig dog, this dog was Ugly with a capital UG. There looked to be a bit of bull terrier in it's ancestry (I doubt if it had parents, it certainly didn't have any breeding), the rest of its genes were highly problematical - a little bit of bulldog, boxer, warthog, mako shark and a few hidings with a blunt instrument such as a sledge-hammer. Graham, of course takes an immediate fancy to this horrible looking thing, gives it a pat and talks to it. We then wander on back up to the truck to find that Graham had left his door open and, while we were looking for wasp nests, the pig dog had hopped inside and had eaten Graham's lunch. Unfortunately even with the motor off a three ton truck makes some noise and I guess a dog that ugly doesn't get to adulthood without learning to look over its shoulder and knowing how to leap frantically into the roadside ditch. I heard sometime later that the dog had died from eating too much mutton which led to a severe case of lead poisoning. It seems the mutton was still moving, the dog was moving faster still, and the lead? Well the lead was moving very fast indeed!!!

Peter Berry.

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Trevor Cullen.



Pest Management Strategy — Update

The recently released MAF RA review of our industry PMS for American Foulbrood is considered a very positive development, something of a milestone, or a hurdle finally overcome. It signifies that we have at last met the requirements of MAF RA and that they will be happy to see the PMS move forward to notification by the Minister of Agriculture. The review contained suggestions and clarification of a minor and technical nature, and will have no negative impact on the PMS as we see it being implemented. MAF RA make a point that the chief veterinary officer will be the Chief Technical Officer for our, and all other, Pest Management Strategies. This is not expected to add any extra costs to the PMS but simply provides the necessary legal framework for enacting and safeguarding the legal integrity of the PMS.

We expect notification of our PMS to occur relatively quickly now. However the

present uncertain political situation has meant that we have no sitting government (at the time of writing) and consequently no progress in moving the backlog of important legislation including the Biosecurity Amendment Bill through the house. This has the potential to cause further delays.

After the formal notification of our PMS there will be a time window in which all interested parties will be given the opportunity to make formal submissions. We may possibly also have to have a board of inquiry. At the point at which submissions are called for our committee will be mobilising all resources to encourage members and branches throughout the country to ensure that the minister receives the factual situation of the huge majority supporting our industry PMS. It remains in the vital interests of our industry to ensure that the influence or lobbying activity of any small group or

groups of disaffected opponents upon the Minister of Agriculture, is balanced by submissions from the large majority who support the PMS. The vocal opponents should receive recognition only commensurate with their support base. In the interests of the democratic processes of our industry we need to act so that that the will of the majority prevails.

The PMS committee is now proceeding upon the assumption that we will have our PMS in place by mid 1998. There remains a large amount of preliminary work required before commencement and progress of the committee's work will be regularly provided through our column here.

With the "review period" finally completed, it is very satisfying that we can at last begin to move on to the nuts and bolts of implementing the PMS.

Acknowledgement Bruce Stevenson for The PMS Committee

Old Mans Beard: Flies away

The Department of Conservation and regional councils currently spend more than \$1 million a year trying to control Old Mans Beard. Thanks to Manaaki Whenua/Landcare Research, help, in th from of the leaf mining fly (which was recently released from quarantine) is at hand to beat this smothering nasty.

Some 20,000 of the flies are to be released throughout central New Zealand this summer, and they will reproduce rapidly. Female flies will produce 500 eggs, and five generations this season alone. The larvae of the leaf mining fly tunnel into the leaves of Old Mans Beard, and the heavily damaged leaves shrivel and fall off.

The leaf mining fly is the first of several control agents Manaaki Whenua hopes to bring in to fight old mans beard — a decision on the second is due soon and the application for a third is expected to be made this month.

Acknowledgement MAF Policy

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Library News

From Ecroyd Beekeeping Supplies Ltd.

CASTINGS WITH BEESWAX. A booklet/catalogue and manual for making artistic candles and figurines. Very good images of the products made by using the extensive selection of moulds available. The pictures are numbered and refer to the accompanying price list.

A very practical aid for those who want to try this hobby which can develop into a true art.

PLANT PEST MANAGEMENT STRATEGY FOR TARANAKI. Taranaki Regional Council, July 1996. Probably of interest to beekeepers as it lists several plants which are valuable nectar and/or pollen sources.

WARNING

RE: BIRO-SECURITY ACT

Beekeepers should note that under the above Act all contracts including cheques signed with a ball-point pen will only be legal if the pen used contains permanent non-fading ink.

