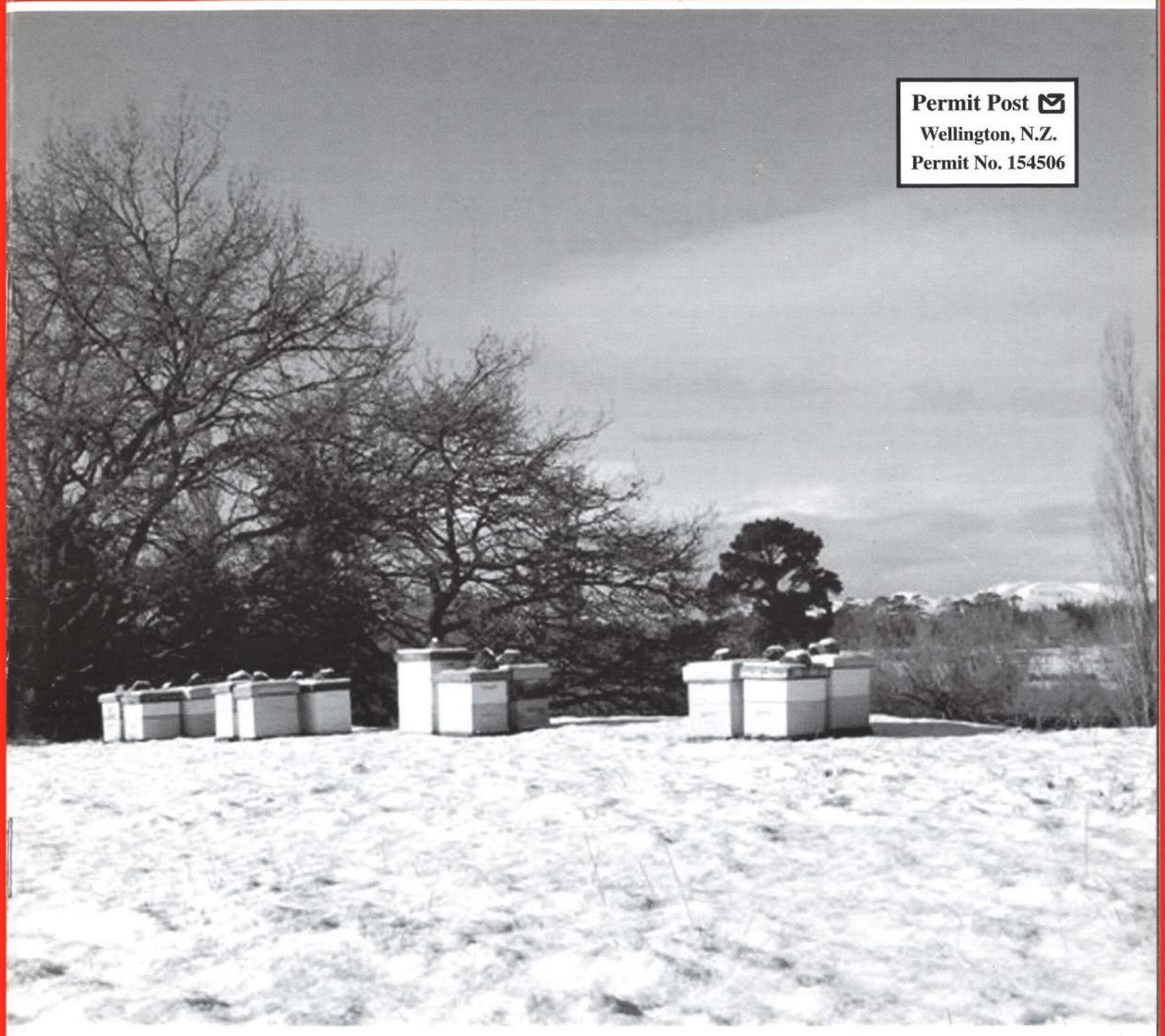
Volume 11 No. 11
December 2003

The New Zealand BeeKeeper



IN THIS ISSUE:

ISSN 0110-63325
The Official Journal of The National Beekeepers Association of New Zealand Inc.

Published by Crown Kerr Printing
P.O. Box 5002
Dunedin, New Zealand

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Front Cover: Mid Winter Christmas scene: "Takapa region" - Mary-anne Thomason

President's Report

I can not believe that Christmas is all but upon us. Hives will be out of pollination and hopefully will be gathering copious quantities of nectar for us all. So far I believe that most beekeepers have had a good build up to the season with some reporting record swarming.

Before I touch on issues that are facing the industry, I would like to thank everyone who has contributed in any way to the running of the NBA – your efforts have been much appreciated by me.

When I look back on what has been achieved since Conference, I am afraid to say that I have not achieved what I would have liked to have done by this stage. However, we are in the process of getting the Structure Review committee in place, and operational. Ian Berry has agreed to take on this as part of his Executive responsibility. The Executive has agreed that the other committees will not be formally set up until the Structure review has been done, unless there is a specific need eg people to look at and Review the RMP being written.

The proposed Varroa Pest Management Strategy

One of the most contentious issues that we have been involved in, has been the proposed Varroa Pest Management Strategy for the South Island. I know that our submission on behalf of our members was not well received by those proposing the strategy, but I believe that we can only voice our membership's opinions on the matter. I also believe that it is better for us to speak up now rather than wait until the Strategy has been put to the Minister. I have had comments that it is interesting that there has been a change of attitude of the South Island beekeepers – when there was talk of eradication in the North Island, many South Island beekeepers supported this initiative with moral support and also offers of hives to restock NI beekeepers. The South Island situation re eradication is different to the North Island in that we are running out of places to obtain clean bees and also South Island beekeepers are able to learn from North Island beekeepers how to live with varroa and are enhancing their operation accordingly.

As far as I can see from comments made by South Island beekeepers, is that they are now weighing up the costs and possible benefits and saying that as we are already changing our beekeeping practices for when Varroa arrives, then maybe that money which would be put towards the strategy is better being used in their own business restructuring or contributed towards enhanced movement controls into the South Island and towards Varroa research.

Once the proposed strategy has been notified (made public) there is then a period of 20 working days in which to make comments to the Minister – I urge you to express your opinions when you get the opportunity. Once this process has been completed the Minister then decides whether a Board of Inquiry is needed or not.

Research Funding

The task of trying to get funding from the government for continued Varroa research has been a slow and frustrating process. We had tried to get a meeting with both Minister Sutton and Minister Hodgson, but were only able to meet with Sutton.

However, I have been continuing to push with letters to Minister Hodgson, and have recently received the following reply. At least on the surface it looks as though they are trying to find some way to help fund the Hort Research team.

18 November 2003

Jane Lorimer
hunnybee@wave.co.nz

Dear Ms Lorimer

Thank you for your letter and the copy of the report that you presented to my colleague Hon Jim Sutton about the impacts of Varroa and the priority areas for research on this pest. I have maintained an interest in the issue and I am aware of the concerns about the failure to obtain funding.

I am pleased that you took the opportunity to meet with my officials from the Ministry of Research, Science & Technology (MoRST) when you were in Wellington, and I understand that you are aware of the "hands off" position I am required to take with respect to funding for individual research programmes. Nevertheless, I have asked my officials to review the options that might be available to HortResearch to seek further funding for the Varroa research programme.

