October 2012, Volume 20 No. 9

The NEW ZEALAND BeeKeeper

More research needed

- Focus on AFB
- Bee Week roundup
- Controlling swarms
- Claims for manuka honey activity
- Queen introduction 101

BAYVAROL®

NZ's No 1 VARROA TREATMENT

Why?

- it's highly effective (up to over 99% efficacy)
- it's the easiest to use (rigid strips - no curling)
- it's very safe to use (very important - especially for staff)
- it has twice the contact area (4 strips per brood chamber)
- very kind to beeswax, propolis & comb honey
- very gentle on queen bees & nucs
- it can be used during the honey flow if required
- strips have a 5 year expiry date from date of manufacture

Resistance?

We are still selling over one million strips per year with over 95% of all customers happy with efficacy, however it's now more important than ever before to ensure that you use the correct dosage – being 4 strips per full depth single brood chamber - and to test their effectiveness after the treatment has been completed. Further, to our knowledge, not one hive has ever been lost due to Bayvarol resistance – which is a better record than any other treatment, with or without resistance!

We'd strongly recommend that you use Bayvarol® as one of your alternate treatments.

Bayvarol is New Zealand's most popular Varroa treatment, for **very** good reason.

Current prices as at 1st October 2012

20 to 80 strips	$2.09 + GST each
100 to 780 strips	$1.96 + GST each
800 to 8800 strips	$1.59 + GST each
9600 plus strips	$1.54 + GST each

Packets contain 20 strips, cartons contain 800 strips. For orders of up to 100 strips please add $7 incl. GST for freight. Orders of 100 strips or more are despatched freight free to anywhere in New Zealand. Payment is required prior to despatch by Visa, M/Card, Cheque or Electronic Banking.

For any enquiries or orders, please phone 03 358 7498 or email: ecroyd@beehealthy.co.nz

Bayvarol ® - Registered trademark of Bayer AG Germany - Approved under the Animal Products (Ancillary and Transitional Provisions) Act 1999

www.beehealthy.co.nz

Ecroyd Beekeeping Supplies Ltd

Distributors, Exporters & Importers (since 1913) of Beekeeping Equipment

Distributors of Bee Healthy & Beeway Honey & Bee Products

E B S

www.ecroyd.com

P.O. Box 5056 Papanui, Christchurch 8542, New Zealand • 6A Sheffield Crescent, Burnside, Christchurch

Phone: (03) 358-7498 • Fax: (03) 358-8789 • Email: ecroyd@beehealthy.co.nz

The New Zealand BeeKeeper is the official journal of the National Beekeepers' Association of New Zealand (Inc.)

ISSN 0110-6325

Printed by South City Print, PO Box 2494, Dunedin 9013, New Zealand

NBA website: www.nba.org.nz

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER:
Daniel Paul
PO Box 10792
Wellington 6143
Ph: 04 471 6254
Fax: 04 499 0876
Email: ceo@nba.org.nz

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
(including NBA Membership & Journal Subscriptions)

PO Box 10792
Wellington 6143
Ph: 04 471 6254
Fax: 04 499 0876
Email: secretary@nba.org.nz

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL:
Barry Foster (President/East Coast)
Neil Stuckey (Northern/Vice President)
Stephen Black (Waikato)
Dennis Crowley (Bay of Plenty)
Mary-Ann Lindsay (Southern North Island)
Ricki Leahy (Upper South Island)
Roger Bray (Central South Island)
Russell Berry (Lower South Island)

EDITORIAL/PUBLICATION:
Nancy Fithian
8A Awa Road, Miramar
Wellington 6022
Ph: 04 380 8801 Fax: 04 380 7197
Mobile: 027 238 2915
Email: editor@nba.org.nz

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE:
Frank Lindsay
26 Cunliffe Street
Johnsonville
Wellington 6037
Ph: 04 478 3367
Email: lindsays.apiaries@clear.net.nz

JOURNAL SUBSCRIPTIONS:
— 11 Issues —
NZ $135.00 GST inc - incl P&P
Australia NZ$160.00 + TT Fees NZ$25.00 and incl P&P
Rest of the world NZ$170.00 + TT Fees NZ$25.00
and incl P&P
Subject to review if postage charges increase

DEADLINES FOR ADVERTISING AND ARTICLES:
Due on the 6th of the month prior to publication
All articles/letters/photos to be with the Editor via fax, email or post to Nancy Fithian (see details above).
Please direct advertising inquiries to:
South City Print Ltd, PO Box 2494, Dunedin 9044.
Phone: 03 455 4486, Fax: 03 455 7286
Email: sales@southcityprint.co.nz

CONTACTS TO THE NEW ZEALAND BEEKEEPING INDUSTRY:
Rex Baynes, AFB NPMS Manager
PO Box 44282, Lower Hutt 5040
Email: rbaynes@ihug.co.nz

American Foulbrood Management Strategy
www.afb.org.nz

AsureQuality Limited
Ph: 0508 00 11 22
www.asurequality.com

Exotic Disease and Pest Emergency Hotline 0800 80 99 66
www.biosecurity.govt.nz

Contents

Front cover: Some of the many visitors to the Manawatu Beekeepers Club stand at the Manawatu Country Living Expo, Feilding, 8–9 September 2012. Read more about it on page 39. Photo: Paul Jenkin.

The need for further research

By Barry Foster, NBA President

New Zealand beekeeping is going through a transition (albeit possibly a painful one) over the next few years as varroa becomes resistant to two of the three synthetic treatments we have to control it now.[1]

This situation was predicted back in 2000 as a likely trend based on past experience overseas. We can no longer take for granted that the treatments will always work. The message from two very successful NBA-run workshops on varroa control (held in July in Christchurch and Hamilton) is to treat early and to monitor. Early treatment gives you time to make a change to another treatment if the first treatment does not work. Monitoring varroa levels will ensure that you know about the problem before you end up with dead hives.

Other countries have also experienced a surge of interest in research into varroa control about the time varroa is first found, and also about the time that resistance to synthetic controls takes hold. Once again, we are following similar trends experienced offshore. We have conducted some research in the interim. Plant & Food Research Ltd has developed levels of varroa tolerance in selected queens that exhibit a Varroa Sensitive Hygiene (VSH) trait. This gene stock is now in the hands of Rae Butler and Philip Cropp of Nelson Apiaries, who plan to extend and further develop these traits with help from scientists from the nearby Cawthron Institute and elsewhere.

Other companies like Betta Bees in Dunedin and Daykel Apiaries in Kerikeri are similarly working on breeding varroa tolerance into populations of bees, but they need help and encouragement from all beekeepers. Most importantly, they need funding from the public and private sectors. According to Frans Laas of Betta Bees, who spoke at both varroa workshops, there is no single 'silver bullet' to varroa. At best, the work being conducted will see steady incremental gains in levels of tolerance to varroa.

The renowned astronomer Carl Sagan once said,

> *"At the heart of science is an essential balance between two seemingly contradictory attitudes—an openness to new ideas, no matter how bizarre or counterintuitive they may be, and the most ruthless skeptical scrutiny of all ideas, old and new. This is how deep truths are winnowed from deep nonsense."*[3]

New Zealanders pride themselves in being innovative. We will experiment and we will innovate, but as a nation we lack sufficient expenditure on research and development. We can have as many innovative ideas as we like but without adequate funding, the necessary winnowing out of those deep truths that Carl Sagan spoke of will remain ideas only.

> "as a nation we lack sufficient expenditure on research and development."

New Zealand spent only 1.3 per cent of GDP on R&D in 2010, half the OECD average of 2.4 per cent. Within that amount, Government spent 0.59% and business only 0.54% of GDP. Research and development expenditure in the farming sector, which of course includes the beekeeping industry, would likely be much less, and with good reason. Slow growth of low-growth commodities like honey, combined with some price volatility, means beekeeping businesses are particularly risk averse. The standout areas of rapid growth are in those businesses adding value to our primary products, particularly manuka honey, and within these areas some businesses stand out. Comvita New Zealand, for example, spent $2.621 million on research and development costs to the end of March 2012, or 2.74% of its revenue of $95.928 million. This is certainly laudable and is key to its future growth.

But the balance of research expenditure by our industry is weighted heavily at the product and market end, while often the productive end languishes. How to best address that imbalance? In my last President's report in September entitled 'Responding to universal issues', I mentioned it would likely require a commodity levy on honey. The imposition of any commodity levy is a discussion our industry has yet to have. Donations to research that are tax deductible to the person or entity giving the donation would also help as well. What is undeniable, though, is the need for greater research and collaboration.

Other countries are doing better. The newly opened Canadian National Bee Diagnostic Services Centre (NBDSC) in Alberta will probably be using New Zealand bees as comparators[2] due to the fact that many of our bees are shipped as packages to Canada. The centre's website says, *"the centre will offer comprehensive honeybee diagnostic services and surveillance data to industry and government/regulatory bodies. Services will include research on honeybee pests, pathogens and parasites using advanced scientific techniques".*

Trees for Bees

The Trees for Bees team is working in Gisborne at the National Eastwood Hill Arboretum and nearby locations to search for new bee forage species to cover critical

Continued on page 6

[1]Varroa resistance to Apivar (Amitraz) has not yet been documented in New Zealand.
[2]http://www.radf.ca/projects/national_bee_diagnostic_services_centre_nbdsc/
[3]http://todayinsci.com/S/Sagan_Carl/SaganCarl-Quotations.htm

Continued from page 4

pollen dearth times. Eastwoodhill Arboretum curator, Danny Fraser, is providing key information about candidate plants out of the 3500 plant species and varieties in the living collection. Dr Linda Newstrom-Lloyd is in Gisborne to work with Danny and the NBA Gisborne Trees for Bees team (Barry Foster, Paul Badger and John McLean) this year.

The NBA team has already planted up the first demonstration farm in this region for Trees for Bees at Peter Hair's sheep and beef farm near Gisborne. An agricultural intern student from France, Jean Noel Galliot, is assisting Linda from September through November to collect pollen samples for testing protein content. They are consulting Gisborne beekeepers and farmers to discuss pollen dearth issues and the efficacy of candidate non-weedy high quality plants that could be used for bee forage throughout New Zealand.

The Trees for Bees SFF project ends next November 2013 and is bidding in this October SFF round to renew the contract for another three years in order to build an online catalogue of bee forage plants with tips on how to select the best ones for each region and farming situation. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor or supporter to help Trees for Bees win SFF funding to continue the research by cofunding in kind or cash, please contact NBA CEOs Daniel Paul or Pauline Downie at the NBA's head office in Wellington.

[4]http://www.country99tv.co.nz/news/latest-news/2012/9/5/every-week-is-bee-week

National Bee Week

Bee Week has come and gone for another year and in this issue our secretariat gives a report on what was a very successful Bee Week. Rere School near Gisborne featured in a Country 99 TV news item entitled "Every Week Is Bee Week".[4]

Buzzy Bee

I would like to say a big thank you to Buzzy Bee (also known as Info Urban Licensing) for their generous support of the NBA this year. Buzzy Bee donates a percentage of their proceeds from the sale of every Buzzy Bee toy, which sports the NBA logo. Since April 2012, donations have totaled $887.00. Thank you to Buzzy Bee for your kind contributions to the NBA.

Thanks are also owing to our other benefit partners, as well as the 20 businesses that donated product to the NBA for National Bee Week 2012. I wish you all a good season.

EDUCATION

Beekeeping at Mt Richmond Special School

By Neil Furness, Teacher of Life Skills, Mt Richmond Special School, Otahuhu, Auckland

Beekeeping has been part of our school curriculum for a number of years now. It is one of the few schools where beekeeping is taught.

We train students so that they have the basic skills to work our own school hives or those of other beekeepers. They may also manage their own hives and provide honey for their families.

In our woodwork room, students assist in the assembling, nailing and painting of beehive boxes and floors. These are then dispatched to beekeepers in the Auckland area.

At our bee sites the students are taught hive management skills such as:

- how to light and extinguish a smoker
- how to use a hive tool to open a hive
- distinguishing a worker, queen and a drone

Finding the queen bee. Photo: James Peebles.