Thanks Russell Poole

Endangered bees

European beekeepers are concerned over the spread of an Asian parasite, varroa, that threatens to decimate hives across the continent. Most keepers are reluctant to combat the plague with chemicals that might wind up in the honey supply. Peter Rosenkranz, head of the Apiarian Research Centre in Germany's Baden-Wurtemberg state, says that the bees have no hormone mechanism against varroa, and he fears that there may soon be areas of Europe where the bees have completely died out.

Search for improved approaches

Denise Church

One of the most interesting features of environmental management systems is that they are growing out of industry's search for improved approaches and the need to be able to demonstrate those approaches.

The motivators are obvious. First, businesses can gain a competitive advantage. Many aspects of good environmental performance make good business sense. There are substantial cost savings to be had. In many cases, it is what the customer puts priority on. It is an essential part of risk management.

Second, communities these days have high expectations of the industries that operate in them. When I worked with a large energy company in the United Kingdom, I spent quite a few hours on the receiving end of calls and letters from irate customers or interest groups who were critical of what the company was doing. Most of the problems were avoidable, but they tarnished the company's reputation and it often costs more to remedy a problem than avoid it in the first place.

These reasons for taking environmental issues seriously and the responses to them are much wider than how industry responds to legislation like the Resource Management Act.

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These reasons for taking environmental issues seriously and the responses to them are much wider than how industry responds to legislation like the Resource Management Act.

An environmental management system is a tool to achieve both compliance and improved performance. Emerging systems, such as the ISO 14000 standards, generally have seven main steps. These steps also seem to be featured in the actions now being taken by many New Zealand businesses.

1 Policy

The company must recognise that environment is an issue for the business and think about how it fits into business strategy. This leads to setting broad

objectives — cleaner production should feature in the policy of any progressive business.

2 Planning

Management must develop systematic approaches to measure the impacts which the business has on the environment. It is important to understand current and likely future requirements. Informal or formal environmental auditing can contribute to the evaluation, which provides the basis for setting more specific targets.

3 Process

The company then agrees on its systematic response to the environmental issues it faces — the protocols, procedures, lines of responsibility, which will ensure that the business delivers the environmental results that management set out to achieve. This can involve looking at the way the company does business, and it can be influenced by codes of practice, guidelines, and industry programmes such as the chemical industry's Responsible Care programme.

4 Implementation

Managerial and operational controls are introduced. The specific steps businesses can take to improve performance embrace the concept of cleaner production.

There are many examples in New Zealand of these sorts of initiatives: the packaging industry accord, the hotel industry in Auckland, and in individual firms from paint producers to energy suppliers.

5 Monitoring

Associated with the action is monitoring and review: remember that 'what gets measured gets done'. The monitoring process can include formal reporting at the business level and external reporting, for example through the company's annual report. In the UK, 77 percent of Financial Times top 100 companies comment on environmental issues in their annual reports.

Monitoring opens the possibility of using information for the benefit of the business, for example through involvement in labelling schemes or product certification.

6 Checking and correction

Checking can include third party review or auditing to ensure that the system is actually delivering the results intended. The information gathered through

monitoring can and should be used to good effect in improving performance.

7 Management review

A good environmental management system has commitment right through the organisation, from the chief executive, board members and senior management to staff at all levels. Management must regularly consider "Where to next?" and the business opportunities that may open up through improved performance.

In essence, these seven steps are about 'plan, do, check, review'.

More formal approaches are now being taken to environmental management systems. There are good reasons for that. Apart from the fact that there is no point in everyone reinventing the wheel, a standard approach allows for recognition on a consistent basis and for formal certification. There are two widely recognised standards for environmental management: the British Standards Institute BS7750, and the International Organisation for Standardisation ISO 14000.

The ISO standard is being developed to cover environmental management systems, environmental auditing, eco-labelling, assessing environmental performance and life-cycle assessment.

Innovative and forward-looking companies know that now is the time to learn about environmental management systems and apply them. For some, this may involve seeking accreditation or participation in development of environmental labelling programmes.

Of course, formal use of the ISO standard is not necessarily the first step for everyone. The basic formula of 'plan, do, check, review' is one that can be applied in a simple way at all levels, through to the one-person business. Organisations like the Environment Business Network are playing an important part in allowing people to share practical, common-sense approaches to good environmental management.

It has been encouraging, over the last year, to see good initiatives and practical action emerging, and the Sustainable Management Fund has provided key support. We now need to see information shared as widely as possible, and good practice taken up from large to small organisations.

Acknowledgment: Environment Update.



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Earnsleugh man knows all about birds, bees

Dianne King

Alexandra: It is easy to talk about the birds and the bees with Ernest Adamson — he is a beekeeper who has taken on ostrich farming.