One possible avenue that was suggested by Hon Sutton is the Sustainable Farming Fund administered by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF), which you refer to in your letter. It would be useful for you to discuss with HortResearch the role that you and your association could play in supporting an application to this fund.

My officials are also investigating other alternative sources of funding for the research but I am not at this stage able to confirm whether these will be forthcoming. Whatever the result, I will be retaining an interest in the future of the research programme and the associated bee research capability in NZ.

Yours sincerely

Pete Hodgson
MINISTER OF RESEARCH, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Whilst down in Wellington, we met with several other MAF officials.

Exotic Surveillance for honey bees

We met with Dr Roger Poland to discuss what was happening with regards to the Exotic Bee Disease Surveillance. This is currently going under a complete review.

Surveillance is carried out to meet disease reporting and sanitary control requirements of the OIE and trading partners to facilitate trade in honey bees and their products and also to detect new or exotic diseases.

The cost of the programme has been $180,000 but it was dropped last year to $110,000. The cost of the testing at the laboratory is over and above that and is estimated at a cost of between $40-50,000.

Following the review of surveillance needed for the South Island Varroa Pest Management Strategy – estimated at $400,000, it has been calculated that there would need to be at least $1 million spent per annum on bee disease surveillance.

Our programme is the only active surveillance programme that is funded by Government. There are two others that are partly funded by government and those are BSE (mad cow disease) and Arbo Virus.

A month ago it was decided that as part of the Biosecurity strategy, they would look at what was really necessary to find the Exotic bee diseases early enough to give a chance at eradication. A technical group will meet (headed by Ron Thornton) to discuss what is in theory needed and then come to the Government and Industry to see how to fund it. So in the near future, we will have the opportunity to have input into this, once the technical team has come up with its recommendations.

Meeting with New Zealand Food Safety Authority
We met with Glen Neal, and Steve Ainsworth. It was an extremely productive meeting.

With regards to the Risk Management Programme that we had been working on last year with Glen, that will now be re-activated. It will need a re-write, but Glen believes that at the end, we could have a 10-12 page document that will cover all necessary points. Time frame to complete is estimated at 3 months. So we should then be able to get a template made available to members for their use.

We will be requiring 4-6 people to work with Glen on this.

Steve Ainsworth is the programme manager (Market Access) for NZFSA.

There are some changes required to bring bee product exporting into line with the Animal Products act, and some new overseas legislation driven by US customs.

There will need to be a review of the current export protocols – we will be able to work with Market Access Councillors who draw up the Import Health Certificates.

A system needs to be developed to underpin the declarations that are now required

We have been asked to put forward members to work on this issue – needs to cover all areas and bee products.

Meeting with Carolyn Hini MAF
Also at meeting were Paul Berentson, Howard Pharo, and Paul Bolger.

On the importation side: MAF deal with both bee products and live bees.

Exports: only live bees.
Leone Basher has just been appointed as a national adviser in the International Animal Trade team at MAF and is responsible for the bee and bee product portfolio.

Live bee exports to the USA may be achievable by Christmas – as the protocols should be negotiated by then.

I asked if the NBA and its members would get the opportunity to say what genetic bee stock (if any) we would like imported into the country. Answer is NO if it is coming from Germany as the import health standard has been set.

If someone wishes to bring in stock from another country, then a new Import Health Standard would have to be negotiated.

Standards
As many of you will know, the issue of standards has been an ongoing saga for our Industry. The Executive has revisited this issue on its last conference call, and we are in agreement that we must take the lead in this. Last year a mono-floral honey standard was agreed to by the main industry players, and while the agreed standard is not perfect, it is a starting point that can be reviewed annually. We will be publishing this standard in the next journal.

Lastly, I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas, and a bountiful honey season.

Jane Lorimer, President

Secretarial Snippets

The first year of the new look NBA is rapidly drawing to a close. For me it has been challenging but also satisfying, certainly good to see the gradual increase in membership numbers and the continued production of the New Zealand Beekeeper. The Executive has met by phone every fortnight so there have been a lot of minutes to record. Following the approval of Executive the minutes are posted on the NBA Web site for members to peruse. I hope that members are taking advantage of the opportunity – however given the number of members who have access to the Internet there seems to be only a small proportion who have asked to be logged in to the "members only" page on the Web site. This is a pity as it is a good way for the NBA to keep members informed. Lack of communication with members was an issue at the start of the year. I wonder if this is still the case?

For those with queries about the DECA process, I have posted on the Web site (for all users) the information as to how to obtain a DECA and the form required for the application. There are also apiary registration (and de-registration) forms, as well as the latest news from Buzzwords and NZ Beekeeping. So do use the Web site: www.nba.org.nz.

On a completely different note – I have recently received Maureen Maxwell's exciting book "Honey – BeesOnline Recipe Collection". I am still trying to read through all the recipes, but it can only be done when not hungry! It is a wonderful advertisement for our New Zealand honeys and I particularly like the tasting tips and explanations regarding varietal honeys. Imagine starting with an hors d'oevre of Smoked Salmon and baby Ricotta Pikelets, then Brendon's Macadamia-stuffed Chicken, and finish with a Honey and Fig cake. Well done Maureen!

I always consider the lead-up to the festive season to be a frenetic time and particularly so for beekeepers and their families. However we can but hope that it is worth it! I wish everyone a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

- Pauline Bassett

The Publications Team would like to thank all the advertisers and contributors of Articles during the 2003 year, for their continued support. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Allan, Frank, Fiona and Trevor

From the colonies

Southland

Writing this as gale force winds blast around the province I know that tomorrow's duties will include replacing lots of lids and probably standing up a few hives. This has been a very mixed spring, mostly late but a good wind-free willow flow has helped in most areas. A dry October has been followed by a wet November, who'd be a beekeeper?

Southland beekeepers do not support the proposed varroa PMS. The general feeling is that time has moved on and while varroa might have major implications for pastoral farmers in the longterm, beekeepers can learn how to survive. The consensus is that $2 per hive can be better spent on education, preparation, supporting research or investment outside the industry.

Improving the efficiency of our business is the focus of the Southland NBA Field day at Momona on 14 February. By that time we hope that the weather has settled down and a record crop is on the hives.

- Don Stedman

Southern North Island

Conditions in the Southern North Island vary from region to region. The weather has been fickle, one day hot, followed by cool windy or wet weather. Early swarming was suppressed by wet weather and this caused a lot of hives to supersede.

Over the last couple of weeks things have really taken off. Everything seems to be flowering at once instead of the normally steady flowering starting with Rewarewa and cabbage tree, then to Kamahi and on to Manuka. Pohutukawa is budding and flowering very early.

This is making planning unpredictable for low land beekeepers in some areas where there is normally a gradual flowering for coastal regions to high country; everything is flowering at once. Swarms abound – there is a very fine line between feeding to keep them going and hives taking off. Hives are being split to save them from swarming.

Sand country looks good. Hives generally very strong - beekeepers' report 1 to 3 supers added. Some hobbyists have already taken off a full box of capped honey from city hives - very early. Into the arable areas, clover growth looks good after the first cut for silage. With a little more rain and higher temperatures, clover prospects look promising.

The high country is still receiving the odd hail and snowstorms and feeding continues.

Stone fruit and pear pollination looks good (we had a few very hot still days in October during the flowering period) with a lot of orchards doing early thinning.

Several beekeepers are moving hives north again into Kiwifruit for added income. Mites are showing up south of the old movement control line more as beekeepers start looking for them - some in quite high numbers.