- how to prepare for hive expansion or wintering down
- how to recognise American foulbrood
- photographic opportunities
- how to treat hives for varroa
- limiting swarms.

Students have also been involved with the extraction of honey and the making of beeswax candles.

Second-hand honey extractor wanted!

Mt Richmond Special School is to be extended and a commercial kitchen is to be installed. We hope to purchase a good second-hand, stainless steel honey extractor in our endeavour to set up a cottage industry. We intend selling our honey at markets and other outlets to raise funds for our beekeeping projects and also, as our school motto says, *help our students be all they can be.* If anyone knows of a good second-hand honey extractor for sale, please let us know. My email is neilf@mtrichmondschool.co.nz and my home phone is 09 537 2673.

In the meantime, we continue to train students in the craft of beekeeping and promote the wellbeing of honey bees in our area.

Studying bees in a glass cabinet. Photo: Neil Furness.

Exotic disease surveillance results

By Byron Taylor, Apicultural Officer, AsureQuality Limited, Hamilton. Email: byron.taylor@asurequality.com

Honey bee exotic disease surveillance is conducted by AsureQuality Limited on behalf of the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI).

This report summarises results from autumn 2012.

Early detection of any pest or disease incursion gives MPI and industry more options for eradication or control. In order to provide the greatest chance of early detection, the Honey Bee Exotic Pest and Disease Surveillance Programme is designed to provide:

1. a surveillance programme that concentrates on geographic areas in which pests or disease are likely to be introduced. This is sometimes referred to as 'targeted surveillance'
2. an education programme aimed at improving the biosecurity knowledge of the beekeeping industry as a whole and encouraging reporting of any suspect exotic pest or disease. This is referred to as 'passive surveillance' and is a very important part of the overall surveillance system
3. sampling bees from stock provided to exporters of live bees. This is also regarded as part of the 'passive surveillance' component.

Targeted surveillance

High-risk area inspection and sampling

Partnering with industry to deliver field inspection is vitally important for a successful programme. Thirty Authorised Persons–level 2 (AP2s) sourced from within the industry offered their services for this year's programme. A number of these AP2s are beekeepers with many years of experience inspecting beehives for exotic diseases or pests; while for others, although experienced beekeepers themselves, inspecting for the first time was relatively new. AsureQuality and MPI would like to offer these individuals many thanks as they take time out from their busy autumn schedules for the good of the wider industry.

The surveillance programme requires 350 apiaries to be inspected and sampled. Hives were sampled for a range of pests and diseases of importance to the beekeeping industry. Every hive in each of the apiaries was required to be inspected and tested in order to maintain the sensitivity of the surveillance programme.

High-risk areas were selected as the most likely points of introduction for an exotic pest or disease and include: seaports, airports, transitional facilities, large population areas, tourist areas and other sites deemed to be an elevated risk. Traditionally this has included the area around Lyttelton port; however, due to earthquake damage, surveillance activity of these surveillance sites were substituted for sites in Akaroa close to the area where cruise ships berth.

A total of 368 apiaries were inspected as part of the high-risk site surveillance against a target of 350 apiaries. As noted in previous years' reports, a significant number of sites were visited even though these sites did not currently have hives. However, this was compensated for this season by giving inspectors higher inspection targets. This resulted in an inspection result that exceeded the target.

AP2 inspecting frames. Photo: Murray Reid.

AP2s perform a thorough inspection of every hive in each selected apiary. During this inspection they look for a variety of pests and diseases. This starts as they approach the hive, where they assess the behaviour of the bees (i.e., how aggressive they are, how active they are compared to other hives in the apiary and whether there are significant amounts of dead bees in front of the hive). As they open the hive, the AP2s are looking particularly for evidence of adult small hive beetle (SHB) in the extremities of the hive. These beetles move very quickly and will actively seek cover when exposed.

While inspecting the frames, the inspector will be noting the bees' activity on the frame. If the bees are highly active and also very aggressive, the inspector may note potential Africanised genetics. If evidence of multiple laying workers is evident, particularly if they are behaving—and being treated—like a queen and hive activity is low, the inspector will take one or more of the laying workers to test for Cape Bee genetics. Additionally, the inspector will inspect the brood for symptoms of EFB and take samples as appropriate.

The AP2 will also take a sample of approximately 300 older adult bees from the honey frames. These bees will be tested for tracheal mites and possibly Africanised genetics, if suspected. If there are significant numbers of dead bees in front of the hive, a sample of these will also be taken to test for tracheal mites.

Lastly, the AP2 will insert miticide strips into the brood nest and a sticky board onto the floorboard to test for external mites (particularly the Asian mite, *Tropilaelaps clareae*). The AP2 will return the next day to extract the sticky board and strips from the hives.

All bee samples are sent to the MPI Investigation and Diagnostic Laboratory (IDC) in Tamaki, Auckland, where they are tested for the range of exotic pests. Any suspect cases of suspect exotic disease are sent to the MPI Investigation and Diagnostic Laboratory in Wallaceville, Upper Hutt, for diagnosis. No exotic pests or diseases of honey bees were detected during the high-risk site surveillance programme this season.

Low-risk samples

Samples from 421 low-risk apiaries that supply bees for export contributed to the programme this year. While this was higher than the target of 300 apiaries, it is continuing to track down from the numbers received in previous years. The 2012 live bee export volumes were considerably lower than recent years, which contributed to this reduction. The number of samples requested from beekeepers supplying bees for export remained at a maximum of 25 apiaries per beekeeper. No exotic mites were detected.

Exotic disease inquiries

In addition to the scheduled surveillance programme, each year MPI and AsureQuality receive a number of calls from beekeepers reporting suspected exotic bee diseases or unusual symptoms in hives. AsureQuality works with the MPI Investigation and Diagnostic Centre in Wallaceville to screen these calls and determine whether sampling was justified. Eight calls were received, seven of which resulted in further sampling being required. If endemic diseases appear not to be the cause of the symptoms, then samples are usually tested for a wide range of exotic pests and diseases to determine the cause. All tests were negative for exotic pests and diseases for the seven cases investigated.

Industry education

Murray Reid addresses participants at an education course in Southland. Photo: Byron Taylor.

As at 13 June 2012, 3806 beekeepers were managing 422,728 hives on 25,253 apiaries. Approximately 1250 (33%) have fewer than two years' experience in the industry, which shows the need for ongoing education. By educating the beekeeping industry in the identification of exotic pests and diseases, the chances of finding an incursion early are greatly increased. This is because vastly more hives can be inspected by an educated industry than through targeted surveillance at high-risk sites.

Three articles are written for publication in *The New Zealand BeeKeeper* every year. These are written by the AsureQuality Apiculture team and provide a general summary of the latest information on a particular pest or disease of importance to honey bees. Articles are peer reviewed internally within the AsureQuality Apiculture team and externally by MPI.

Additionally, the surveillance programme has funded the update of the honey bee exotic disease and pest pamphlet. You can find this pamphlet inserted in this issue of *The New Zealand BeeKeeper*, which goes to all registered beekeepers in the country. The revised pamphlet will aid beekeepers in identifying diseases and pests in the hive. The pamphlet is revised on a four-yearly cycle to ensure that the information available to beekeepers remains current.

Beekeepers should keep themselves informed about biosecurity issues, pests and diseases that affect apiculture and regularly inspect their hives for any suspicious signs of pests or disease. The more educated the industry is, the greater the chance that a beekeeper will report something unusual in their hives.

Apiary database

The creation of an effective surveillance programme depends on good information. The Ministry for Primary Industries funds a portion of the costs associated with keeping the information on the national apiary database current (i.e., through the Annual Disease Return). MPI uses the apiary register to design and manage the surveillance programme.

Additionally, the Exotic Disease Surveillance Programme has previously contributed to the development of APIWEB, which allows beekeepers to access and update information held on the apiary database relating to their operation. This ultimately improves the quality of information held in the database and improves the surveillance programme design.

Thanks again to all those beekeepers who, in some cases, endure almost annual apiary inspections. Your continuing support is appreciated.

Happy beekeeping and good luck for the coming season!

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO CERTAIN BEEKEEPERS

If you do not hold a Disease Elimination Conformity Agreement (DECA) this notice applies to you.

You are required by law to have your hives inspected by an approved beekeeper by on or before 30 November 2012 (Friday).

Clause 32
Biosecurity (National American Foulbrood Pest Management Strategy) Order 1998

Failure to comply will result in:

- The Management Agency arranging for your hives to be inspected by an Authorised Person Level 2 (AP2) under the Biosecurity Act 1993.
- Your details will be forwarded to MAF Biosecurity.
- The Management Agency considering undertaking a prosecution under section 154 (q) of the Biosecurity Act 1993.

TAKE THE STING OUT OF HIVE MIGRATION

SAVE 10%

Save now on the industry proven compact crane with packages for:
• Utes • Trailers • Trucks

Save 10% off Quicklift 055 *or* 080 packages. PLUS - mention this ad and get a free wireless remote. PACKAGES INCLUDE:

- Fully hydraulic crane, slew and lift
- 1.65m hydraulic/2.4m manual boom ext. *or* 2.1m hydraulic/2.9m manual boom ext.
- Base plate, leg socket and bolt down kit
- Fully enclosed power pack, fitted with isolator switch (choice of 12 or 24 volt)
- Radio remote control on all functions
- Overload relief on lifting cylinder
- Oil tank

'Bee' quick - this offer ends October 31.

QuickLIFT® COMPACT CRANES

"We run NZ's biggest beekeeping operation, and use quicklift to save us a lot of heavy lifting, even the oldies can now shift hives again. Quicklift has proved to be exactly what we want in a crane for a small truck and trailer unit - Light, compact, trouble free and easy to use." We all love it!

Russell Berry, Managing Director, Arataki Honey Ltd - Rotorua Division

The Quicklift range is distributed by Waimea Truck & Crane Ltd. Call us or visit our website for your free full colour brochure.

Contact us now on
0800 60 60 61
Or visit www.waimea.co.nz

Your Truck Crane and EWP Specialists
9 Poutama St, Richmond, Nelson 7020

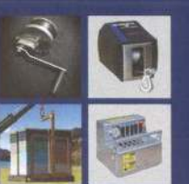
waimea TRUCK & CRANE

Other hive migration solutions available:


Manual tailgate loader


Universal alloy crane


larger Quicklift 150/250 cranes


Accessories also available

Bee Week swarms media headlines

By the NBA Secretariat

The 2012 National Bee Week ran from 20–24 August, and has been hailed as an 'unprecedented success' in the exposure for bees it created.

That's the message from NBA President Barry Foster, who says this year's National Bee Week was very successful in achieving its main goal of obtaining media coverage.

"In total, there were approximately 85 articles featured across a range of television, radio, internet and print outlets for National Bee Week, including 8 television appearances and 10 radio interviews," he says.

"Bee Week articles were featured on a range of national media, including Newstalk ZB, Country 99 TV, Sticky TV, Radio Live, Stuff.co.nz, the New Zealand Herald website and the Sunday Star Times 'Sunday' magazine.

"This is on top of three appearances on the Good Morning show and five interviews on Radio New Zealand."

Barry says the huge amount of media coverage was fundamental to the NBA's aim of publicising the importance of bees to New Zealand and its economy.

"This year we wanted Bee Week out in the public arena. We wanted the public to see and understand how important bees are to our everyday lives," he says.

Wellington Beekeepers' Association member Liz Tan visited Windley School, Porirua during Bee Week.

"As beekeepers, we are well aware of the part bees play in New Zealand, and in our economy. The public isn't, and changing that was one of our key goals for Bee Week."

Barry says beekeepers visited schools to educate children about the importance of bees, with the children participating in a colouring competition for Bee Week.

"As in previous years, we wanted to use Bee Week as a tool to educate the next generation about bees. Many beekeepers visited schools as part of this public awareness programme," he says.

"It was fantastic to see the school visits crop up in the media too. There was a great article in the Manawatu Standard detailing Mali Swanney's school visits with her son, which later appeared on www.stuff.co.nz.