Mr Adamson, of Earnsleugh, can reel off statistics that are mind-boggling. It takes 10,000 bees to weigh 1kg — a dramatic contrast to a 150kg yearling bird on Mr Adamson's property. A hive contains about 60,000 bees and he has 1000 hives and 1000 times 60,000 equals an awful lot of bees — about 60 million.

Now, he and his sister, Lois, and her husband, Peter Kircher, from Bannockburn, near Cromwell, have gone into partnership in ostrich farming.

About 20 young birds are being run at present on the Adamson property at Earnsleugh, while the breeding farm is the Kircher property at Bannockburn.

Open days to coincide with the thyme festival had been held at the Earnsleugh and Cromwell properties.

The Adamson siblings were brought up in Wedderburn where their grandfather was a beekeeper.

Mr Adamson still has in use a 1907 hive originally owned by his great-uncle.



Earnsleugh beekeeper Ernest Adamson, with an ostrich egg in his hand, attracts the birds with a shiny hive-smoker.

Mr Adamson specialises in thyme honey, including Bio-Gro honey as the property is registered with the organic products group in Wellington and testing guarantees the honey is free of chemicals.

Over the next three years Mr Adamson hopes to build up ostrich stock to about 350 birds, while bee numbers will hover around 60 million.

Ack. Otago Daily Times

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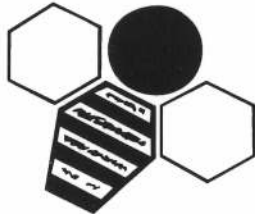
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Harry Brown, Executive Secretary



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Boundary Fences

The responsibility for the construction or repair of a boundary fence can easily become a source of dispute between neighbours. In town a property owner may require a fence to keep children and dogs in (or out). In a rural area an adequate fence will be essential to secure stock. The legal position as to boundary fencing liability has for many years been incorporated into statute. The most recent legislation is The Fencing Act 1978.

Equal Liability

The basic rule is that the occupiers of adjoining lands which are not divided by an adequate fence are liable to contribute in equal proportion to the costs of the fence.

This is often met in practice by, for instance, one owner providing the labour and the other owner providing the materials. However, problems arise where one owner has not been prepared to agree to contribute

towards the costs of the fence, or where the owners are unable to agree on the particular type of fence to be constructed.

Fencing Notice

In this case The Fencing Act sets out a procedure whereby an owner may serve a "Fencing Notice" in a specified form upon the neighbouring owner. The notice will have to set out details of the type of fence to be constructed, the description of the boundary, the method of construction, the estimated costs and how these costs are to be met.

The neighbour receiving such a notice may within 21 days serve a cross notice signifying any objection and the cross notice may make counter proposals. If no cross notice is served the neighbour will be deemed to have agreed to the proposals set out in the Fencing Notice.

Disputes between neighbours over fencing liability, arising out of the Fencing Act, may be referred to the District Court and are usually dealt with by the Disputes Tribunal.

Problems Can Arise

In practice, a problem which we encounter, is that the owner wishing to erect the fence fails to follow the requirements of The Fencing Act until it is too late.

It is not possible, under the provisions of The Fencing Act, to obtain a contribution from a neighbour for the cost of any part of the work on a fence that has been carried out before a Fencing Notice has been served.

To avoid these sort of problems we would suggest the following: Discuss your fencing requirements with your neighbour. If you are able to agree to these requirements then it would be a good idea to put the details in writing.

Specify in the agreement which portion of the boundary is to be fenced, the design (a diagram may be useful), and the type of materials that are to be used.

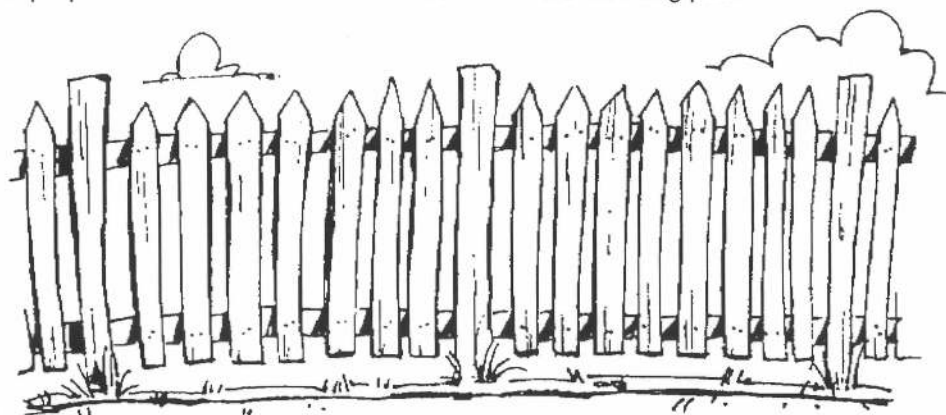
Finally, and importantly, specify who is to pay for the cost of materials and who is to do the work or pay for the cost of the work.