Overall it looks to be a short sharp flow. Hives that have swarmed may miss the boat and may have to be combined with other weak hive to produce productive units.

The Branch extends our best wishes to Mary Allan (Raetihi) for a speedy recovery after a major operation. Best wishes to all beekeepers for the coming festive season. All are hoping for a good flow and a couple of day off over Christmas.

- Frank Lindsay

Hawkes Bay

With our usual sunny weather we had the diseaseathon on 8 November. After careful selection of apiaries, either close to previous outbreaks of AFB or close to the port, airport or refuse disposal sites, we gave lists to AP2 team leaders. In advance the beekeepers were contacted to make sure they were willing to have their hives inspected, to make sure they still had hives and to make sure they were in the positions listed. We are always amazed to find how many details are incorrect and how many beekeepers give vague directions to their hives. Some don't even know whose land they are on.
At 9am the teams were given a run down on what was expected of them and issued with bleach, meths and buckets. With the request to be back by 1pm off we went. Of course the teams were varied with some having beekeepers with years of experience and one with a person who didn't even own a hive but was keen to get involved.

One of our ladies who is always up front had organised sandwiches and savouries so that as the teams returned they could eat and have a drink. Most were not back by 1pm because distances varied and it was not worth leaving a yard that was near, close to knock off time. In fact some with more distant objectives didn't bother coming back, so at time of going to print we don't know what our tallies are. Some were not satisfied that they had done enough and have been out again. Naturally we were also looking closely at exposed drone brood for signs of varroa so this added to the time in each yard.

It is still a mixed season with back country hives needing continued feeding and with those on lower ground building up well. Pollination is in full swing as the various varieties of fruit burst into flower. Kiwifruit is one of the later bloomers (if that's the right word) together with increasing requests for pollination of vegetables.

At our November meeting we were hoping to express our views on beeForce, but the intended speaker advised that he could not make it. Instead we had a quiz on beekeepers' knowledge of bees and foraging. Even the old hands were surprised at what they didn't know, Try it at your branch some

time with some of the questions that are listed in Bee Culture even if our bees act differently from those in USA.

- Ron Morison

Canterbury

Hard to believe that Christmas and another season has almost arrived. I keep wondering how the year slips by without achieving everything I intended too.

Here in Canterbury we are looking forward to the hives achieving self-sufficiency; –1 because the workload decreases slightly and -2 because it should signal an end to an exceptionally busy swarming season. It is unbelievable the number that have taken to the trees this year, I have personally contributed to increasing the number of feral hives in the area. This will become a double whammy, by increasing potential for re-invasion once Varroa arrives.

I would like to congratulate VPG and their supporters for their relentless pursuit for a Varroa PMS and what I personally consider their steam-rolling attitude and/or outright dismissal of any opposition. It is amazing to me that this PMS looks likely to be achieved without an industry vote. It now looks like Varroa is about to become a cost to my business, even though I have never seen a single live specimen!

Of greater concern to me is the precedent that this sets. I refer to industry surveillance for an exotic disease. I feel that this is the thin edge of the wedge and quickly develops into a slippery slope. I.e. What next? Industry surveillance for EFB, small hive beetle, tracheal mite, etc. I cant help wondering what Farmers response would be to a tax on cloven hoofed animals to support border surveillance of at risk products that may carry foot and mouth. Surveillance for exotic diseases is in the national interest and that is where the funding should come from. - Central govt.

With this current demonstration of industry clout, Beekeepers need to carefully consider what industry group best represents their needs. There are big issues to be dealt with over the next few years and Beekeepers need an organisation that is going to be supportive of Beekeepers and Beekeeping 100%. I would like to take the opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous season

- Brian Lancaster

Apicultural Exotic Disease Surveillance Report – 01.08.2002 – 30.06.2003

Programme Outline

The exotic honey bee disease surveillance programme is a multifaceted programme consisting of:

- Hive inspection and sampling
- Reports
- Apiary database
- Beekeeper extension / education
- Screening of exotic disease inquiries

Exotic Diseases and pests surveyed for are:

Honey Bee Diseases

- European Foulbrood (*Melissococcus plutonius*).

Honey Bee Pests

- Small Hive Beetle (*Aethina tumida*).
- The parasitic fly (*Braula coeca*).
- Tracheal mite (*Acarapis woodi*).
- Asian mite (*Tropilaelaps clareae).*
- *Tropilaelaps koenigerum.*
- Varroa mite (*Varroa destructor*) South Island only, varroa is present in the North Island.
- *Varroa jacobsoni.*
- *Euvarroa sinhai.*
- *Varroa underwoodi.*

Honey bees, undesirable strains

- Africanised Honey Bee (*Apis mellifera scutellata*)
- Cape bee (*Apis mellifera capensis*)
- Apis species other than *mellifera*

Hive Inspection and Sampling

The hive inspection and sampling programme comprises of four components:

- High risk area inspection and sampling
- Home apiaries inspection and sampling
- Export sampling.
- Suspect exotic investigation.

High Risk Areas

Throughout New Zealand 23 distinctive areas have been identified as being of high risk. These sites are the locations having the greatest potential for entry of exotic bee diseases, which include ports, cities and tourist destinations.

The target is to inspect and sample a total of 400 apiaries from the high-risk areas. This equates to each area having 26% of apiaries inspected and sampled.

All hives in each apiary are: -

- Inspected for exotic bee disease symptoms with any suspicious bees or larvae being sampled.
- Sampled (at least 50 bees is taken from each hive) to be tested for internal mites using the tracheal sectioning method.
- Tested for external mites using a miticide and 24-hour sticky board.

This season 330 high-risk apiaries were inspected, which is 70 apiaries short of the target.

Home Apiaries

It is recognised that an exotic disease may not first appear in one of the high-risk areas. To this end testing of commercial beekeepers home apiaries, where bees from outer apiaries, (eg apiaries around honey houses, queen yards, beekeepers shed), are brought with honey supers. Testing of home apiaries was commenced this season as it was believed that an exotic disease, if introduced to New Zealand, might spread rapidly to these apiaries.

The target is to inspect and sample 100 of these apiaries each year. All hives in each apiary are; Inspected for exotic bee disease symptoms with any suspicious bees or larvae being sampled.

- Sampled (at least 50 bees is taken from each hive) to be tested for internal mites using the tracheal sectioning method.
- Tested for external mites using the washing method.

This season 56 home apiaries were inspected, which is 44 apiaries short of the target.

Export Apiaries

To further sample non high-risk areas all apiaries that supply live bees or queens for export have a composite bee sample taken. This sample is tested for external and internal mites. The target is to test 300 samples.

This season 300 export apiaries were inspected, as per the target.

Suspect Exotic Investigation

Each year MAF and AgriQuality New Zealand receive a number of calls regarding suspect exotic diseases or strange symptoms that a beekeeper has found in his or her hives. AgriQuality worked with MAF's National Centre for Disease Investigation (NCDI) to screen these calls and determine whether a sample needed to be taken.

Number of Apiaries Surveyed

Samples tested to 30 June 2003 for:	Routine Samples (apiaries)	Suspect Samples	Total Samples	MAF Specification
Internal Parasites	686	5	691	800
External Parasites	686	11	697	800
	Inspected (Apiaries)	**Suspect Samples**	**Total Samples**	**MAF Specification**
European foulbrood	386	14	14	500 inspections, with any suspect larvae sampled for lab diagnosis
Small Hive Beetle	386	7	7	500 inspections, with any suspect larvae sampled for lab diagnosis
Exotic Bee Species	386	2	2	500 inspections, with any suspect larvae sampled for lab diagnosis
Swarms from ports	0	7	7	Swarms are tested for all exotic diseases and pests.