The colouring competition for school children, which celebrated Bee Week, received over 300 entries.

Barry says media giveaways created a lot of exposure for Bee Week, and the generosity of commercial beekeepers was astounding.

"As part of Bee Week, the NBA ran competitions or giveaways with a range of newspapers, giving readers an opportunity to win some honey or bee-related goodies," he says.

"In total, 20 businesses kindly donated product which amounted to a value of just over $3,000.00.

Twelve newspapers ran competitions or giveaways to celebrate Bee Week: Bay of Plenty Times, Gisborne Herald, Marlborough Express, Nelson Mail, Southland Times, Waikato Times, Taupo Times, Northern Advocate, Oamaru Mail, Mountain Scene, The Ensign, and Hawke's Bay Today.

The incredible success of the giveaways has been communicated to the NBA by both the newspapers and winners of the giveaway hampers.

One of 12 hampers provided as part of a Bee Week competition promoted in the media. Photo provided by the NBA Secretariat.

Some newspapers have contacted the NBA in the past week, and stated that they have been overwhelmed with entries—to the point where they can't cope with them all! Barry passed along the text of a letter received from one of our winners of the Bee Week media giveaways:

> *Hello,*
> *I would like to pass on my heartfelt thanks for the amazing bee products hamper I was lucky enough to win through the recent Nelson Mail's National Bee Week competition.*
> *Every single one of the products will be thoroughly enjoyed by either my family, friends or me. I feel so fortunate to be able to share these very special items.*
> *Many, many thanks.*

Barry concluded, "this letter really shows the unprecedented success of National Bee Week 2012."

The National Beekeepers' Association would like to thank the businesses that kindly donated product for Bee Week: Les Floralies, Buzzy Bee, The Honey Collection, Parrs, Waitemata Honey, Haines Honey, Hauora Honey, Arataki Honey, Nelson Honey, The Honey Company, Steens New Zealand, Manuka Health, New Zealand Honey Ltd, Bee Kind, Comvita, Honey New Zealand, Nature's Country Gold, Mossops, Bee My Honey, and J. Friend & Co Honey.

The NBA would also like to give special thanks to Maureen Maxwell of Wild Forage Ltd, who has donated proceeds from the sale of Wildflower Bee Friendly Mix seed packets, and the branches who kindly made donations to support National Bee Week.

NATIONAL BEE WEEK

NBA President Barry Foster (wearing cap) and Poverty Bay Branch member John McLean (in the bee suit) paid a visit to Matawai School, about 70 kilometres northwest of Gisborne and close to the border of the Gisborne and Bay of Plenty districts. Photos supplied by Matawai School.

Apimondia Oceania Commission President Maureen Maxwell also visited several schools in Auckland City during Bee Week.

Maureen with pupils at Meadowbank School. The school is participating in the 'Garden to Table' initiative and Maureen spoke about bees to the students as part of Bee Week activities.

Left to right: Kim Kneijber of the Auckland Beekeepers' Club and Apimondia Oceania Commission President Maureen Maxwell presenting the 2012 honey harvest from the Auckland Town Hall sentinel hives to Auckland Mayor Len Brown.

A bee enclosure at Owairaka District School, another of the Garden to Table schools.

Bottom three photos supplied by Maureen Maxwell.

AFB Recognition Courses planned for 2012

By Rex Baynes, AFB NPMS Manager

We are providing non-DECA holders with the opportunity to attend a course and take the test. This is an essential step to becoming a DECA holder.

Please note that at the time of going to print certain arrangements still needed to be confirmed on some courses.

NORTH AUCKLAND

Date:	**24 November 2012 (Saturday)**
Host:	Management Agency, American Foulbrood Pest Management Strategy
Facilitator:	Dan Lambert
Contact:	Dan Lambert (027) 352 9295, (09) 407 8226 or beekeeper266@hotmail.com
Venue:	Northtec, Kerikeri
Cost:	$65.00 (Covers course and test fees plus tea/coffee and lunch)
Registration Deadline: 9 November 2012 (Friday)	
Start:	9.00 am
Remarks:	Please bring bee suits.

HAMILTON, WAIKATO

Date:	**17 November 2012 (Saturday)**
Host:	Waikato Branch of the NBA
Venue:	Matangi Hall Matangi Village, Tauwhare Rd
Start:	9.00 am
Finish:	3.00 pm
Cost:	$25.00 for the course plus $30.00 to sit the test. (Total 55.00)
Catering:	BYO lunch, coffee and tea provided.
Contact:	Tony Lorimer (07) 856 9625
Registration Deadline: 7 November 2012 (Wednesday)	
Note:	Applications received after this date cannot be accepted as it takes a minimum of 10 days to generate individual test papers and mail them to the person running the course.

TIMARU, SOUTH CANTERBURY

Date:	**10 November 2012 (Saturday)**
Host:	Agribusiness Training Ltd
Facilitator:	Phil Sutton
Contact:	Phil Sutton (03) 686 1513 or (027) 491 7243
Venue:	Agribusiness Training Ltd Washdyke, Timaru
Start:	9.30 am
Cost:	$80 (lunch provided)
Registration Deadline: 25 October 2012 (Thursday)	

ASHBURTON, MID CANTERBURY

Date:	**3 November 2012 (Saturday)**
Host:	Canterbury Branch of the NBA
Facilitator:	Roger Bray
Contacts:	Roger Bray (03) 308 4964 or birdsnbees@xtra.co.nz
Cost:	Test and Course Fees $55.00 (NBA Members $35.00) Refresher Course $20.00
Venue:	St Johns Rooms 241 Tancred Street, Ashburton
Start:	1.00 pm
Registration Deadline: 18 October 2012 (Thursday)	

Registration form: Please contact either Roger or Linda Bray on (03) 308 4964

CHRISTCHURCH, CANTERBURY

Date:	**24 November 2012 (Saturday)**
Host:	Canterbury Branch of the NBA
Venue:	Young Farmers Rooms, Lincoln
Facilitators:	Lindsay Moir and Jeff Chandler
Contacts:	Lindsay Moir brightonmoirs@xtra.co.nz or (03) 388 3313 Jeff Chandler jchandler38@gmail.com or (03)385 5375
Cost:	$65.00.
Remarks:	To register your interest, please contact either Lindsay or Jeff with your details. Note: Jeff Chandler will not be available until after 3 October 2012.

Important information

The course information highlighted above is what is planned to date and at time of going to print. Should beekeepers who fall outside of the regions mentioned above require a course(s) I am more than willing, given there is reasonable support to organise additional courses. Please email me at rbaynes@ihug.co.nz with your location details.

If you are planning on attending an AFB Recognition Course, it is strongly recommended that you obtain a copy of the booklet titled *Elimination of American Foulbrood Disease* without the Use of Drugs, commonly referred to as the 'yellow book'.

This worthwhile publication can be obtained from:

- Your local beekeeping supplier
- National Beekeepers' Association (Inc.)
  PO Box 10792, Wellington
  Phone: (04) 471 6254
  Email: secretary@nba.org.nz
  Cost: $37.50 (includes GST and Postage)

Two further courses are being held close to the time that the journal went to print. A course is being held in Cromwell on Saturday, 6 October. If you are interested in attending and see this notice before that date, contact David Woodward (03) 489 8800 or (027) 418 2385 or email davidw@agribusiness.ac.nz

For information about the Levin course on Saturday, 20 October 2012, please contact Frances Beech (06) 367 2617; email francesbeech@compassnet.co.nz or Andrew Beach (04) 904 1634; email andrewbeach@hotmail.com

Queen breeding seminars in Quebec

The Apimondia queen breeding seminars being held in Quebec, Canada from 16–18 November 2012 will have something for everyone, from queen breeders to large honey producers. Part or all of your trip could be tax deductible, and the knowledge you gain could change your thinking and even the way you bee keep. Go to http://teca.fao.org/event/queen-breeding-selection-and-honeybee-health-apimondia-international-symposium-qu%C3%A9bec-canada

AMERICAN FOULBROOD NATIONAL PEST MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

New Zealand beekeeper, apiary and hive statistics by apiary district as at 30 August 2012

Apiary Register Location	Category 0-5 Hives		
	Beekeepers	Apiaries	Hives
Blenheim	241	278	485
Canterbury	418	472	794
Hamilton	181	197	375
Otago/Southland	267	297	681
Palmerston North	575	641	1143
Tauranga	146	181	349
Whangarei	610	677	1232
New Zealand	2438	2743	5059

Apiary Register Location	Category 6-10 Hives		
	Beekeepers	Apiaries	Hives
Blenheim	33	56	269
Canterbury	58	109	439
Hamilton	22	37	181
Otago/Southland	52	84	409
Palmerston North	79	131	618
Tauranga	39	56	300
Whangarei	110	182	848
New Zealand	393	655	3064

Apiary Register Location	Category 11-50 Hives		
	Beekeepers	Apiaries	Hives
Blenheim	29	114	784
Canterbury	50	159	1110
Hamilton	26	67	660
Otago/Southland	49	118	1179
Palmerston North	74	266	1972
Tauranga	59	124	1667
Whangarei	91	253	2105
New Zealand	378	1101	9477

Apiary Register Location	Category 51-250 Hives		
	Beekeepers	Apiaries	Hives
Blenheim	13	196	2040
Canterbury	29	431	3679
Hamilton	22	176	2767
Otago/Southland	25	264	3288
Palmerston North	48	435	6361
Tauranga	44	327	4898
Whangarei	54	456	6798
New Zealand	235	2285	29831

Apiary Register Location	Category 251-500 Hives		
	Beekeepers	Apiaries	Hives
Blenheim	12	270	4602
Canterbury	18	571	7693
Hamilton	3	194	3096
Otago/Southland	12	261	3851
Palmerston North	17	314	5937
Tauranga	31	410	8870
Whangarei	20	372	7243
New Zealand	113	2392	41292

Apiary Register Location	Category 501-1000 Hives		
	Beekeepers	Apiaries	Hives
Blenheim	13	558	8778
Canterbury	19	692	12770
Hamilton	13	504	9775
Otago/Southland	22	1014	15190
Palmerston North	15	579	11595
Tauranga	23	581	15346
Whangarei	14	572	10576
New Zealand	119	4500	84030

Apiary Register Location	Category 1000+ Hives		
	Beekeepers	Apiaries	Hives
Blenheim	8	687	13710
Canterbury	13	1386	29222
Hamilton	14	1593	41681
Otago/Southland	13	1296	26264
Palmerston North	16	2892	61483
Tauranga	24	2144	49094
Whangarei	14	1786	35809
New Zealand	102	11784	257263

Apiary Register Location	Total		
	Beekeepers	Apiaries	Hives
Blenheim	348	2126	30168
Canterbury	605	3820	55707
Hamilton	281	2768	58535
Otago/Southland	440	3334	50862
Palmerston North	824	5258	89109
Tauranga	366	3823	80524
Whangarei	911	4268	64111
New Zealand	3775	25397	429016

Policies developed by the MA

By the AFB Management Agency

As part of the strategic review, the Management Agency determined to develop a number of policies related to its field operations.

The policies highlighted below are living documents and are open to amendment from time to time.

1. Policy on helicopter surveillance

The Management Agency expects that each helicopter surveillance event will be carried out such that:

- the purpose of each event is to:
  - o determine the location of all hives within a specified area
  - o enable the level of registration compliance to be determined within the specified area.
- for each surveillance event, the Manager AFB NPMS will specify:
  - o the boundaries of the area to be used
  - o the helicopter operator
  - o the observer to fly the surveillance event, usually an Authorised Person 2 (AP2).
- the flight path for each event will be determined by the Manager AFB NPMS in consultation with the helicopter operator and the observer.
- during the event:
  - o the helicopter pilot will log the flight path of the event
  - o each apiary site observed will have its GPS coordinates logged separately
- after the event, the observer must ensure that:
  - o the flight path information and the observer log sheets are returned to both the Manager AFB NPMS and AsureQuality Limited.