If you have an agreement of this sort and your neighbour attempts to back out of it, you should be able to enforce

the agreement in court. If you are in doubt about the terms, see us.

If you and your neighbour are unable to agree about any detail then (before doing any work on the fence) see us so that we can consider whether a formal notice under the Fencing Act should be served.

Bear in mind that there are circumstances where an owner's requirements go beyond what may justify a full half share contribution from the neighbour. This is especially so if one owner wants a particularly high fence or needs a specialised fence. For example, the fencing of a swimming pool.



Finally, before any fence is constructed it is essential to ensure that it is on the boundary line. Nothing is worse than constructing an expensive fence only to find that it is a few centimetres into the neighbour's property and has to be moved.

If the boundary pegs cannot be located then it will, generally speaking, be a small cost for a surveyor to locate the pegs or to re-peg the boundary.

Thanks to Bannister & von Dadelszen
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Bee Biz

FOR THE COMMERCIAL BEEKEEPER

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Ron Miksha

You can profit from the web — here's how!

The Net! What is it and why is everyone so excited about it? It may be an over-stated and overrated computer geek thing, or it may represent the greatest innovation in communications since Gutenberg made the press move. The truth, as usual, is somewhere in between. You *should* be interested in the Internet — it can be a powerful tool. It can save you money, give you ideas which will improve your honey business, and keep you in touch with colleagues around the world. You can use it to send a letter for about a penny (e-mail), move volumes of books, reports and photos (FTP), or browse the world (theWeb).

The Internet is exciting for most of us who like to communicate because it is so cheap, so fast (almost instantaneous), and so much a libertarian media. Anyone with a computer, about a hundred dollars and an idea has an unfettered soapbox to vent complaints or expound his or her virtues. These attributes are wonderful, but they also make the World Wide Web chaotic and confusing for many users. How do you find specific information? What can you believe? How much Internet information is fact and how much is sales hype? Well, to begin with, be aware that *everyone* on the World Wide Web is selling something. This is not as cynical a remark as it may sound.

It takes time and effort to produce Web sites. The authors — private individuals or large corporations — need some reward for their work. Even universities, many of which supply the most polished and professional sites, are involved in a subtle sales pitch. They are using their Home Page to describe their recent research work, which may help maintain public awareness (and *funding*) for their projects. They are also attracting future students to their schools. Selling stuff is not necessarily a bad thing; it is helping to make the Net possible. But keep this in the back of your mind when you read the information on the Internet.

The editor of *Bee Culture* magazine felt it would be helpful for the growing number of wired beekeepers if we were to supply brief reviews of Internet sites. In coming months, we will appraise Web sites for information content, bias and advertising content, news worthiness, pictures and humour. The series will help you learn how the Internet works (and how to make it work for you!) and how to sort through the fifty million Web pages to find information you can use. We will attempt to achieve these goals by supplying a small amount of technical stuff (like what you

just finished reading) followed by several bee culture-related reviews of specific World Wide Web Home Pages.

To reach any of these Internet sites, you will need a computer (half of all families in North America have one already), a modem (it allows your computer to use the telephone line to talk to the world), and an Internet provider (a service, like the phone company, that helps you use the Net and send e-mail). Expect to spend about \$15 a month to use the Internet, more if you subscribe to a service like America On Line, Compuserve or others. You will also need some "addresses" to get yourself started.

Over the next months, we will give you the addresses you will need as we review sites related to beginning beekeeping, technical research, mead making, bee supplies, candle making, bee diseases, African honey bees, apitherapy, bee literature and history, commercial beekeeper's home pages and pages with bugs for kids.

We will begin this month with reviews and addresses of beekeeping web sites from around the world. The real power of the Internet is demonstrated when you can spin around the globe in seconds, reading information contributed by Australians, Canadians, Americans and Europeans. To do this, you will be using computers located tens of thousands of miles away.

Beekeeping Web Sites from around the World

AUSTRALIA

<http://gateway.eastend.com.au/~goble>

The Kangaroo Island WWW site emphasizes queen breeding and honey bee genetics, but also has some uniquely Australian information, including an example of a mobile extracting house used by beekeepers with hives in remote eucalyptus forests.