As this table and the preceding narrative shows, the target number of apiaries for inspection was not met. Beekeepers were asked to inspect their own hives on a voluntary basis. In the past authorised apiary inspectors, on a paid basis, have been used to make up any shortfall. However, budgetary constraints prevented this from occurring during the 02/03 season.

Over and above this sampling programme 648 apiaries containing 6,911 hives in the South Island, and 360 apiaries containing 4,600 hives from the lower North Island have been sampled for varroa. The South Island of New Zealand is varroa free and a varroa surveillance programme, using a miticide and sticky boards, is in place to detect an incursion of varroa into the South Island. Parts of the lower North Island that are varroa free and under movement controls were tested to determine the spread of varroa. These boards were inspected for other exotic bee pests as well as varroa.

Results
All hives inspected, sampled and tested for exotic bee diseases were negative. All inspections and samples for varroa from the South Island were negative.

Reports
Each year, reports on surveillance activity, are written for MAF and the 'New Zealand Beekeeper' magazine. These reports are used to meet international reporting requirements of New Zealand's bee health status, and keeping New Zealand's beekeepers' informed of surveillance activities.

Apiary Database
AgriQuality New Zealand maintained the apiary register. It is a legal requirement that all beekeepers are registered and provide the location of their apiaries. Apiaries are geo-referenced, which allows planning of detailed disease surveys. Beekeepers are required to inspect their hives and report any suspect exotic diseases and furnish a return each year to indicate they have done so.

Beekeeper Extension / Education
A series of articles have been written for beekeepers and published in 'The New Zealand Beekeeper' magazine. These articles cover surveillance issues relating to exotic pests and diseases, and their relevance to the New Zealand beekeeping industry. During the 2003 season articles on the following subjects were written:

- Exotic Honey Bee Disease Surveillance Programme.
- Small Hive beetle attacks US Colonies – NZ on alert.
- European foul brood (*Melissococcus pluton).*
- Cape Bee the Social Parasite.

A supplement to the exotic honey bee disease pamphlet on Cape Bee was written and sent to all registered beekeepers with their Annual Disease Return. Copies of this, along with the exotic disease pamphlet, are sent to all new beekeepers when they register.

The first stage of the exotic bee disease web site has been developed and will be posted onto the web in the next couple of months.

Screening of Exotic Disease Inquires
Of the calls received by AgriQuality or MAF, 46 resulted in samples being taken and sent to a lab for further diagnosis. The suspects investigated included 16 for mites, 14 for European foulbrood, 2 for exotic bee species, 7 for Small Hive Beetle, and 7 swarm investigations.

Further to this two investigations were completed regarding the possible movement of bees from the North to South Island. In both these cases investigation showed that the chance of bees being transported to the South Island was very low.

Technical Development
To ensure the technical robustness of the surveillance programme, reviews of the national and international literature on exotic bee diseases and pests were undertaken. New surveillance techniques and potential new bee pests were also reviewed and risks of introduction to New Zealand assessed. As part of this review process a surveillance technique for small hive beetle was assessed at an exotic bee disease response simulation.

AgriQuality New Zealand maintained a group of apicultural technical experts who are competent in bee disease recognition and control.

- David McMillan,
Apicultural Advisory Officer, AgriQuality Limited.

About the Apiary.

The main flow is here and the bees are working like mad bringing in nectar. Bees are easy to work, hardly requiring any smoke, as they are too busy to pay attention to you.

Basically once the main flow starts, the bees give up all their desire to swarm and concentrate on bringing in nectar. All you need to do is add supers and wait for the bees to fill them up, then take them off and extract them, put the wets back on in the evening and the bees could fill them up again.

This is a little simplified as there are a few thing beekeepers must be aware of.

Strong hive produce double the honey of two weak hives so combine weak hives using two sheets of newspaper. After a week go through the hive and put all the frames with brood into the two lower supers. The bees will sort out the queens. Usually the top one survives as the bees from the top hive kill the lower queen but not always - sometimes both are killed. If they are both good young queens, make a four frame nuc for one.

Bees just don't fill up supers. They will only store nectar when it's freely available. Each area is different; clover for instance starts about 9am in the morning and finishes each day about lunchtime when the sun has dried out the florets. Pohutukawa is very watery and the bees won't look at this when other sources lower in moisture or with a higher sugar content are close by. However once the sun dries the nectar in the flowers a little, the bees will keep on collecting nectar well into the evening. Bees in some areas swap to two or three sources each day. As one wanes, they swap to another source. You can see this in the frames when they are uncapped. You get different coloured semicircular bands of honey through the frame.

Bees are encouraged to gather nectar when there's empty comb in the hives. Commercial beekeepers keep adding supers to the top of the hive while hobby beekeeper generally "under super" by first lifting off the half completed top super and adding a new super underneath the top one or just above the brood nest if a queen excluder is used.

You can encourage bees up into the new super by lifting an outside (uncapped frames of nectar) and placing this in the centre of the new super. If you are adding foundation frames, the same procedure works on a heavy flow but not always. Sometimes you have to inter-space drawn frames with foundation frames. This results in one fat frame / one thin frame across the super but after extracting, all the frames will be drawn out equally. The number of frames you put in each honey super is up to you. Commercial beekeepers usually have 8 frames evenly spaced. Nine frames where foundation is involved. The idea is to have the bees draw out the wax wider than the top and bottom bar so it's easier to uncap.

Each week as you check the hive, move outside frames into the centre of the super and capped frames to the outside. When the super is 2/3 full add another. Don't disturb the colony too much as it sometimes takes a day or two for the bees to start working again. Just apply a little smoke to the top bars of the open hive so that the odd guard bees does not signal to the rest of the mob that they are being invaded.

For those with "out" apiaries, in a strong flow the bees can put on 2-3 kg per day, so it pays to put on two or more supers at once to encourage the bees to keep working. Once the bees run out of spare comb space to immediately store the nectar being brought in, the bees stop working until this has been processed and stored the nectar above the brood nest. Hence its important to over super in the hope they will fill up the lot.

Over-supering can have its disadvantages in that if it's not a strong flow; the bees tend to chimney up through the super (i.e. only store honey in the middle three of four frames in each super). If you notice this happen, just rearrange the frames with honey into the lower supers.

Don't be too quick to remove honey frames. The rule is to remove the frames once they are fully capped. At this stage the bees have reduced the moisture content of the honey as much as possible. However climate does play a part in the amount of moisture in the honey. Beekeepers on the East Coast of both islands (with the hot northwest winds) tend to have dryer honey that those on the West Coast. Sand country usually produces dry honey but here, around Wellington even with our wind, the honey usually come in at about 18.5% moisture and has to be dried in a hot room using a dehumidifier. Be aware of the climate and where possible take honey off after a hot dry spell. Honey with a high moisture content will not last as long as dry honey and can ferment over an 18 month to 2year period. To remove the full honey supers use an escapeboard as these cause the less disturbance to the bees and your neighbours. Put them on the day before, remove early in the morning and shake the few remaining bees out beside the hive. Cover all exposed honey supers to keep them clean and to prevent robbing.

EXTRACTING.