2. Policy on diseaseathon

The Management Agency expects that each diseaseathon event will be carried out such that:

- the purpose of each event is to:
  - o determine disease status in a given area
  - o provide training for beekeepers in disease inspection.
- the event must not:
  - o target any individual beekeeper
  - o be used by anyone to gain commercial advantage. The beekeeper undertaking the inspection must treat what he/she sees in total confidence and must not be shared.
- the event is part of an inspection programme approved by AsureQuality Limited or the Manager AFB NPMS.
- the event will be led by a locally appointed disease coordinator who will hold Authorised Person 2 (AP2) status.
- the sites chosen for inspection will be chosen by AsureQuality, with input from the disease coordinator.
- the means of determining sites chosen for inspection is documented in a separate policy.
- inspections must be completed within a time frame of 2 days.
- during the event:
  - o where possible, the inspectors liaise with the landowner and beekeeper, as appropriate, before entering the property where hives are situated
  - o inspectors treat each site with care, as if it were their own
  - o inspection sheets are completed with full information
  - o photographs of sites are a mandatory requirement and should be taken both before and after the inspection.
- after the event:
  - o inspection sheets are to be returned to the Manager AFB NPMS within 5 days of the inspection having taken place.

3. Policy on audit of an individual beekeeper

The Management Agency expects that each audit event will be carried such that:

- the purpose of each event is to:
  - o determine disease status in a given individual beekeeper's apiaries
  - o determine the compliance status of the beekeeper with respect to the PMS Order; e.g.,
    - 7-day reporting in writing
    - hive destruction within 7 days
    - ADR compliance
    - Apiary markings.
- for each audit, the decisions on site selection will be made through consultation between AsureQuality Limited and the Manager AFB NPMS.
- the event will be led, where possible, by an Authorised Person with AP1 status.
- before the audit:
  - o where possible, the beekeeper will be offered the opportunity to meet with the Manager AFB NPMS and the AP1 coordinator to discuss the audit process and the reasons for it
  - o the inspection teams will be chosen by the AP1. Where possible, each team should be led by an AP2 from outside the region of operation of the beekeeper to be audited
  - o the AP1 and the individual beekeeper will hold a teleconference to organise the logistics of the audit.
- during the event:
  - o where possible, the inspectors liaise with the landowner, as appropriate, before entering the property where hives are situated
  - o where possible, the inspection teams are accompanied by a representative of the beekeeper being audited
  - o inspectors treat each site with care, as if it were their own
  - o inspection sheets are completed with full information
  - o photographs of sites are taken before and after the inspection, if possible.
- after the event:
  - o inspection sheets are returned to the Manager AFB NPMS through the AP1.

The goal of the New Zealand AFB programme is to eliminate AFB from New Zealand. [Source: page 6, *Elimination of American Foulbrood Disease without the use of Drugs—a practical manual for beekeepers*, revised edition, by Dr Mark Goodwin.]

Ceracell Beekeeping Supplies ltd

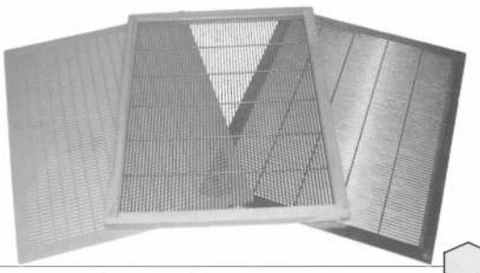
Manufacturers and Suppliers of Quality Beekeeping Goods. For all your Beekeeping Needs.

24 Andromeda Cres, East Tamaki, Auckland, New Zealand PH 64 9 274 7236 Fax 64 9 274 0368
email: info@ceracell.co.nz

Galvanised Folded Lids

Comes in various styles, closed/ folded corner lids, sprung end lids, open end lids. Gauge of galvanised steel either 0.55mm or heavier 0.75mm. Thicker steel gauge can be made to order. POA

0.55 Open Corner Sprung End $14.50ea +gst or 13.50ea +gst 100+
0.75 Open Corner Sprung End $15.50ea +gst or 14.00ea +gst 100+
Further Discount for Larger Quantities



Queen Excluders

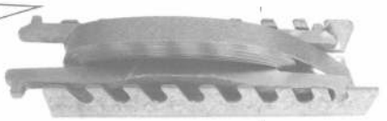
3 sizes available, very robust.
Best value for money available.

Plastic Heavy Duty $5.33ea +gst
Discount for Purchases 100+ $4.20ea +gst
Metal Rim Wire $15.15ea +gst
Discount for Purchases 50+ $12.20ea +gst
Wooden Rim $14.55ea +gst
Discount for Purchases 50+$12.50ea +gst

All our Wire Queen Excluders have 2mm wire + Wooden Rims have 2 staples per corner, Metal Rim are punched & clenched on each corner, Very Strong.

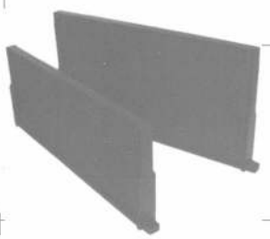
Now Available with Pre-wound strapping & Ready to use!!!

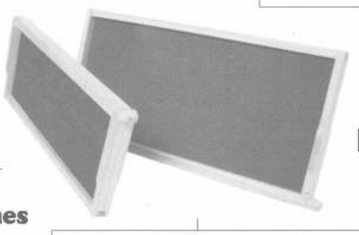
Hive Strappers



$11.55 ea +gst complete ready to use

Discounts on purchase over 50+ $10.47ea +gst





One-Piece Plastic Frames

Full Depth 33mm or 35mm End Bars
3/4 Depth 33mm or 35mm End Bars
3/4 Depth Manley End Bar

Starting at $3.00ea +gst
Discount on purchases 40+
Large Discount on 5000+

Standard Colours Black or White,
Different Colours can be Supplied on request, priced accordingly.

Plastic Inserts / Foundation

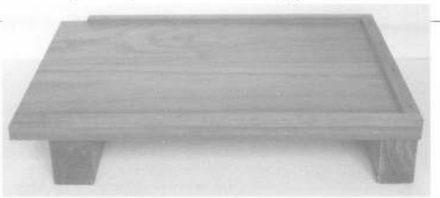
Full Depth $1.95 ea +gst
3/4 Depth $1.85ea +gst

Discount for 500 or more
Large Discount on 5000 or more
Wax Coating Available

Wooden Frames

3 sizes available, 33mm End Bars or 35mm End Bars, Grooved Bottom Bars or Standard Bottom Bars.

Starting at $1.36ea +gst kitset
Discount for 100 or more



Hive Floors

Standard Hive floor : 2 Piece Deck $14.65ea +gst Kitset
Discount for 20+
Thermo Wood, Mesh Bottom Floors + Eco treated also Now Available. Call for Pricing
4 Seasons Entrance, Call for Pricing.

All prices exclude GST & Freight.

AFB NPMS report, 1 July 2011–30 June 2012

By Rex Baynes, AFB NPMS Manager

The following report was presented on 28 June 2012 to the Annual General Meeting of the National Beekeepers' Association (Inc.) of New Zealand at its annual conference in Napier.

Introduction and background

New Zealand has had legislation to control AFB since 1906. The most recent change in that legislation occurred in 1998, when the Biosecurity (American Foulbrood National Pest Management Strategy) Order was passed into law. The Order established an American Foulbrood Pest Management Strategy (AFB NPMS) under the Biosecurity Act 1993.

The Biosecurity Act 1993 allows New Zealand agricultural industries affected by a pest or disease to determine their own goals and strategy for its control, and to use legal powers to ensure the strategy is carried out. In the case of AFB, the National Beekeepers' Association (Inc.) being the pre-eminent organisation representing the beekeeping industry, developed the AFB NPMS, and went through the process of having the strategy approved by government.

The Management Agency for the AFB NPMS is the NBA. The NBA has a statutory responsibility to implement the AFB NPMS, which comprises a range of regulatory and educational programmes. The strategy is funded using income generated from a mandatory levy on beekeepers and apiaries through the Biosecurity (American Foulbrood – Apiary and Beekeeper Levy) Order 2003.

The Management Agency

The Management Agency for the reporting period consisted of the following NBA representatives:

Mr Frans Laas (Chairman)	Otago
Mr Neil Mossop	Bay of Plenty
Mr John Hartnell	Christchurch
Mr Chris Shaw	Te Anau

Total reported American foulbrood

Despite an increase of some 33,000 hives being reported in the last 12 months, the annual reported AFB disease rate sits at 0.18%, the lowest since the commencement of the AFB NPMS in 1998.

Beekeeper, apiary and hive numbers

As at 13 June 2012 there were 3,806 registered beekeepers operating 422,728 hives on 25,253 registered apiaries. By comparison, the June 2011 statistics quoted 3,265 beekeepers, 23,356 apiaries and 391,540 hives.

	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010 (30 June)	2011 (20 June)	2012 (13 June)
Registered Beekeepers	3,973	3,211	2,694	2,589	2,957	3,265	3,806
Number of Apiaries	20,258	19,592	18,954	20,439	22,440	23,356	25,253
Number of Beehives	305,152	292,530	300,728	343,155	376,672	391,540	422,728

As with the last few years, the industry has continued to grow over the reporting period. The net increase in beekeeper numbers (16%) was greater than the previous two years. Apiary and hive numbers are also up, but not by as great of a percentage as beekeepers. This indicates the bulk of the beekeeper growth is in the hobbyist sector (those beekeepers owning five hives or less). The increase in the hobbyist sector seems to be driven by a 'back to basics' attitude that is gaining favour, particularly across city dwellers.

While there is a substantial increase in reported beehives, not all of this is due to natural increase. Due to improved enforcement activities a lot more hives and apiaries are being reported. For example, quite soon after the last helicopter audit, the Apiary Registrar noted a significant increase in workload. Another commercial operator declared an extra 5000 more hives after some pressure from the Management Agency.

[Editor's note: Rex Baynes presented a schedule to the AGM detailing beekeeper, apiary and hive statistics by apiary district as at 13 June 2012. This information has been updated as at 30 August 2012 and is on page 14.]

Disease reports

Between 1 June 2011 and 31 May 2012, 762 cases of AFB were found by beekeepers and/or AsureQuality staff in 499 apiaries. This is an average disease rate of 0.18% of hives. Of these AFB reports, 89 cases were found and reported in hives on 54 apiaries owned by beekeepers who are not DECA holders. This represents 0.53% of the total number of hives held by non-DECA holders.

The relatively high rate of disease in apiaries belonging to beekeepers who are not DECA holders is similar to what was seen last year and is cause for some concern. However, this reinforces the strategy of the management agency to ensure that as many beekeepers as possible receive training in AFB disease control. →

Year	AFB Cases (Reported)	Number of Apiaries	Percentage
2003–2004	870	422	0.30%
2004–2005	778	421	0.26%
2005–2006	952	482	0.32%
2006–2007	952	540	0.30%
2007–2008	980	552	0.27%
2008–2009	1117	557	0.32%
2009–2010	515	348	0.27%
2010–2011	1093	579	0.28%
2011–2012	762	499	0.18%

Disease Elimination Conformity Agreements (DECA)

As at 14 June 2012 there were 2,245 beekeepers with DECAs and a Certificate of Inspection Exemption (59% of beekeepers). These beekeepers are able to inspect their own hives for AFB and make reports to AsureQuality on the authorised forms.

Three hundred and twenty new DECAs were approved in the reporting period, slightly less than last year. It is worth noting that a significant number of DECAs were revoked due to non-compliance issues, mainly for a failure to supply their ADR after repeated warnings.

Since September 2008 beekeepers have been required to sit and pass the AFB competency exam prior to applying for a DECA.

Certificate of Inspection (COI)

There were 1,561 beekeepers who owned 16,773 hives on 2,362 apiaries that required a COI on 14 June 2012. The number of beekeepers in this category is up from last year with the number of hives per beekeeper staying about the same. A major contributing factor to this statistic is that 732 new beekeepers were registered in the last 12 months.