CANADA

<http://www.cuug.ab.ca:8001/~dicka/>

The Dick's are commercial beekeepers in Alberta, Canada. Allen is associated with a UNIX programmer's group in Calgary, and Ellen is an artist. They combine these various passions into a collage of images and information, including an on-line virtual art gallery which this month features a collection of art by a Russian artist. The site is a bit eclectic but has some things which will

Continued on page 27



Bee Services Directory

I have had a request from a Hawke's Bay member to see if we can put together a directory of service available to the Beekeeping industry.

le: If you want Honey tested where do you go, how much will it cost?

Pollen tested for purity. Who will do this for me. How much will it cost?

AFB tests who will do it, how much will it cost?

Are you happy to provide the services you have available? Information to me to collate for the industry.

Harry Brown, Box 307, Hastings. Fax: (06) 878-6007. Please include your contact numbers.

(Phone number. Fax Number. Approx cost and any other info you think is relevant).

Continued from page 26

interest the beekeeper. The Hive Loader page (<http://www.internode.net:80/~allend/loader.htm#text>) shows several pictures of their hive-moving equipment and construction information.

<http://www.muskoka.net/~beeworks/>

This Ontario site is mostly a promo page for "Tracheal-Resistant Queen Bees" and a ventilation cover for hives. In referring to their hive, they claim, "After 150 years of design stagnation, a new beehive has finally appeared on the market." The photograph of their hive is excellent. However, anyone looking for information about Canadian or Ontario beekeeping will be disappointed.

<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/Beekeeping> OK, so this is my own home page. It is full of twisted opinions, axes to grind, honeycombs to sell, computer software for beekeepers and a big stuffed honey-bee. It certainly tries to cover too much ground and mixes American and Canadian content. Check it out for yourself, eh?

ENGLAND

Several U.K. sites are available, including the International Bee Research Association's Home Page. However, there is little which can be considered uniquely British with beekeeping information, facts and figures about English beekeeping.

<http://www.millhouse.co.uk/national/>

This British Beekeeping Meetings and Events page functions as a very well-constructed clearing house of beekeeper's meetings and events, but has no content which would interest anyone except those planning on attending a British Isles bee conference.

<http://www.thorne.co.uk/>

Thorne's is a major supplier of beekeeping equipment in England. They use their Home Page to advertise their services, complete with a form to order their catalogue. There are only a few words about honey and bees, few pictures and nothing about British beekeeping.

<http://www.millhouse.co.uk/bibba/>

British Isles Bee Breeders Association has notes about membership accompanied by information on queen rearing. Tom Robinson has written a great page about two York area bee breeders who raise 200 queens per year. Their breeding season is described in detail.

<http://members.tripod.com/~DARGUK/home.htm>

Devon Apicultural Research Group, which boasts as its president Rev. Brother Adam, has no bee information either. A picture of heather, a few words about the National Bee Hive, or some thoughts on Isle of Wight disease would make this page worth visiting. Instead, the page includes little more than a brief note about the group's mandate — "to seek solutions to current beekeeping problems."

INDIA

<http://www.metla.fi/conf/iufro95abs/d5pap144.htm>

This WWW site is located in the United States, but presents photos and information on *Apis Cerana*. India's giant bee, and it's production of honey from rubber plantations.

NEW ZEALAND

Two absolutely excellent sites demonstrate how the Internet can be used to overcome the isolation of an island nation and put it in sight of the world.

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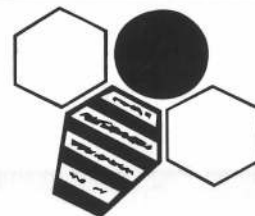
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Regards Brian

Continued from page 27

<http://www.kuai.se/~beeman>

A fifth-generation beekeeper with 250 hives uses excellent photographs to show his honey farm and queen breeding techniques. I had never seen a manufactured queen cell carrier before — the one used by Per-Olof in New Zealand looks like a very stable and useful device. This home page site is extremely well-produced, but will best be viewed with a higher-level browser (like Netscape) because forms and Java coding were used to make the web site more attractive. The site is actually maintained in Sweden and contains Swedish as well as English text options.

www.wave.co.nz/pages/nickw/profile.htm

This New Zealand site has enormous amounts of solid information about the bee industry in New Zealand, including facts and figures on numbers of beekeepers (over 5000), numbers of hives and unusual nectar sources. A little less colourful than some sites, but it has a lot of text material and is accessible to even the most basic Net tools.

TUNISIA

<http://www.ppru.cornell.edu/source/Beekeeping.html>

Cornell University, in New York State, maintains this page about the traditional beekeeping of Tunisia. Information content is excellent, including several pictures of the djebbahs, or tube hives, used by beekeepers in this North African country.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Surprisingly, we found many American beekeeping sites but very little about beekeeping in the United States. Most of the American sites mix research and general bee information. A few are private sites with information specific to a locality.