Commercial beekeepers have elaborate setups to handle large volumes of honey. Normally they have a hot room (set at 32degrees C) to keep the full honey supers warm as they are easier to extract. Supers are barrowed to a steam-heated uncapping machine, which cuts off the outside cappings, then conveys the frames towards the extractor. The cappings are dropped into a cappings spinner or such which removes most of the honey from the cappings. At the extractor, the combs are checked and any capping that remains is scratched to break the surface to allow the honey underneath to escape. The frames are then placed in the extractor in such a way that the load is balanced (heavy frames opposite each other - top bars to the head of the basket or towards the outer surface of the extractor), then it's turned on.

Some extractors have electronic timing unites that spin the load up to speed to remove half the honey from one side and then reverse the baskets and spin out all the honey from the other side, then reverses again to completely empty the frames - tangential extractors. Older equipment do not have these controls so the beekeeper reverses the extractor manually - 17 seconds, reverse 1.5 minute, reverse - 1 minute, unload and reload the extractor). In radial extractors the frames stacked in with the top bars facing away from the centre and the speed is steadily increased so that over time, most of the honey is spun out of the frames - total time 5 minutes. They contain more frames therefore are more efficient but are not totally suitable for thixotropic honeys (i.e. manuka). The honey then flows out of the extractor, through a settling tank which, forces large wax particles to the surface. It is then pumped in stored tanks through a filtering unit or is left overnight to allow the tiny wax particles to come to the surface where its skimmed off before the honey is pumped into drums.

Hobbyists can easily repeat this process without the need for such elaborate equipment. Honey is usually taken off and extracted within a few hours so a hot room is not required. If the honey has to be stored, it can be kept warm on top of a 60-watt light bulb - i.e. put an empty full depth super over the light bulb, place a queen excluder on top, then cover the excluder with aluminum oven foil. 40-watt light bulb for 3/4 depth supers. Place up to four honey supers on top of this and cover to stop the heat escaping. The foil spreads the heat from the bulb and stops the frames immediately above the bulb melting. Drips from damaged honey frames collect on the foil.

The frames are uncapped over a tub (two plastic bins that fit into each other). The top one is larger with 4-mm holes drilled in the base to allow the cappings to drain away. A board is held in place across the middle of the top bin. An upright nail protrudes through the centre to balance the frame while it is being capped. The wax capping is sawn off with a hot serrated knife. These frames are then placed into an extractor and gently brought up to speed. Then the extractor is stopped, the frames reversed and the process repeated. The speed should be around 300 revolutions so it doesn't have to be turned at high speed, (just enough to remove the honey). High speed will cause new foundation frames to break away from the centre imbedded wires and damage the frames. The honey coming out of the extractor is filtered using 250-micron mesh into a 30 litre plastic pails. These are covered and after a few days, the fine wax particles float to the surface and are skimmed off.

A starter is added to the pail, (some very fine grained honey from the supermarket). The pail is placed in a cool basement (around 14 Deg C) and stirred twice a day until the honey goes cloudy (you can see a bloom through it), then it's potted up and left in the basement to fully granulate. Usually a couple of weeks.

Sounds easy but is very messy. You will only be allowed to do this in the kitchen once so use plenty of paper and lots of hot water to clean up drips and spills. Best if you do this with a fellow beekeeper who has some experience extracting honey. It's so much faster with two and the other person can observe when things are overflowing or when you have left the gate open.

THINGS TO DO THIS MONTH:

Continue to feed hives in inland areas. Check for failing queens. Introduce nuclei or combine small colonies, super hives, prepare the honey house equipment, clean and sterilise all equipment. First honey extraction is some areas. Swarm control continues in some areas, weed control, and most important - check all hives for AFB before removing any honey. Fit foundation into comb honey frames.

Take time out to be with your children. Mine always remember me being stuck in a beehive on fine days. Prevent sensitivity to others: - Store bee equipment and protecting clothing away from the house, wash all your bee gear after use and do not put these in with other household clothing. If you use the family car to carry bee equipment, cover seats and the boot with sheets and wash afterwards. Better still, get a separate vehicle.

All the best for Christmas and for a good flow.

- Frank Lindsay

Varroa National Pest Management Strategy Proposal

Pursuant to section 62(1) of the Biosecurity Act 1993 I hereby give public notice of a proposed national pest management strategy for Varroa Bee Mite *(Varroa destructor)*.

Varroa is a parasite of honey bees, which may affect crops dependent on bee pollination. The strategy proposes to keep the South Island free of varroa through implementing movement control and awareness measures, and carrying out an intensive surveillance programme. The strategy proposes that these measures be funded by South Island beekeepers and South Island regional councils /unitary authorities, and that responsibility for funding and implementing incursion responses remains with the Crown.

The proposal for the strategy may be downloaded from the MAF website at http://www.maf.govt.nz/varroa, or requested from MAF Information Bureau (Publications Adviser, PO Box 2526, Wellington, ph 04-474-4100). A copy of the proposal can be inspected at MAF, 101-103 The Terrace, Wellington.

Submissions on the proposed strategy may be made in writing by any person. Every submission should state:

1. Those aspects of the proposed strategy that the submission supports;
2. Those aspects of the proposed strategy that the submission opposes;
3. The reasons for the support and opposition identified;
4. Any specific alternatives to the proposed strategy that the person making the submission wishes to recommend; and
5. Whether the person making the submission wishes to be heard in respect of that submission if an inquiry is held.

The closing date for submissions is Friday 30 January 2004. Submissions should be addressed to the Minister of Agriculture, Attention: Tricia Caughley, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, PO Box 2526, Wellington, fax 04-498-9888 or email tricia.caughley@maf.govt.nz

Hon Jim Sutton, Minister of Agriculture

For further information contact:
Kate Hellstrom-Park 04-474-4213
Fiona Hutchinson 04-474-4232

Varroa Strategy Presented to Minister.

The national pest management strategy proposal developed by the Varroa Planning Group was presented to the Minister of Agriculture on 7 November 2003. A number of changes were made to the proposal following submissions on an earlier draft. Those members, and branches, of the NBA who made submissions to the VPG can be assured that their comments were given careful consideration and that a number of them contributed to improvements in the strategy proposal.

Submissions from the two national organisations of beekeepers made it clear that there is not a consensus on the appropriate form of any strategy. It is doubtful that any decision by the VPG could have met the approval of all parties. The members of the VPG were, however, able to reach a consensus decision that the NPMS proposal should be submitted to the Minister of Agriculture.

The proposal as submitted still has the objective of maintaining the South Island free of Varroa. The measures to achieve this objective are movement controls, public awareness and surveillance.

The NPMS will now go through a lengthy period of scrutiny before any final decision by the Minister. Following assessment to ensure the proposal complies with the requirements of the Biosecurity Act 1993, it is expected that the strategy proposal will be " notified" by the Minister in late November/early December. That will be followed by a period during which submissions and can be made directly to the Minister. All interested parties are welcome to take this opportunity to express their views. Following the close of submissions, it is almost certain that a Board of Inquiry will be appointed, which will provide submitters with another opportunity to comment on the proposal. Any final decision on the acceptability of the NPMS proposal may therefore be 12 months, or more, away.

Bruce Simpson
Project Manager
Varroa Planning Group

Frequency And Timing Of American Foulbrood Inspections

Dr Mark Goodwin
Apicultural Research Unit, HortResearch

The frequency and timing of American foulbrood (AFB) inspections can have a major impact on the success, or otherwise, of a beekeepers disease control programme. Along with the number of frames inspected, timing and frequency of inspections are the most important factors.