AFB Recognition course training

Given the continuing upward trend in beekeeper numbers over the last three years or so, the Management Agency has continued in its efforts to ensure there are adequate AFB Recognition courses available nationwide to accommodate the needs of new beekeepers who require AFB Recognition training, and indeed those who require refresher training.

The Management Agency is pleased to report that since 1 January 2010, in excess of 1,100 beekeepers have attended some 140 courses. This does not include four courses scheduled for this month [June 2012].

The Agency now has in place an excellent training structure whereby AFB Recognition courses are advertised and promoted well in advance via *The New Zealand BeeKeeper* journal.

It is appropriate that at this stage I acknowledge the excellent and unwavering assistance given to me by Mary-Ann Lindsay, who administers the tests.

I would also like to acknowledge those people who have given of their time to assist in facilitating the various courses, without whose help the above results would not have been possible.

Carol Downer	*Auckland*
Kim Kneijber	*Auckland*
Peter Riem	*Auckland*
Bob Russell	*Auckland*
Ross Carroll	*Tauranga*
Mark Silson	*Katikati*
Phil Sutton	*Timaru*
Roger Bray	*Ashburton*
Jeff Chandler	*Christchurch*
Gavin McKenzie	*Waimate*
Lindsay Moir	*Christchurch*
John Berry	*Havelock North*
David Hills	*Napier*
Tom Taylor	*OngaOnga*
Mary-Anne Thomason	*Takapau*
Allan Richards	*Wanganui*
Will Trollope	*Blenheim*
Nigel Costley	*Nelson*
John Gavin	*Whangarei*
Simon Peacey	*Whangarei*
Sarah Peacey	*Whangarei*
Bruce Stevenson	*Kerikeri*
Dan Lambert	*Kerikeri*
Stephen Black	*New Plymouth*
Peter Smith	*Whangarei*
David Stapleton	*Northland*
Kevin Wallace	*Wellsford*
Mark Berry	*Waiotapu*
Tony Lorimer	*Hamilton*
Bryan Mitchell	*Hamilton*
Peter Ferris	*Masterton*
Ian Moffatt	*Masterton*
Gerald Atkinson	*Martinborough*
Neil Farrer	*Wanganui*
Andrew Beach	*Paraparaumu*
Frank Lindsay	*Wellington*
Mary Allen	*Raetihi*
Paul Walsh	*Auckland*
Matt Tunzelmann	*Auckland*
Gary Glasson	*West Coast*
Frazer Wilson	*Takaka*
Frances Beech	*Levin*
Stephen Black	*Urenui*
Kevin Gates	*Christchurch*
Gerrit Hyink	*Katikati*
Judy Ferris	*Masterton*
Willie Kaa	*Gisborne*
Paul Badger	*Gisborne*
David Woodward	*Balclutha*
Brice Horner	*Outram*
Mike Fox	*Dargaville*
Jane Lorimer	*Hamilton*
Frans Laas	*Dunedin (Mosgiel)*
Bryce Hunter	*Whangarei*

Year	Beekeepers	Apiaries	Hives	Compliance Rate
2004	845	1650	14776	----
2005	741	1476	14916	14%
2006	577	1188	11465	18%
2007	534	1187	12027	22%
2008	537	1092	11062	30%
2009	1090	2559	32081	29%
2010 (March)	1298	2400	23186	64%
2011 (June)	1286	2353	14205	76%
2012 (June)	1561	2362	16773	65%

From the table above, it is noted the Management Agency has made significant inroads in the last three years in respect to compliance, despite significant increases in beekeeper, apiary and hive numbers.

Annual Disease Returns (ADR)

Clause 27 of the Order in Council requires all beekeepers to provide the Management Agency with an Annual Disease Return (ADR) updating their hive information. This information provides the basis for New Zealand's statistics on beekeeper and hive numbers and AFB incidence.

The Management Agency is delighted to report that overall compliance rates remain high; however, these results are only achieved by exhaustive follow up.

There are currently 1,172 ADR defaulters (31%). While being slightly down on the same time last year (28%), we must be mindful of the increase in beekeeper numbers.

Chase-up letters [were] being sent out during the week commencing 18 June 2012.

MAF Biosecurity New Zealand—review of AFB NPMS

Submissions closed in January 2009.

The Management Agency still awaits the outcome of this review, despite submissions having closed some three and a half years ago.

East Cape helicopter surveillance nets 26 unregistered sites

In December 2011 the Management Agency, in partnership with the Bay of Plenty Branch of the NBA, undertook an aerial surveillance operation to check on beekeeper compliance with the AFB NPMS.

This operation was on a shared-cost basis with an independent person undertaking the aerial survey. The flight in total lasted some four hours, with a stop for refuelling in the car park outside the local garage at Waihau Bay.

There were approximately 215 apiaries plotted by GPS during the time in the air, covering a wide area starting from Opotiki through to Te Araroa towards the top of the Cape.

In terms of value for dollar the exercise is considered very cost-effective, especially when considering the time in the air versus sites plotted and unregistered sites located.

The GPS data obtained was then downloaded onto a mapping facility, which allowed direct comparison between 'actual' apiary location details and the information that is held in the apiary database. A number of inconsistencies were identified which warranted further investigation.

In early February 2012 a ground operation was commenced that involved AP2s from outside of the region spending three days attempting to locate the unregistered apiaries, with the objective being to identify both the owners and ascertain the disease status of the hives in question. Further, notices to register the apiaries were placed under the hive lids, reminding the beekeeper concerned that under clause 17 of the Order hives must be registered. A certain beekeeper appeared not to have been registered at all and was operating at a commercial level. The beekeeper was also left in no doubt that under clause 25 the hives can be destroyed.

The AP2s provided AsureQuality with a detailed report of their findings, which have been used to track down the owners of the apiaries. In some cases these apiaries were registered but the co-ordinates in the database were incorrect, and in other cases the apiaries were unregistered. Owners were identified for all but one of the apiary sites.

Of the 215 apiaries detected, 26 (12%) were found to be non-compliant with regard to Section 17 of the Order.

AsureQuality has passed this information back to the Management Agency, who will assess the seriousness of individual non-compliance and take appropriate action.

Inspection programme

The Management Agency is currently undertaking a nationwide inspection programme. AsureQuality selected and allocated 437 apiaries for inspection but only 266 of these apiaries were inspected (61%). This is an area that requires more direct management.

AsureQuality officers inspected 41 apiaries against a target of 24.

Unregistered and abandoned apiaries

AsureQuality reports that 12 unregistered apiaries were located during the reporting period. All have either been dealt with or are currently being processed.

There were 22 abandoned apiaries found with 17 belonging to one beekeeper who has a history of non compliance.

Development of a Strategic Direction document

The Management Agency has embarked upon the development of a Strategic Direction statement that will establish the focus, aims and priorities for the Management Agency over the next year to three years looking forward. The document will outline our key areas of focus, with the objective being to increase the effectiveness of our strategy oversight, seeking continuous improvement and building capabilities as a Management Agency.

To be able to deliver on the strategy, we need to make some changes in how we function as a Management Agency. Our aspiration is to be a "best practice Board of a National Pest Management Strategy" that can adapt to the needs of a changing environment and keep delivering the standard of performance that is relied upon by our stakeholders.

In terms of progress the Management Agency has already come up with discussion points that had its origins in looking at our strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. This exercise resulted in a draft mission statement as well as a long-term vision statement.

Operations Manual

The Management Agency has continued to review the Operations Manual. This task involves time in discussion during which the development of policy takes place.

The Manual will require a further round of updating once Biosecurity New Zealand confirms changes to the AFB NPMS following the review as mentioned above.

Court action to recover outstanding debt

It is with disappointment that we report that it was necessary during this period to initiate court action to recover significant debt. During the reporting period the Management Agency has initiated 16 court actions.

Continued on page 21

Continued from page 19

The Management Agency has initiated further court action against several beekeepers who refuse to pay, despite having received various reminders.

Acknowledgement

As the AFB NPMS Manager, I am extremely fortunate to have supporting me such a dedicated and able group of people who make up the Management Agency. My sincere appreciation to you all for your continued guidance, direction and advice.

Conclusion

I believe the strategy is meeting both its objectives and targets; however, the Management Agency cannot do it alone—it requires total support from the industry.

The international code for marking queens. A quick way to remember the code:

When	White	1/6
You	Yellow	2/7
Requeen	Red	3/8
Get the	Green	4/9
Best	Blue	5/0

AMERICAN FOULBROOD NATIONAL PEST MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Proposed AFB NPMS budget

The input of beekeepers is sought on the proposed AFB NPMS 2013/2014 Operational Budget, running from 1 June 2013 through 31 May 2014.

Biosecurity (American Foulbrood – Apiary and Beekeeper Levy) Order 2003. Payment of levy

Section 16: Consultation on how Levy is spent.

(1) The Management Agency must, before the start of each levy year, consult with beekeepers on how the levy money is to be spent.

(2) The Management Agency must use the following process to consult with beekeepers.

(a) it must send to every beekeeper a proposed budget for the levy year's expenditure; and

(b) it must give every beekeeper an opportunity to make submissions to it on the proposed budget; and

(c) it must send to every group or association of hobby and commercial beekeepers known to it a copy of the proposed budget.

The budget presented is for the coming year 2013–2014 operational period, from 1 June 2013 to 31 May 2014.

The budget outlines how the Management Agency intends to spend levy income for the above period.

If the Budget is approved, the levy will be set at $20.00 per beekeeper and $14.00 per apiary.

Important: If you wish to make a submission on the proposed budget, then please do so in writing by 1 December 2012 to:

Rex Baynes, AFB NPMS Manager, PO Box 44282, Lower Hutt 5040
Email: rbaynes@ihug.co.nz

Note: As with the previous year's budget, we have not allocated expenditure to the particular account categories as we have done in the past, but identified the likely main contractual arrangements the Management Agency will have.

The Management Agency wishes to gradually build up a reserve in order to maintain the strategy's financial viability as well as being able to call on funds for unbudgeted priorities.

Beekeepers will please note that without the formal gazette notice and because we are estimating income and expenditure up to 18 months ahead, it is extremely difficult to accurately categorise the amounts.

Proposed AFB NPMS Operational Budget 2013–2014

Income:	Levies (Beekeepers)	72,000.00	
	Levies (Apiaries)	336,000.00	
	Interest received	6,600.00	
	Defaults & other income	6,000.00	
			$420,600.00
Expenditure:	Management Agency admin	90,000.00	
	AsureQuality contract	96,000.00	
	Hive inspections	100,000.00	
	AFB spore testing	15,000.00	
	AFB Recognition training	14,000.00	
	Meetings & travel	10,000.00	
	Accounting, legal & audit	8,000.00	
	Other general expenditure	60,000.00	
	Aerial surveillance (unregistered apiaries)	15,000.00	
			$408,000.00

The NBA and pesticides registration

By Ian Berry, NBA Life Member

The President's report in the August journal contains a statement which I feel needs to be corrected.

The statement reads, "The other area where our industry has had little past involvement is the registration and use of new and existing pesticides that might affect our bees."

Over many years the National Beekeepers' Association had a representative on the Agricultural Chemicals Board, and later on the Pesticides Board that superseded it. The job of these Boards was to look after the registration of new and existing pesticides and sprays including those that might affect our bees.

The day-to-day work was carried out by a permanent staff of four, including scientists, and was overseen be a Board of 12 members who met monthly in Wellington. We are still benefiting from the work done by the NBA representatives on these boards. The 'Toxic to Bees' warnings on spray labels, and the stopping of the use of baits that were attractive to bees when poisoning rabbits, were both examples of what was achieved.

One of the duties of the NBA representative was to give a report each year to the three-day annual conference of the NBA. In earlier days, the late Tom Pearson of Darfield was the NBA representative on the Agricultural Chemicals Board. I became a member of the Agricultural Chemicals Board when Paul Marshall, our NBA president at the time, retired. I stayed on when it was changed to the Pesticides Board and in total represented the NBA for about 11 years on these Boards.

At the time the Agricultural Chemicals Board was established, the NBA Executive must have done a great job to get a representative. The forestry industry, for example, was not represented. During my time on the Board I spent many hours in the plane between Napier and Wellington, often accompanied by David Ritchie (the Federated Farmers' representative) and the late Tom McDonald, who represented winegrowers.