<http://gnv.ifas.ufl.edu/~entweb/apis/apis.htm>

This clearing house of beekeeping information is operated by Dr. Malcolm T. Sanford and his colleagues at the University of Florida, in Gainesville. In terms of information and useful content, it is quite possibly the best internet site I have ever seen. If you want some general information about U.S. and Florida beekeeping, check his archived newsletters.

<http://members.aol.com/mrpatr/pats2.htm>

Pat's Beekeeping Home Page is an example of one of the many well-produced labours of love constructed by a hobbyist beekeeper proud to tell the world about his passion. Pat uses an attractive solid black background with some nice images and graphics to enhance his description of his bee operation. Hobby beekeepers will find much to relate to here.

<http://www.nesc.org/~juggler/beekeepers.html>

This site, operated by the Worcester County Beekeepers Association in Massachusetts, is a fine example of the real communicating power of the Internet. Although there could be more information about New England beekeeping, the bee club uses this site to promote its activities and keep its members informed. Other bee clubs will do well to follow this example.

THE WORLD

<http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/ibra/trade.html>

This page, produced by the International Bee Research Association, gives an up-date on the worldwide trade of honey.

Next time, we will explore Web sites with practical beekeeping information for experienced and beginning beekeepers.

Ron Miksha has kept bees for over 20 years, produced queens and honey in Florida, pollinated apples in West Virginia, and produced clover honey in Wisconsin. Much of his lifetime production of a million pounds of honey came from Saskatchewan, where he once had over a thousand colonies of bees. He lives on the edge of the Rocky Mountains in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, where today he keeps two kids and two hives of bees.

Ron can be reached by e-mail at Beekeeping@aol.com

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Community buzzes over bee balm success

A Golden Bay community is buzzing after its business venture to turn beeswax into a range of balms won the innovation excellence award at last weekend's Tasman Energy Business Awards.

The Tui Bee Balm Co-operative is the business arm of a charitable trust run by the Tui Community in Golden Bay. A local beekeeper provide the community with the first recipe for bee balm in 1984, and for nearly a decade it fitted in well with the range of jobs shared among community members.

Winning the innovation award three years later was a "real thrill, a real kick," co-operative manager Barry Broughton said.

Now there is also bug balm, lip balm, farm and pet balm, and massage and body wax.

Acknowledgement NZPA, Nelson

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Midsummer Fruit Cup

Peaches, sliced into bite-sized pieces are an excellent addition to various combinations of fruits and berries. Cut cantaloupe or other melons crosswise into rings, remove seeds and fill the center of the "wheel" with sliced peaches and berries. Add some honey to taste and enjoy the blend of flavours. Or you can try this next recipe; it's quick and simple.

¼ to ½ pound sweet cherries
3 or 4 large ripe peaches
honey to taste
½ cup light sweet white wine
1 tablespoon finely chopped crystallised ginger
Pit cherries and cut in half. Peel peaches and slice. Combine fruits and sweeten to taste. Combine wine and ginger and pour over fruit. Chill until very cold, at least 1 hour, for flavours to blend. Spoon into sherbet glasses or dessert bowls. Serve very cold. Makes 6 servings.

The Spice Islands Cookbook

Peach Melba

With this next recipe you can make a light dessert. Since raspberries and peaches may not be ripe at the same time you can use frozen raspberries, but definitely use fresh peaches.

2 fresh peaches
½ cup low-fat yoghurt
2 teaspoons honey (the lighter the better)
several dashes nutmeg
½ cup fresh or frozen raspberries
Arrange one peach half in each of two wine-type glasses. Puree one peach half, the yoghurt, one teaspoon honey and nutmeg in a blender. Chop the last peach half in very small pieces and add to the sauce, but do not blend. Pour into the wine glasses. Then blend the berries with the remaining honey and spoon on top of the peach/yoghurt mix. Serve cold.

*A Honey Cook Book
A.I. Root Company*

Honey Peach Pudding Cake

Peach cobbler are popular, as are peach pies. You can substitute honey to sweeten the peach mixture in both of these recipes. This next recipe makes a nice change from the typical cobbler. Although it is recommended to serve warm, you can have some ice cream with it to stay cool.

5 peaches, peeled and sliced
¼ cup honey
¼ cup butter
½ cup honey
1 egg
1¼ cups flour
1½ teaspoons baking powder
¼ teaspoon salt
½ teaspoon vanilla
¼ cup milk
2 tablespoons sliced almonds
Combine peaches the ¼ cup honey; set aside. Cream butter and the ½ cup honey until smooth. Beat in egg. Add flour, baking powder, salt, vanilla and milk. Beat until smooth. Spread into greased 8-inch square pan. Arrange peach mixture over batter; sprinkle with almonds. Bake at 350° for 55 to 60 minutes or until done. Serve warm.