Hives can be checked at any time for AFB as long as brood is present in a hive. Even when there is no brood present it can still be worthwhile checking frames for the remains of diseased larvae.

Some beekeepers devote a specific time, or times, to carry out inspections while others carry out a full or partial inspection every time they work on a hive. At a minimum, a full frame inspection should be conducted on all hives twice a year. One inspection in the spring and a second in the autumn.

The frequency with which beekeepers carry out inspections varies and should depend on the disease history of their hives. If little AFB has been found, the inspections can be carried out less frequently. However, where disease is a problem, inspections should be both frequent and thorough i.e. inspecting all frames in a hive.

Although badly infected colonies can be easy to identify, lightly infected colonies can be much harder. One reason for this is that adult bees in hives with AFB, especially those bees with good hygienic behavior, are continually uncapping diseased cells and removing the contents so that diseased larvae may not always be present in a diseased colony. A second inspection one week after finding AFB symptoms may result in finding no diseased larvae. Many AFB inspectors have been accused of wrongly diagnosing a hive as having a AFB when a beekeeper has checked the hive a week after the inspector had failed to find any AFB.

One hive in a group of AFB hives we were regularly checking had two cells with AFB symptoms on day one. However, none were found when the hive was inspected a week later or in any of the four inspections carried out over the following three weeks. The next inspection on day 50 revealed ten cells with AFB symptoms and on day 70 there were 30. For the disease to reappear by day 50 there was either still enough spores present in the hive to infect further larvae, or that for a month the bees were able to remove diseased cells fast enough so they were not found when the hive was inspected.

Because disease symptoms can appear and disappear, the more frequently inspections are carried out the more likely the AFB infected hives present will be detected and removed before the disease has a chance to spread.

It is best to time inspections so they are carried out immediately before hive manipulations that could spread AFB are going to be conducted e.g. before bees or equipment are removed from a hive. It is particularly important to carry out an inspection as the honey supers are removed. Failure to carry out an adequate inspection at this time is one of the major causes of the spread of AFB. During the honey removal and extraction process one or more supers are removed from each colony and then placed on completely different hives in the spring. There is usually no other beekeeping activity that redistributes more equipment between hives.

The risk of taking honey from an infected hive at this time depends on how badly the colony is infected. Failure to carry out any form of inspection while honey is harvested can result in honey being removed from badly infected colonies. These honey supers are a high risk for disease spread. During the extraction process the frames may be spread between other supers, creating an even larger potential for disease spread. Two honey supers from a badly infected colony might therefore infect three or four other colonies.

Autumn is however the hardest time to carry out inspections because the extra time spent in an apiary increases the robbing problem. An alternative to carrying out the inspection while the honey is being removed is to number each hive and put the same number on the supers that are removed. This can easily be done with a permanent marker pen. The hives can then be inspected at a later date and if an AFB hive is found the supers of honey can be located and destroyed.

In addition to the above, those beekeepers without a Disease Elimination Conformity Agreement must get a certificate of inspection signed by an approved beekeeper in the spring. This means that each colony must have a full frame inspection between 1 August and 30 November.

Conference 2004 Napier, Hawkes Bay. 28 June to 3 July 2004

The change of dates is because Hawkes Bay is so popular that we had difficulty in getting a suitable venue for the horde of visitors we expect.

You will be coming to the Art Deco centre of New Zealand so get out your 1930s clothes and get working on your competition innovations.

We have secured the War Memorial Conference Centre that has up to the minute facilities with ample selection of rooms of differing sizes. Right across the road is Scenic Circle Te Pania Hotel that has been open only long enough to get the wrinkles out of the sheets. Other grades of accommodation are available within walking distance.

Our first overseas speaker has responded positively and we can guarantee an interesting programme. If there is a topic or any other suggestions to make it more pertinent to your wants let us know early. Plan to bring your wives or partners or both because there is good shopping close by and many visitor attractions of a wide variety.

Ron Morison
Conference Secretary
Ph/Fax 06 8449493
rmorison@clear.net.nz

Proposed methods for eradicating honey bees from an area

Michelle Taylor and Mark Goodwin – Apicultural Research Unit, HortResearch

Eradicating varroa from an area is possible.
The varroa surveillance programme currently established in the South Island aims to provide early detection of varroa to increase the likelihood of successful eradication, should an attempt be made. The extent that varroa has spread when it is first detected will play a major part in determining whether eradication is feasible.

To be able to eradicate varroa from an area it is necessary to kill all honey bees in that area. Managed colonies are easy to kill because the whereabouts of most of them are known. However, killing feral colonies is a more difficult process because the location of most is not known. To help MAF prepare for an eradication attempt HortResearch was asked to develop methods to poison managed and feral colonies. Killing managed colonies is a lot simpler and quicker than destroying feral colonies. Pestigas-P" was found to be the most suitable method of killing bees when sprayed under the lid of each hive, preferably when the bees are not foraging. The colonies died within 24 hours and the low residue levels enabled the equipment to be reused within one month. Residues from Pestigas-P" were not detected in the wax, honey or propolis.

The first step in determining how to eliminate feral colonies was to find a suitable poison. We required one that would not repel honey bees, would kill honey bees at low concentrations and act slow enough to enable the bees to take it back to their colony and recruit other bees so the entire colony would be killed. After testing eight poisons it was found that the active ingredient fipronil was the most promising (Taylor and Goodwin, 2001). Fipronil is used to kill fleas on domestic pets.

The next step was to test the poison in the field to see how effective it was. In spring 2002 twenty nucleus honey bee colonies were placed between nine bait stations set out in a 4km^2 grid in Canterbury. These were to simulate feral colonies. The bait stations, consisting of 2 x 2L containers with sugar syrup (without fipronil), and the surrounding area were sprayed with a 60% honey solution. When at least 300 bees had been foraging from a single bait station the syrup was replaced with sugar syrup containing fipronil. Despite the trial encountering unsuitable weather conditions, eight of the 20 nucleus colonies were poisoned and four of these were successfully killed. The bad weather resulted in the trial being repeated in autumn 2003. A period of fine weather in autumnresulted in the death of all nucleus colonies. Five of the 20 nucleus colonies were dead within 48 hours of poisoning and 14 others showed significant signs of poisoning. Within six days, 14 colonies were dead and only one of the 20 colonies appeared healthy (10% loss of forager bees). This colony then robbed out a poisoned colony and by the thirteenth day all 20 colonies were dead. The method was more successful than was expected and only 1ml fipronil / km^2 was required to achieve these results.

The next question was whether fipronil stored in poisoned feral colonies would result in secondary poisoning of honey bees when the area was repopulated. After five weeks ten of the original hives that were poisoned were grouped together in the original eradication area with five healthy two-super colonies. The other ten poisoned hives and another five healthy colonies were established at least 4km from the original eradication site. All five colonies in the eradication area died within seven days. The second group of five colonies did not die but lost between 25 and 50% of their bees. These results indicate that if an area from which honey bees have been eradicated in autumn, with fipronil, is repopulated after five weeks the colonies are likely to die if they "rob out" the fipronil stored in poisoned hives. This raises the question of how long fipronil remains active in the environment when not consumed by other insects or mammals (eg wasps, wax moth, rats, mice). We are currently carrying out a trial to determine how long an area needs to remain "bee free" before managed colonies are introduced to the eradicated area.