Some of the other members of the Board represented the Department of Health, orchardists, horticultural growers, the environmental protection sector and the people who made and sold pesticides. I found all the people involved very helpful and interested in helping to sort out problems with pesticides and bees, especially the permanent staff, whom I found were always ready to talk over beekeeping concerns with me and help find a solution.

It is unfortunate the NBA now has no regular involvement with the people who sort the registration and use of new and existing pesticides. The NBA has had a long and very worthwhile involvement with these people, and beekeepers are still getting the benefit of the work put into this area by past NBA presidents and Executive members.

It is good to see a start being made towards getting back some of the help we lost when the Pesticides Board was dissolved.

Response from Barry Foster

Ian has a longer memory than I and yes, point taken. I do remember the work of Ian and others on the Pesticides Board. However, once the Agrichemicals Board became ERMA (and later the EPA) we did lose some representation there. This was reestablished in recent years with ERMA's appointment of Cora Drijver to be the link person within ERMA/EPA, and more recently with the excellent work done by John McLean, Don McLeod and Roger Bray on the NBA Technical & Submissions Committee.

Do's and don'ts of AFB control

Do

- Inspect your hives for AFB at least twice a year.
- Inspect hives before removing bees, honey or equipment.
- Inspect all brood frames.
- Shake bees off frames before inspecting them.
- Train yourself and your staff in techniques to recognise and eliminate AFB.
- **Report AFB to the Management Agency within 7 days.**
- Burn infected colonies.
- Feed pollen substitutes rather than pollen.
- Feed sugar syrup rather than frames of honey.
- Use hive and apiary quarantines.
- Only use approved sterilisation methods.
- Use a thermometer and timer when paraffin wax dipping (10 min at 160°C).
- Treat hives to clear up parasitic mite syndrome (PMS) before checking for AFB.
- Become an approved beekeeper.
- Get suspect AFB samples tested.

Don't

- Don't feed drugs for control of AFB.
- Don't scorch boxes to sterilise them.
- Don't try to control AFB by removing diseased frames.
- Don't extract honey from infected colonies.
- Don't feed bee-collected pollen to colonies.
- Don't feed extracted honey to bees.
- Don't let hives be robbed out.
- Don't shook swarm.
- Don't let stock knock over beehives.
- Don't use steam chests to sterilise infected equipment.
- Don't distribute the equipment from dead hives between other hives.
- Don't allow colonies to die of varroa or any other cause.

[Excerpted from the revised edition of *Elimination of American Foulbrood Disease without the use of Drugs—a practical manual for beekeepers,* by Dr Mark Goodwin.]

Claims for manuka honey activity

By Professor Peter Molan, University of Waikato

I have been asked to write this article for the benefit of the many new producers of manuka honey who have come into the industry.

However, I think it will be of benefit also for those who have been involved for a long time but may have never fully understood, or have been misled by much of the debate that has gone on in the past, about rating the antibacterial activity of manuka honey.

Whilst standards have been established to define whether or not a honey can be called manuka, little progress has been made with establishing a standard for describing the antibacterial activity of manuka honey. It is very much a case of *caveat emptor* ('let the buyer beware') in the marketplace.

Laws and regulations

In New Zealand and in other countries there are laws that protect consumers from being misled, and laws to protect traders from unfair competition.

Anyone making a claim for honey having a particular level of antibacterial activity when selling it needs to take care that they are not falling foul of these laws. This article has been written to ensure that false claims are not made unknowingly (which is not an excuse for offenders).

In some instances there are regulations or international agreements that give a tolerance for items being sold to fall by a specified margin below the level claimed. With there being no standards or agreements for the activity of manuka honey, any claims made have to be absolutely true. For this reason sellers need to allow for any margin of error in measuring the activity. This is like the 'baker's dozen' of years gone by: an extra loaf thrown in when selling a dozen in order to avoid the possibility of being penalised for selling short weight. Honey producers use the term 'over-packing' to describe this. It needs to be done for antibacterial activity just as much as it does for the weight of honey put in jars.

Producers can easily check how accurate their packing equipment is regarding the weight of honey put in jars, and thus to know by how much they need to 'over-pack' to allow for the margin of error. But it is not so easy to know the necessary allowance for the margin of error in the level of antibacterial activity. Two different factors need to be taken into account: (1) the sampling error that can result from honey being viscous and varying in composition throughout a bulk quantity, and (2) the margin of error in the measurements made by the testing laboratory.

> "Major problems may arise if claimed antibacterial activity is estimated rather than directly measured..."

The test report from the laboratory gives the activity of the sample of honey supplied. This will only be the activity of the batch of honey if every unit of that batch is identical. Stephens and Molan (2003) explained the reasons why a sample taken from bulk honey is often not representative of the whole quantity of honey. There is a good chance that the level of activity that is in the packed jars may be lower than the result from testing of a sample from bulk honey. If there is not good stirring of a batch, it is also likely that individual jars in a batch may have a level of activity lower than that claimed on the label if there is variation of activity throughout a bulk quantity of honey, or if blending has been done. Variation between jars can also occur if the filling machine is not flushed clear of any previously packed honey of lower activity.

The only reliable way of ensuring that the claim on the label is correct is to have testing done on jars of the finished product, with the processing done in a way that prevents variation within a batch of jars. But allowance still needs to be made for the margin of error in the testing.

All laboratory assays have a margin of error, whether they are biological assays or chemical assays. International Accreditation New Zealand (IANZ) requires testing laboratories to make this margin of error known to clients on request for any testing method that IANZ accredits. Sellers of honey need to 'over-pack' by this margin to ensure that they do not make a false claim when a result reported is at the high end of the range of variation from the true value.

Activity claims and industry implications

Claims that are made regarding the level of antibacterial activity in manuka honey are usually done in one of two ways: (1) either the level of antibacterial activity is expressed as being equivalent to the concentration of a solution of a standard antiseptic, phenol, that has the same level of antibacterial activity; or (2) as the level of methylglyoxal, the antibacterial component of manuka honey.

The correlation between the level of methylglyoxal and the antibacterial activity of the honey is rough. Some sellers have the level of methylglyoxal measured, but instead of stating the level of methylglyoxal they state the level of antibacterial activity (as equivalent % phenol) estimated from the correlation. Where an IANZ-accredited laboratory is giving a result for the antibacterial activity that has been obtained by estimation in that way, then the margin of error will be available on request. This will permit sellers to 'over-pack' by a sufficient amount to make allowance for the margin of error in the estimation of activity. Regardless of how accurately the level of methylglyoxal has been measured, if it is antibacterial activity rather than the level of methylglyoxal that is being claimed, then that has to be a true claim.

Hill Laboratories uses its own correlation data to estimate the antibacterial activity from the level of methylglyoxal they measure.

Continued on page 25

Continued from page 23

This is proprietary information that has not been published. Estimating the level of antibacterial activity using published correlation data is a problem because there are big differences between different publications. Initially the three different sets of published data (two from Adams et al., 2008, by different methods of measurement; and one from Atrott & Henle, 2009) were in close agreement. Then Adams et al. (2009) published that they had made an error in one of the two methods of measurement, and increased their results for one of their two sets of data by 87%, bringing them well out of agreement with their other set of data and that of Atrott & Henle (2009). Another thing to take into consideration is that different laboratories get different results when they estimate the level of methylglyoxal in the same sample of honey.

Major problems may arise if claimed antibacterial activity is estimated rather than directly measured—the honey may be only partially inhibiting the growth of bacteria (i.e., only slowing, not stopping, the growth of bacteria). It has been widely experienced in the honey industry in the past that honey with an activity level of 10% phenol very frequently gives partial inhibition. If the antibacterial activity is estimated rather than directly measured, then it will not be known if it gives partial inhibition. The claim made is that the honey has the same antibacterial activity as 10% phenol, but it is not known if that is a true claim for honeys giving partial inhibition.

Some sellers of honey do not define what the numbers mean in the rating of activity of their products. This may not be allowed under consumer laws in some countries. But even if it does not infringe consumer laws, it still leaves the seller open to being sued for damages from competitors because of unfair competition. It would be a similar situation to a company putting '250' on a jar of honey that looked like a 250-gram jar when they were using their own unit of weight that was 0.9 gram and the jar actually contained 225 grams of honey. Regulations specify the precise meaning of the numbers '91' and '95' for the octane rating for petrol. No defined standard exists for manuka honey activity.

It is not generally understood that the commonly used unit of activity, the equivalent % phenol, depends on the testing conditions. Unless the unit used is qualified by stating the testing method being specified, then the claim is absolute and the honey would have to be at least as active as a 10% solution of phenol under any testing conditions; otherwise it would be a false claim. Quite large differences in activity can be expected if the testing is done differently.

What has become virtually an industry standard internationally is to have the unit of activity stated to be the equivalent % phenol with the honey tested by the method published by Allen, Molan & Reid (1991). It should be noted that honey giving partial inhibition would not meet this definition of activity units, nor would honey with a rating of activity of less than 8. In order to be able to measure such low levels of activity (including in the testing done to obtain the correlation between methylglyoxal and antibacterial activity), the honey has to be tested as a 50% solution instead of a 25% solution. This gives a different numerical value to the activity measurement obtained. Although a correction factor is applied, this is approximate. Research at the University of Waikato has shown that there are substantial differences in the factor between batches of honey.

The published testing method (Allen, Molan, & Reid, 1991) describes testing for both types of antibacterial activity in honey—that due to hydrogen peroxide, and the non-peroxide activity (NPA) that occurs only in honey from manuka and other *Leptospermum* species. It was to distinguish the honey with NPA from other honey that the term 'active manuka honey' was coined. This term came from it being noted in the paper by Allen et al. (1991) about NPA that, "the present survey has shown not all samples said to be manuka honey can be relied upon to provide this antibacterial activity." In subsequent publications, and in a large number of news media reports, the term 'active manuka honey' was used to distinguish manuka honey with NPA from manuka honey on sale that did not have NPA. In view of that, it would be quite reasonable for a competitor to claim unfair competition if someone were selling as 'active manuka honey' a product in which the activity was not NPA, or rating antibacterial activity without making it clear that the activity shown is hydrogen peroxide activity and not NPA.

- Sellers are open to action against them in court if false claims are made about the antibacterial activity of manuka honey.
- The margin of error in determining the level of activity needs to be taken into account, and "over-packing" by at least this margin should be done to avoid a false claim being made.
- Bulk honey is not homogeneous, so thorough mixing needs to be done before a sample is taken to measure the activity of the batch.
- The units of activity need to be defined, as there is no standard for what numbers mean.
- The numbers obtained depend on the testing method used needs to be stated.

The dictionary definition of 'deceive' is, "To cause to believe what is not true; mislead." To make the claim of activity unambiguous, it should be stated which type of activity is being shown, as well as showing the units and method of measurement. The component giving manuka honey its NPA has been identified as methylglyoxal, so a claim that honey being sold contains a substantial level of methylglyoxal unambiguously shows that it is 'active manuka honey' as originally defined.

Some beekeepers in other countries are resentful that imported manuka honey is selling at much higher prices than their own honey gets. Although direct restriction on imports is against the principles of free trade, there are other ways of imposing trade barriers. New Zealand exporters are already having shipments held up for testing as a result of excessive levels of sucrose having been found in some manuka honey. Complaints about false claims of activity levels could also lead to similar trade barriers. Not telling the truth about the level of activity could cause financial loss to many more parties than just the offending company.

References

Adams, C. J., Boult, C. H., Deadman, B. J., Farr, J. M., Grainger, M. N. C., Manley–Harris, M., et al. (2008). Isolation by HPLC and characterisation of the bioactive fraction of New Zealand manuka (*Leptospermum scoparium*) honey. *Carbohydrate Research, 343*(4), 651-659.