*Ontario Honey Recipe Book
Ontario Beekeepers Association*

Blackberry Peach Pie

Since peaches blend so well with other fruits, try this combination for an August pie.

Pastry for 2-crust pie
½ cup honey
2 tablespoons tapioca
1 teaspoon lemon juice
¼ teaspoon almond extract
1 pint blackberries
2 cups sliced peaches
1 tablespoon butter

Line pie pan with bottom pastry. Combine honey, tapioca, lemon juice, almond extract and a pinch of salt. Combine blackberries and peaches. Pour honey mixture over fruit and mix gently. Fill pastry-lined pan with fruit mixture. Dot with butter. Roll out remaining dough, cut slits in top and cover fruit with top crust. Bake in 425° oven for 35 to 40 minutes

*Nature's Golden Treasure Honey Cookbook
Joe M. Parkhill*

Peach Ice Cream

Fresh peach ice cream has to be one of the best things you can make with fresh peaches. Try this recipe with your favourite ice cream maker.

3 tablespoons honey
1 tablespoon lemon juice
4 cups peeled and sliced peaches
½ teaspoon unflavoured gelatine
1 cup heavy cream, whipped

Mix honey and lemon juice and drizzle over peaches. Cover and set aside for 2 hours. Drain fruit and combine ¾ cup of the juice with gelatine. Place over low heat until gelatine is completely dissolved. Put peaches in the container of a blender. Add gelatine mixture and process at medium speed until peaches are chopped fine. Refrigerate. When mixture begins to thicken, fold in whipped cream and pour into container. Process into ice cream. You can transfer the mixture to a deep freeze to harden. Makes 6 servings.

*Naturally Delicious Desserts and Snacks
Faye Martin*

Cantaloupe-Peach Conserve

This next recipe has to be made while you can get fresh peaches and fresh cantaloupes. Then you can set it aside and give as Christmas presents. (No, it's not too early to think about that if you are going to make this conserve).

4 cups peaches
4 cups cantaloupe
4 lemons
3 cups honey
1 cup walnuts
Peel and dice cantaloupe and peaches. Juice the lemons and grate their rinds. Put cantaloupe, peaches and lemon juice and rind in a kettle. Bring to a boil. Add the honey and cook until thick and clear. Add nuts during the last 5 minutes of cooking. Spoon into hot sterilised jars to within ½ inch from top. Complete seals and process in a boiling water bath for 5 minutes.

*Putting It Up With Honey
Susan Geiskopf*

Ack. American Bee Journal

Honey for recipes

Suggested honeys should match the season: all of the recipes would suit Pohutakawa or Rata. I know Pohutakawa is the New Zealand Christmas tree but for Mainlanders rata is a very good second. Both are superb honeys with flavours that go especially well with ice cream. Happy cooking.

Bill Floyd

Today's random thought is about "moving"

To say one's life continues on placidly is, for many of us, true. From time to time we have small hiccups in our ordered serenity, the usual things, births, christenings, weddings and funerals. All these are of relatively short duration and life soon resumes again in the peaceful pattern we all have come to assume is our wont. There is one activity, however, which has a long term effect on one's existence, and once undertaken, the effects only slowly diminish down to the peaceful bliss we once had. I refer of course to moving house.

The preliminaries of course take some time. First up is to decide just where the new location will be, and here is the first stumbling block. Whilst it is nice to be beside the seaside, living there long term is for me a definite no-no. Sand stripping the paint off the walls is not my idea of heaven. Living in the big smoke has no appeal for mainly working folks, so when retirement looms the thoughts naturally turn to more rural climes. So it was with us. Visiting various rural towns proved to be a time well spent, and our friends scattered throughout these communities saw a lot of us over an extended period. Looking for a "lifestyle" block turned up many promising leads, but examination of these invariably resulted in the block on offer being declined, either on price or remoteness. Amazing, is it not, that other people's ideas of the worth of their land in rural areas seems to equate to those of the landowners in the larger cities. As is the way of things the site finally chosen came to us out of the blue so to speak. An agent took us into the country to view a property which seemed to have had an extra room added each year for a number of years, and no two rooms on the same level. On the return trip to town we spotted a For Sale sign on a gatepost.