The results from these trials show that

- Weather conditions will have a major impact on the success of any attempt at eradication. Eradication should be delayed until weather conditions are suitable for foraging, such as autumn.
- The persistent poisoning action of fipronil in honey increases the likelihood of an eradication attempt being successful as the colonies that are not killed in the first round of poisoning may be poisoned by robbing the honey from a previously poisoned feral hive containing fipronil.

Figure 1. Bait station consisting of two 2L plastic containers with bracken covered with a metal crate and sprayed with honey syrup.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank MAF for funding the trial in conjunction with a donation from the Canterbury Branch of the National Beekeepers Association. We would also like to acknowledge the hard work that Tony Scott, Ross McCusker and Bruce McCusker put into the trial to establish these results.

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Deadline for Publication

February Edition: 20 January 2004
March Edition: 15 February 2004

All articles/letters/photos to be with the Secretary Publications Committee via fax, e-mail, or post:

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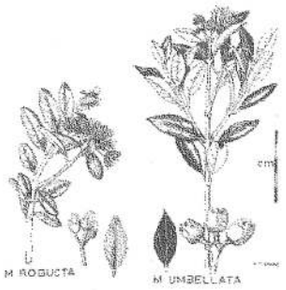
Trees and Shrubs of New Zealand



Metrosideros robusta **Common name: Northern Rata**

Metrosideros umbellata **Common name: Southern Rata**

The Northern Rata is a large forest tree over 30m in height, and starts life in the top of another tree, sending its roots to the ground – it eventually kills its host either through strangling the trunk, or shading the leaves from sunlight. The Southern Rata seldom exceeds 20 metres. If the seed of the Southern Rata germinates in the ground the tree tends to remain a bushy plant, but if germination takes place on a log or a fallen tree fern it will grow into a forest tree.

Although called Northern and Southern Rata, both are found in the North and South Islands. The Southern Rata occurs as far north as Kawhia and the Northern Rata as far south as Karamea. These two species often Hybridise with each other or with the Pohutukawa.

The Northern Rata has shorter and broader leaves than the Southern Rata and is similar to Pohutukawa – but without the white hairy underside. The flowers are similar being bright scarlet. The Rata's flower from November to January depending on location producing a honey that is water white in colour, fine grained with a delicate and distinctive flavour. The honey granulates rapidly. The pollen produced is a creamy or dull white in colour, but is not a heavy producer.

There are a total of 12 species of Rata in New Zealand, with the rest being climbing vines. They also produce a white honey but never in a quantity to produce a surplus honey crop.

The Maori used to steep the inner bark in hot water for 3 hours then used the liquid to wash wounds, or cure ringworm, or was taken internally for colds and dysentery. Young leaves were chewed for alleviating toothache.

- Tony Lorimer

Southern feelings on the proposed varroa PMS.

The Varroa Planning Group has performed the task, which they were set. The group has prepared a proposal for a Pest Management Strategy and seem to have done a good job convincing Regional Councils and some non beekeeping farmers that it is needed.

Unfortunately South Island beekeepers have moved on. There is very little support for the VPMS. Certainly in Southland beekeepers have better things to do with their money than pay a levy of $2 per hive for a strategy that will give them little benefit.

It would be nice to keep varroa out of the South Island but without greatly improved border controls infestation is inevitable, even if no "idiot" deliberately spreads the mite. While the proposal maintains movement controls from North to South, there is no intention to put in place inspection teams, which have a reasonable chance of detecting unwanted passengers.

Post infestation spread is likely before detection because beekeeping practices in the south are changing. Changes in land use are leading to the migration of more hives every year, there is increasing use of central extracting plants and consolidation of businesses. Even in areas with no paid pollination it is amazing how many hives are on the move.

We have learnt a lot from the experiences of North Island beekeepers and many business decisions are already being made in the belief that the arrival of varroa is inevitable. Some are exiting the industry, others refining their operations seeking to be much more efficient.

There has been no successful eradication of varroa anywhere in the world and there is no confidence that eradication would even be attempted in the South Island. Certainly no criteria for eradication have been released and scenarios where the costs would be extremely high are regularly discussed.

We need to demonstrate to the Minister of Biosecurity, (House of Representatives, Wellington) that there is significant opposition to the imposition of a varroa PMS. Then, when a Board of Enquiry is established, present cogent arguments so that this unwanted extra cost is not imposed on us.

There is undoubtedly good reason to keep varroa out of the South Island, beekeepers do not want to be meeting the costs of a strategy that won't perform.

- Don Stedman

Library Report

It's almost the end of the another year. Apart from the statutory holidays the library will operate throughout the summer.

The executive has placed in the library the Five year Review of the AFB PMS and also the Annual Review 2002/03. These are available for borrowing.

Two videos have been given to the library by Agriquality. One features a small-scale pollination unit in an unknown area of the US, and the other is about the use of formic acid in varroa control. There are no loan fees on these items; only outward postage to be reimbursed to the library.

It is hoped that this season will be a very productive one for all beekeepers and, in acknowledging that due dates are hard to remember when busy, it is hoped that borrowers will ensure that items are sent back to the library on time. This particularly applies to the magazine posting packs as the progression through the list is very slow when postings are late being returned.

Your notes and comments about library matters are appreciated.

The library committee extends Season's Greetings to you all.

- Chris, Tony & Trevor

Uncontaminated Honey

There are now, from European manufacturers, several honey products for wound treatment that are registered with medical authorities for professional medical use. In the promotional literature for these the 'cleanliness' of the honey is stressed, particularly its freedom from chemicals and pesticides. These are competing with manuka honey products. Manuka honey has a world-wide reputation for its antibacterial activity. It could just as easily get a reputation for 'dirtiness' if there were ever any contamination detected in a manuka honey product sold for wound treatment. It is vitally important that anyone selling honey to companies that are processing it for use in wound treatment never includes honey that may possibly have become contaminated in any way (e.g. by beekeeping chemicals, spray or dust in the area the bees are collecting from, or any foreign particles getting into the honey during extraction and handling the honey and from used drums). Otherwise they could be putting at risk the whole market for a product that can be expected to be the driver for the future price of manuka honey.

Dr. P.C. Molan
Professor of Biological Sciences
Director, Honey Research Unit
University of Waikato