Adams, C. J., Boult, C. H., Deadman, B. J., Farr, J. M., Grainger, M. N. C., Manley–Harris, M., et

Continued on page 27

Continued from page 25

al. (2009). Corrigendum to "Isolation by HPLC and characterization of the bioactive fraction of New Zealand manuka (*Leptospermum scoparium*) honey" [Carbohydr. Res. 343 (2008) 651]. *Carbohydrate Research, 344*(18), 2609.

Allen, K. L., Molan, P. C., & Reid, G. M. (1991). A survey of the antibacterial activity of some New Zealand honeys. *Journal of Pharmacy and Pharmacology, 43*, 817–822.

Atrott, J. & Henle, T. (2009). Methylglyoxal in manuka honey—Correlation with antibacterial properties. *Czech Journal of Food Sciences, 27* (Special Issue), S163–S165]

Stephens, J. M. C., & Molan, P. C. (2003). Accurate honey samples show correct UMF ratings of manuka honey. *New Zealand Beekeeper, 11*(2), 16-17.

Who do you call?

AFB RECOGNITION COURSES

Rex Baynes – Manager, AFB NPMS
PO Box 44282
Lower Hutt 5040
www.afb.org.nz
Ph: (04) 566 0773

Email: rbaynes@ihug.co.nz
or info@afb.org.nz

ASUREQUALITY LIMITED

http://www.asurequality.com
Ph: 0508 00 11 22

- Annual Disease Returns (ADR)
- Certificate of Inspections (COI)
- Disease Elimination Conformity Agreements (DECAs)
- AFB Destruction
- AFB Finds

REGISTRARS OF BEEHIVES
North Island – Bob Derry, Registrar
Ph: (07) 850 2837
Email: derryb@asurequality.com

South Island – Margaret Roper, Registrar
Ph: (07) 574 2596
Email: roperm@asurequality.com

Thanks to you all!

By the Hawke's Bay Branch Conference Organising Committee

The Hawke's Bay Branch thanks everyone who participated in the 2012 NBA Conference, whether speaker, sponsor or attendee.

The conference was the culmination of a lot of work, but we feel it ran very smoothly overall and have certainly appreciated the positive comments from participants.

We initially budgeted for the conference to run at cost; however, due to the greater-than-expected attendance we made a profit. The Branch therefore is donating the profit to various research projects we consider are particularly important to the industry. We are pleased to donate $5,000 plus GST each to three Bee Products Standards Council research projects: Pyrrolizidine Alkaloids, C4 sugars, and the production of New Zealand honey standards. We have also set aside $5,000 towards finding a predator or parasite for *Scolypopa australis*, the passion vine hopper responsible for our tutin honey issues, a new project approved at the Annual General Meeting. When the expected GST refund comes in, further allocations will be made to the research projects needed at present to retain market access for New Zealand's honey.

One clear highlight was the conference dinner at the Mission Estate, which included the traditional auction of the late Richard Bensemann's tie. The auction took on a life of its own and transformed into a collection, and a whopping $11,800 was raised. We are pleased to be working with the Royal New Zealand Foundation for the Blind, and our donation has gone towards the breeding and training of a guide dog. We have a blind beekeeper among our number, and we hope with this donation we can get Bryce one place closer to the front of the queue for a new guide dog. Please visit our Facebook page at http://tinyurl.com/hbnbafb to read the whole story, and maybe add a small donation of your own.

We've collected conference photos that are available on Facebook. Please visit and tag yourself and your friends!

An outstanding group of speakers brought great relevance and value, and we know many of the topics sent attendees home with at least a 'thinking' list, if not a 'to do' list.

Greg Zemke-Smith's presentation on the EDecs or transfers may have confused many, but if you break it down using his notes it makes sense and it works. Greg's notes are now available from the Hawke's Bay Branch website http://tinyurl.com/hbnbafb. Most people have had difficulty locating the training site and the online site in MPI's website. The training site is at https://ectrain.maf.govt.nz/ectrain/. At the bottom of the page you will find the link for both training and LIVE. It is wise to get into that site and spend some time trying out a couple of simple transfers or your own actual example. For LIVE you need a sign-in code: be aware that this sign-in is different from MPI's actual website sign-in code. When you do register, make sure to include both your RMP number and Exporter number (if you have one) so they are both available in the drop-down menus. The E-Cert application form is available from http://www.foodsafety.govt.nz/elibrary/industry/application-form-cert-billing/billing-application.pdf

We wish the Canterbury Branch all the best as they prepare for next year's conference, and wish you all a happy, healthy and prosperous season.

This is the guide dog puppy being sponsored by the Hawke's Bay Branch. Photo supplied by the Royal New Zealand Foundation of the Blind.

Ceracell Beekeeping Supplies Ltd

Manufacturers and Suppliers of Quality Beekeeping Goods. For All Your Beekeeping Needs.
24 Andromeda Cres, East Tamaki, Auckland, New Zealand PH 64 9 274 7236 Fax 64 9 274 0368
email: info@ceracell.co.nz

For All Your Equipment Needs!

Starter Hive Kit from $64.10

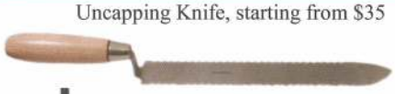
NZ Made Full Bee Suits, Singles & Jackets

<< 2 Types of Bee Blowers

Plastic or Wooden Frames kitset, ranging from $1.36 (discount on quantity, assembly available please enquire)

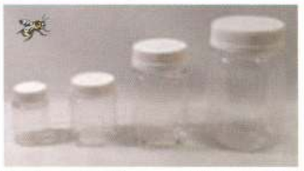
Hiveware ▪ Foundation ▪ Plastic Frames ▪ Protective Wear ▪ Tools
Varroa Treatments ▪ Extractors ▪ Packaging, and Much Much More!

Uncapping Knife, starting from $35



Apiguard Treatment from $39 >>

Smokers, range starting from $44



Poly Jars, Containers, and Pails Available

Honey Refractometer from $180

< Full Range of Honey Extractors, starting from $400

Wooden Nuc Box Complete with Lid, Hive Mat, Floor, Entrance Disc $58.30 Fully Assembled

Hive Tool (6 Types) Price from $16

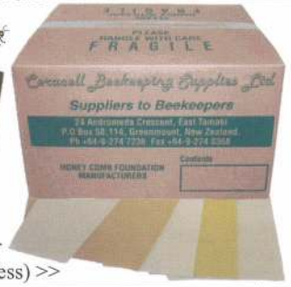
<< Nylon Strainer Bags from $31 (comes in different micron sizes)

Polystyrene Mating Nucs, with frames & feeder, from $30.60ea >>

7 Types of Gloves Available Price from $13 >>

Queen Excluders - 3 Types, price from $5.33

Division/Internal & Top Feeders ranging in sizes available, price from $8.70



Wax Foundation by the Carton Lot or Individual Sheets (ranging in sizes & thickness) >>

Prices Exclude GST and Freight. Subject To Change Without Prior Notice. Goods subject to availability.

New awards raise profile of monofloral

By Linda Bennett

A southern kamahi honey has taken top honour in a new national competition aimed at raising awareness of New Zealand monoflorals.

Left to right: Airborne Honey's John Smart, Lindis Honey's Tim Wood, Jan Wood, Zoe Wood, Peter Wood and Carolyn Squires, Monofloral Honey Competition judge Maureen Maxwell, and Lindis Honey beekeeper Colin Wood. Photo: Carolyn Squires.

Cromwell-based Lindis Honey recently took out the 2012 Supreme Gold Award of the Airborne Honey Monofloral Honey Competition, part of the National Honey Show in June 2012. Along with building profile for monoflorals, the awards hope to showcase the outstanding flavour and taste that can be achieved with stringent quality control and traceability from hive to jar.

Competition judge Maureen Maxwell said Lindis Honey beekeeper Colin Wood's winning southern kamahi was a superb example of this floral source. "This year's harvest has produced a pale, delicately coloured honey of subtle musk aroma. Its flavour is rich, lusciously sweet with a melt-in-the-mouth buttery texture."

The Silver Award went to a tawari honey from the Bay of Plenty. "This year's tawari harvest produced a light but richly coloured honey. The aroma is highly perfumed and floral with that sweet luxury melt-in-the-mouth and smooth rich finish. These are both connoisseurs' honey to savour," Maureen says.

Colin Wood's Supreme Gold Award-winning kamahi honey. Photo: Luxon.

She says the awards celebrate the excellence of both honey and beekeepers. "Within the industry the competition encourages skilful foraging, careful and considered extraction and bottling. To truly represent 100% pure New Zealand honey, every part of the process from site selection to jar is vital. The public can have confidence that exceptional quality is represented by these Award stickers."

Qualified builder Colin came to the honey industry 24 years ago when he gave his beekeeping friend a hand. He's never looked back. "I think it's the best job in the world. There's huge variety in every day, and we travel through some of New Zealand's most beautiful countryside. I love the bees, and we work hard to really look after them. It's a great lifestyle."

With 120 sites of 3000-odd hives around the Bannockburn area and over on the West Coast, Lindis Honey produces an average of 140 tonnes of honey each year. Most is sold under the Airborne Honey label, with its packaged brand, Lindis Gold, selling at nearby farmers' markets to meet local demand.

Airborne Marketing Manager John Smart says as New Zealand's oldest honey company, Airborne is proud to support awards that encourage industry excellence. "We'll look to run the Monofloral Competition every year to keep inspiring quality, while bringing the joy of local honey appreciation to more and more New Zealanders."

The award-winning honeys will be sold as limited edition gold and silver packs in Foodstuffs supermarkets throughout Wellington and the South Island in early October.

The National Beekeepers' Association of New Zealand

Dear Beekeepers,

Help us shout louder!!

The National Beekeepers' Association (NBA) helps protect and promote beekeeping in New Zealand, for the benefit of ALL beekeepers and those associated with the bee products industry. Almost 600 beekeepers around the country already belong to the NBA, and this number has been increasing in recent years.

The NBA is the voice of beekeepers in New Zealand: we are powerful advocates on your behalf, for the benefit of YOUR beekeeping industry in Government. We:

- ✓ Advocate for the industry through our valuable connection to key decision makers
- ✓ Provide leadership and advice
- ✓ Keep you up to date with the latest information
- ✓ Save you thousands of dollars through a member discount scheme
- ✓ Co-ordinate research on bee health

With key issues facing the beekeeping industry such as resistant varroa, biosecurity, market access and bee health, the industry needs a strong body to lead it. Your membership is hugely important in terms of enabling the Association to do its core job of helping to protect and promote the interests of the beekeeping industry.

The NBA is currently working to further strengthen the Association, which you can be a part of - we have a major work plan ahead for next year, all designed to give beekeepers a more powerful voice.

The more members we have, the louder we will be.

To join us, download a membership form from our website, www.nba.org.nz, phone 04 471 6254, or email secretary@nba.org.nz.

Current NBA members should note they will be invoiced at the end of October for the 2013 membership year, which commences 1 January 2013. Please note any invoices not paid by 31 March 2013 will be deemed by the NBA as lapsed memberships.

Regards

Barry Foster
President

The National Beekeepers' Association of New Zealand
PO Box 10792, Wellington 6143, New Zealand
P: +64 4 471 6254 | F: + 64 4 499 0876 | www.nba.org.nz

National Beekeepers' Association of New Zealand
2013 Member and Journal Subscription Form

PO Box 10792, Wellington 6143, New Zealand

Telephone: +64-4 471 6254 Fax: +64-4 499 0876

pauline@nba.org.nz secretary@nba.org.nz www.nba.org.nz

Payment can be made by internet transfer. Bank of New Zealand Paraparaumu Branch Account No. 02 0733 0057338 00, SWIFT BKNZNZ22.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Date: _____ Contact Name: _____

Name on Membership card: _____

Postal address: _____

Postcode: _____ Phone No: _____

Email Address: _____ No of Hives: _____

☐ Existing Member ☐ New Member ☐ Life Member

Sub. encl: $ _____ or Internet banking date: _____ (**Please use surname as reference**) Receipt required: ☐

The membership year runs from 1 January – 31 December. There are 11 issues of The Beekeeper Journal from February to December. A Journal subscription is included in the membership fee.