Following up this lead found us the property we had been looking for, the price was right, size right, zoning right, but no house. Phase two came into being once the property was purchased, design the house. Easy, gather your thoughts, go to a designer and sit back and get a result. Not so fast, the better half has ideas way out of line with the bank balance, so compromise is the order of the day. Finally the plans are made ready, the bank balance has its first dent when the designer is paid, and tenders are called. All the usual building hassles were then gone through and finally moving day dawned. Once again sit back and let the "professionals" do their thing, and the one thing they would not do is move beehives! Not even empty supers. Despite being shown — Look, no bees — they were adamant.

Yours truly then had to make separate arrangements to move all the beekeeping equipment. Friends rallied round and it was all duly delivered to the new location. As all this was taking place the season was drawing to a close, and the hone was well capped on the hives, which had been left on the original yard sites. Now the yards were located many kilometres away from the new house.

Those of you who have moved will understand that moving in and settling the furniture in place is only a small part of the total exercise. There seems to arise a thousand and one things which need immediate attention throughout the day resulting in a total neglect of the hives in their now remote location. To spice up the situation a frantic phone call was received late one day that the hives in one yard were in disarray, the local council was looking for blood, and I had better get down there fast, as no one could get near the hives or even use the road. Arrival just prior to sunset saw three hives overturned, the bees as placid as they always had been when working the yard, and people using the roadway as if nothing was amiss. Seems the hives were blown over by wind gusts that morning, someone tried to get them straightened up without the usual protective gear, got a few stings and raised hell with the local council, not even bothering to consult the owner of the property whose house was within sight of the hives. Some honey supers were removed as the hives were restored to normal position and no repeat performance has occurred.

Since settling in it is now apparent that insufficient planning

was given to the beekeeping side of life. The new house is too pristine to have common old supers of honey allowed indoors, let alone cut up comb into squares for the cut-comb boxes. Already through mismanagement there arises the need to set up a separate entity in which honey may be processed, and where, if a little wax is spilt on the floor, a major international incident will not arise. This intention of course goes against the grain of the concept of the new residence, namely that only one building will appear on site. To overcome this means converting the storage space under the house from garden implements to honey processing, and with the building fund exhausted it is not going to be easy. Starting with bare walls of reinforced concrete means an expensive refit, and where will the tractor mower, shovels, spades, forks and the like go? Not the garage, as the mud these implements dislodge will soon litter the floor. The answer lies in fitting up an ex-container as a workshop to handle bee products, honey, wax and pollen.

This of course means expenditure. Advantages are that the container can be fitted up on large runners, or wheels, therefore becoming a "caravan". Look Ma — no building permit! It is permissible to supply electricity to a caravan on one's property, a temporary water connection is soon organised and collection of the trade "wastes" is likewise no problem. A 20 foot container can be most economically utilised and thus what seemed an insurmountable problem is now no more than a minor irritant. Careful measurement has shown that the container will snugly fit into an excavation right next to the house, will not be seen from the road and therefore no "unsightly nuisance" will be created. Brilliant thinking on my part, now comes the only real stumbling block, I have yet to tell the better half — got any good ideas on how to go about that little problem?

Ham Maxwell

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COMING EVENTS...

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January 11	12.30 pm	Crop removal preparation
February 8	10.00 am 12 noon	Extraction Extraction. Venue: United Building 23
March 11	7.30 pm 7.00 pm 7.30 pm	Evening honey show — United Building 23 Entries Judging — Venue:
April 12	12.30 pm	Apiary requeening Check winter stores
May 10	10.00 am 12.30 pm	Working bee Check winter stores

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month at 7.30pm.
Cruse Club Taradale.
Phone: Ron (06) 844-9493

NELSON BEEKEEPERS CLUB

Phone: (03) 546-1422

OTAGO BRANCH

Phone Bill (03) 485-9268

POVERTY BAY BRANCH

Barry Foster (06) 867-4591

SOUTHERN NORTH ISLAND BRANCH

Phone: Frank 478-3367

SOUTHLAND FIELD DAY

8 February 1997
Andersons Park
Invercargil
From 10 a.m.
Contact Don stedman,
Ph/Fax 218 6182
for a programme.

TARANAKI AMATEUR BEEKEEPING CLUB

Phone: (06) 753-3320

WAIKATO BRANCH

Call Tony (07) 856-9625

WAIRARAPA HOBBYIST BEEKEEPERS CLUB

Meet 3rd Sunday each month
(except January) at Kites Woolstore,
Norfolk Road, Masterton at 1.30pm.
Convener Arnold Esler.
Ph: (06) 379-8648

WELLINGTON BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

Meets every second Monday of
the month (except January)
in Johnsonville. All welcome.
Contact Frank Lindsay
(04) 478-3367.