New Zealand Beekeeper
Index 2003

Title	Author	Vol 11	Month	Page
57 years	Ron Mossop	5	June	20
Accurate honey samples show correct UMF ratings - Manuka	Honey Research Unit - Waikato	2	March	16
Accurate measurement of anitbacterial activity in honey	Peter Molan	10	November	28
Acknowledgement of Beekeepers Input	Roger Bray	6	July	4
Acting Presidents Report to AGM Nelson 24.07.2003	Jane Lorimer	7	August	3
AFB Canterbury Region	Roger Bray	10	November	10
AFB PMS Calender of events	The management agency	10	November	25
AgriQuality Ltd report to Conference	AgriQuality	8	September	9
American Foulbrood Control -	Mark Goodwin	9	October	6
American Foulbrood Disease - Diagnosing.	Mark Goodwin	10	November	26
Apicultural Exotic Disease Surveillance Report 30.6.2003	David McMillan	11	December	9
Apimondia	Ian Berry	6	July	19
Applications for Grants from the Honey Industry Trusts	Ian Berry	6	July	16
Beekeeper Discussion Groups	Peter Sales	8	September	14
Beeswax Bolus	Danyang Ying	3	April	7
Ben Rawnsley - Beekeeper	Bob Russell	6	July	6
Biosecurity Act levies to fund the AFB NPMS	MAF - Fiona Hutchinson	4	May	12
Book Review - The new complete guide to Beekeeping	Don Stedman	7	August	19
Book Review - The secret life of bees		5	June	23
Cape Bee the social Parasite	David McMillan	7	August	21
Certificates of Inspection	Jane Lorimer	10	November	20
Changes to the Health and Safety in Employment Act	FMG Post	4	May	5
Comvita announces shareholding in Medical Honey company	Lance Morcan	10	November	20
Conference	Frank Lindsay	7	August	5
Conference 2004 Napier Hawkes Bay	Ron Morison	11	December	9
Congratulations Sir Ed	Frank Lindsay	5	June	4
Consumers ready for gourmet honey varieties, US survey finds	National Honey Board - USA	1	February	19
Control of Varroa using Formic Acid, Oxalic Acid and Thymol	Mark Goodwin	6	July	7
Don Stedman - Executive member profile	Don Stedman	2	March	5
Draft Biosecurity Strategy	Jane Lorimer & Frank Lindsay	2	March	22
ERMA - Decision on Californian Thistle	ERMA	5	June	4
Exotic Honey Bee Disease and Pest Response Simulation	David McMillan	4	May	10
Expanding the NBA's Future	Pauline Bassett	7	August	9
Fed Farmers forms new bee industry council	Fed Farms	1	February	14
Federated Farmers has room for Beekeepers	Milton Jackson	1	February	10
Field Days - Bay of Plenty & Southern North Island	Publications Team	9	October	11
Five Finger - Trees and Shrubs of NZ	Tony Lorimer	8	September	6
Flooded Hives	Frank Lindsay	5	June	11
Frequency and Timing of American Foulbrood Inspections	Mark Goodwin	11	December	14
From the archives - Apiary Sections work reviewed	NZ Beekeeper Nov 1970	8	September	19
From the Archives - Plastic combs: Second Season	G de la M Nichols	2	March	23
From the PMS Committee	Ian Spence	7	August	17
Further requeening	Frank Lindsay	2	March	19
Generic Research vs Commercial Research	Peter Molan	3	April	4
Ground Breaking, World Leading Research here in NZ	Publications Team	8	September	5
Hobbyist in Rotorua	Harold	8	September	8
Honey bee genetic material	Biosecurity mag	4	May	4
Honey weapon against super bugs	Journal of Applied Microbiology	1	February	18
Ian Berry - Profile of a Recycled Executive member	Ian Berry	10	November	30
Import Risk analysis	Frank Lindsay	6	July	20
Jane Lorimer - Acting President Profile	Jane Lorimer	3	April	6
Laboratory for honey bee virus study	Publications	1	February	6
Levy to fund AFB Pest Management Strategy	Office Hon Jim Sutton	8	September	18
Library News	Chris Taiaroa	7	August	6
Library Report	Chris Taiaroa	6	July	15
Library Report	Chris Taiaroa	11	December	18
MAF application to import M.pluton	Don Stedman	10	November	32
MAF Discussion Paper on a GM Database due in December	Irene Parminter	10	November	23
MAF Update Phase III Varroa Management Programme	Paul Bolger	2	March	14
Magazines received by the Library - review	Frank Lindsay	3	April	11
Major Sponsors of conference	Publications Team	7	August	26/27
Manuka Producers Amazed	NZ Beeswax	5	June	16
Marlborough Beekeepers Association Meeting	Will Trollope	10	November	29
Medal for NZ Varroa Guide - Silver at Apimondia 2003	Publications Team	10	November	13
Message to all Beekeepers using Methyl Bromide	Frank Lindsay	2	March	6
Mite Gone pads and Formic Acid	NZ Beeswax	5	June	24
Movement Control Line change	Paul Bolger	8	September	18
Movement Control Line change Map	Paul Bolger	10	November	21
National Beekeeper Inc Project Expanding Options	Jon Manhire	3	April	5
National Beekeeper Inc Project Expanding Options	Jon Manhire	4	May	12

Branch and Club Contacts

NORTH CANTERBURY BEEKEEPERS CLUB
Meets the second Monday of April, June,
August and October
Contact: Mrs Hobson Phone: (03) 312-7587

AUCKLAND BEEKEEPERS CLUB INC
Meets 1st Saturday monthly at Unitec,
Pt Chevalier, Auckland.
President: Ian Anderson
Phone: 09 480 8327
PO Box 214, Waimauku

AUCKLAND BRANCH - NBA
Held: 24 Andromeda Cres, East Tamaki

CANTERBURY BRANCH
Meets the last Tuesday of every month,
February to October
Contact: Roger Bray Phone: (03) 308-4964

SOUTH CANTERBURY BRANCH
Peter Lyttle Phone: (03)693-9189

CHRISTCHURCH HOBBYIST CLUB
Meets on the first Saturday of each month,
August to May, except in January for which it is
the second Saturday. The site is at 681 Cashmere Road,
Commencing at 1.30pm
Contact: Jeff Robinson, 64 Cobra Street Christchurch 3.
Phone: (03) 322-5392

TARANAKI AMATEUR BEEKEEPING CLUB
Phone: Stephen Black (06) 752-6860
685 Uruti Road RD 48, Urenui

HAWKES BAY BRANCH
meets on the second Monday of the month at 7.30pm,
Arataki cottage, Havelock North
Phone: Ron (06) 844-9493

NZ QUEEN PRODUCERS ASSN
Phone: Mary-Anne (06) 855-8038

DUNEDIN BEEKEEPERS CLUB
Meets on the first Saturday in the month
September - April, (Except January) at 1.30pm.
The venue is at our club hive in Roslyn, Dunedin.
Enquiries welcome to club secretary,
Margaret, Phone: (03) 415-7256
Email: flour-mill@xtra.co.nz

WAIRARAPA HOBBYIST BEEKEEPERS CLUB
Meet 3rd Sunday each month (except January)
at Norfolk Road, Masterton at 1.30 pm.
Phone Convenor: Arnold Esler (06) 379-8648

SOUTHLAND BRANCH - NBA
Phone/Fax: Don Steadman (03) 246-9777

WANGANUI BEEKEEPERS CLUB
Meets on the second Wednesday of the month.
Phone Secretary: Neil Farrer (06)343-6248

MANAWATU BEEKEEPERS CLUB
Meets every 4th Thursday in the month at Newbury
Hall, SH3, Palmerston North
Contact: Joan Leckie, Makahika Road, RD 1, Levin
Phone: (06) 368-1277

POVERTY BAY BRANCH - NBA
Phone: Barry (06) 867-4591

WELLINGTON BEEKEEPERS ASSN
Meets every second Monday of the month (except
January) in Johnsonville. All welcome.
Phone: John Burnet 21 Kiwi Cres,
Tawa, Wellington 6006
Phone: (04) 232-7863 Email: johnburnet@xtra.co.nz

NELSON BEEKEEPERS CLUB
Contact: Kevin Phone: (03) 545-0122

FRANKLIN BEEKEEPERS CLUB
Meets second Sunday of each month at 10.00 am for
a cuppa and discussion. 10.30am open hives.
Secretary - Peter Biland
Phone: (09) 294-8365
President - Stuart Ward
Phone: (09) 238-1441

Is your group or Branch missing from here?

Please contact the Secretary