Tax Invoice GST No. 14-437-525

Categories	Total hives	GST Incl.	Please Tick
Standard Hobbyist	1-10	$150.00	
Sideline Commercial	11-50	$186.00	
Small Commercial	51-250	$367.00	
Commercial Level 1	251-400	$590.00	
Commercial Level 2	401 - 800	$1080.00	
Commercial Level 3	801-1200	$1600.00	
Commercial Level 4	1201-1500	$1955.00	
Commercial Level 5	1501-3000	$3900.00	
Mega Commercial	3001 +	$4900.00	
Corporate Membership ***(Affiliate companies with no hive holdings)***		$315.00	
A) NZ Beekeeping Clubs 1-10 members - incl. 1 journal **B)** NZ Beekeeping Clubs 11+ members. Base rate plus $5 per club member – incl. 2 journals. ***Plse request separate order form***		A) $207.00 B) $279.00 (Base rate)	

Donations NO GST	
General Research:	$
Varroa:	$
Total: $	

The Beekeeper Journal Subscription Only		
New Zealand	$140.00	
Australia	$165.00	
Rest of World	$176.00	

Membership or Journal subscription	$
Donation	$
International T/T Fee ($25 for recovery of bank fees) **NOTE:** ***Please add for overseas transactions only***	$
TOTAL PAYABLE TO THE NBA	**$**

Queen introduction 101

By David Yanke, Daykel Apiaries, Kaitaia

Queen introduction is a basic skill we have to master to be successful beekeepers.

On the face of it, it does seem pretty basic: make the colony queenless, prepare the introduction cage, and then place the cage into the brood nest. But I spend far too many hours on the phone each season talking about it for queen introduction to be that straightforward.

There are three reasons why we would be introducing a new queen:

1. requeening: replacing an old queen (annually or biannually), or replacing a queen you don't like (nasty, wrong race, performing badly, etc.)
2. splitting: simple colony reproduction; turning one colony into two
3. emergency: you have found your colony queenless.

With requeening and splitting, you are in control. You may have some nervousness about finding the queen, making up the split, and managing drift in the split but it is straightforward, and a successful introduction of the new queen is almost a sure thing. It's a simple matter of making the unit queenless, introducing a new queen straightaway, and leaving them be for a few days.

The golden rule of queenlessness

Emergency requeening situations are more complicated, and these complications tend to generate the long phone calls.

These calls usually start with someone calling to order a queen because their hive has lost its queen. I stupidly ask if they are sure if the unit is queenless, and then it goes from there. I try to make a diagnosis over the phone. This can be difficult as the true situation in the problem hive can be lost in translation as the troubled beekeeper describes what they observed.

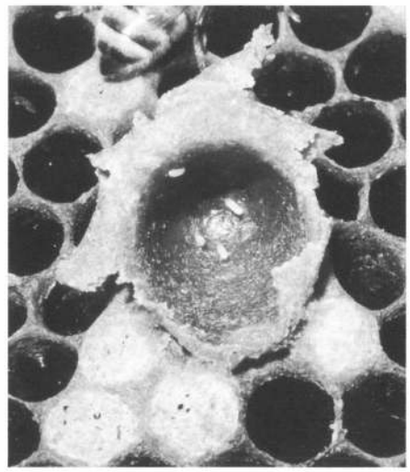
The ground we usually cover is trying to figure out how long the colony has been queenless; could there still be a virgin lurking, and have laying workers developed? If it has been queenless for a long time, we have to decide if it is worth trying to save what is left with a risky introduction, where they may be just throwing good money after bad. If they do want to give the introduction a go, we discuss what we can do to manage the risk of a failed introduction, which usually means bringing in brood and bees from another hive. I should have virgin queens on a commission—they create a lot of repeat business for me!

Whether the virgin resulted from a supersedure, swarming or emergency situation, it only takes the weather delaying the virgin's mating and all the brood from the old queen can have emerged before the virgin will have started to lay. Even without weather delays, the timing will see the virgin usually just starting to lay just as the last of the brood from the old queen emerges. You can only introduce a new queen into a colony that is queenless, and virginless too! Virgin(s) still lurking in a unit thought to be queenless is, by far, the biggest risk to a successful queen introduction.

That golden rule of queenlessness refers to partial states as well. Introducing into a hive with well-started queen cells is risky, and there is a chance they won't let her tear those cells down, resulting in her early supersedure. That is why it is best to introduce the new queen as soon as you have made the unit queenless. If the unit has been queenless for several days, make sure you destroy any started cells before introducing the queen.

Laying workers are a breach of the golden rule as well. They develop when a colony has become hopelessly queenless, and I consider it almost a terminal state. It is usually best to shake the bees out and start again. Even if you bring in brood and bees from another hive, the introduction is still going to be risky. It is almost impossible to introduce a queen into a colony where laying workers have developed by doing a radical remake.

A sure way to diagnose laying workers is to check out any queen cups on the margins (generally on the bottom bars). The presence of multiple eggs laid in these cups is proof positive of laying workers.



Eggs laid by a worker in a queen cup.

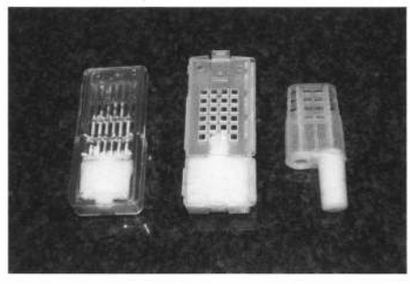
Once we have the groundwork right, with no breaches of the golden rule, then it is just a matter of preparing the cage, positioning it in the brood nest, and then leaving the bees alone for a few days—no peeking allowed. The first check will be a quick scan to see if she is laying and to remove the cage. There won't even be any number of eggs to be seen until day four or five.

Queen introduction cages

Although there are many different queen introduction cages, the principle with all of them is the same. Each cage provides:

- a safe refuge for the queen during introduction period, and
- a candy compartment through which the colony's bees must eat to release the queen, which takes long enough to ensure that the queen is accepted.

Three main cages are used for queen shipping and introduction: the Airborne, the Ceracell, and the American JzBz cage.



Left to right: the Airborne, the Ceracell, and the American JzBz introduction cages.

Preparing the cage for introduction is simply a matter of exposing the candy so that the bees can eat their way in and allow the queen to self-release.

Exposing the candy.

Place the prepared cage between two central brood frames just below the top bars, and gently squeeze frames together to hold cage securely in place. It's important to make sure that the bees have access to the grills top and bottom, and clear access to the exposed candy so they can get to work setting her free.

Proper placement of the cage.

It is important that that the queen is looked after properly up until the time she is introduced. The world is a risky place for queens from the time she is caged for shipment by the queen producer through to the time she is safely introduced into her new colony. You cannot do much but cross your fingers and hope that the CourierPost people get your queens to you safely, but then she is in your care.

Protect her from exposure to extreme temperatures: room temperature or a little warmer is best (20–25°C), and absolute protection from direct sun. *It can take only a couple of minutes to kill a caged queen left in direct sun on a warm day.* Don't leave the cage in a place where it can be overrun by ants, and obviously protect against any exposure to insecticides (fly sprays are very good bee killers!). In warm, dry weather, the queens and attendants would appreciate a drop of water per day being held placed on the grill at the top end of the cage, away from the candy end.

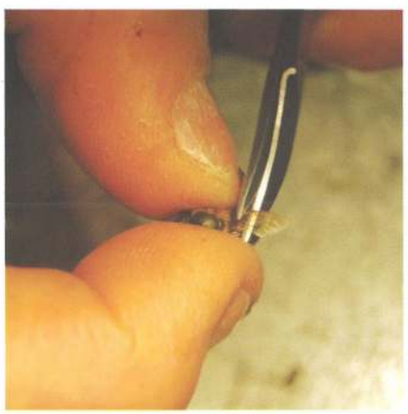
Queen clipping and marking

Clipping and marking are both useful skills to learn not only because of the benefits of having a marked queen heading your colonies, but also because it gets you comfortable at catching, holding and handling queens. Both skills are made easy once you can hold queens confidently.

No matter what you read, or which instructional videos on YouTube you watch, you should ignore their advice to catch queens by their wings or hold them by their legs. Wings and legs are their breakable bits: their bodies are robust. **Hold a queen by her thorax,** as shown in the photo in the next column. It takes a little pra 4ctice to get comfortable catching them by their bodies, but once you get it you will never go back to being a wing pincher!

Clipping isn't as popular as it once was, but still has a use in age identification (right wing on even years and left wing on odd years). It doesn't stop swarming, but it does stop the primary swarm disappearing into the distance. Swarming can end up with the queen on the ground, or with supersedure. Once you learn to hold the queen properly, clipping doesn't take much practice to get good at it.

When you are holding the queen properly and comfortably, carefully slide the scissors into position, making sure that the scissors will cut both the primary wing and the underwing. You are looking to remove between one-half and one-third of her wing. Before you make the cut, *be sure you are cutting only wing,* and not a stray leg.

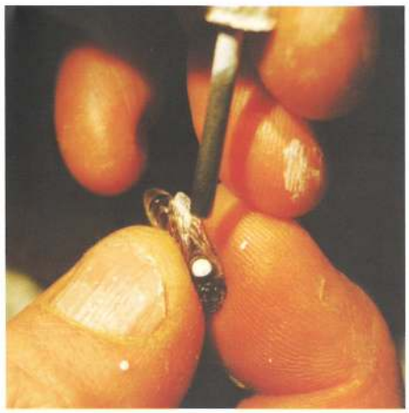


Clipping the queen's primary wing and underwing.

Marking is much more useful: it makes queens so much easier to find, and gives you the age identification as well. I like to use lacquer-based car paint, as it is fast drying and permanent. Working with lacquer-based car paints is a bit of an art form. You have to have the viscosity right, or you can make a terrible mess. The other trick to learn is not to attempt the marking with too much paint on the applicator. You learn quickly from your mistakes!

"Hold a queen by her thorax..."

I use old vitamin pill bottles, with a hole in the lid that is a tight fit for the applicator. The application is a short length of brazing rod, or even a nail ground flat and sanded smooth on the end. I fill the bottle half full with the bright base colour of my choice, and start



Marking the queen.

adding lacquer thinners until I get the right viscosity—not too thin, and not too thick. When right, just the right amount of paint will stick to the end when withdrawn from the bottle, for a good crisp mark. It is fast drying but it still takes about a minute of gentle blowing on the queen for the paint to dry. Once dry, the mark will last forever.

Don't use correction fluid to mark the queen. It's a waste of time, as the bees chew it off quickly.

If you are marking just a few queens, it's probably easiest to use paint pens. You can use either the special queen marking pens purchased from your favourite beekeeping supply outlet, or run-of-the-mill paint pens from wherever.

APIMONDIA

2013

Kyiv, Ukraine

In September 2013, travel to Kyiv, Ukraine with Farm To Farm Tours Ltd.

Gather some friends and colleagues to travel to this rapidly developing part of the world. Combine a technical tour (6 & 9-day options), before or after the Congress, and perhaps some personal sightseeing. Congress dates are 29 September to 04 October, 2013.

It will be a great opportunity to gather information, to network with colleagues from around the globe, and to see a vibrant part of the world with its own unique culture.

To indicate interest, contact us.

Farm To Farm Tours

PO Box 239, 77 High St, Rangiora
Ph: **(03) 313 5855**
Freephone: **0800 3838 747**
Email: james@farmtofarm.co.nz
Web: www.farmtofarm.co.nz

Diesel Forklift For Sale

- Purpose built bee pallet forklift with quick hitch transport trailer
- 3-wheel drive, excellent maneuverability and two speeds, ideal for pollination.
- Also has bucket attachment like a bobcat for clearing sites, etc
- $10,000 + gst

If you have any questions or require more pics please call Jimmy 021 242 5660

PARAFFIN WAX DIPPER

FD Box. Gas-fired. Galvanised. Well made, on wheels with lid. $700 + GST (incl approx $200 of wax). (Excl gas bottle)

FD CERACELL FRAMES

1,400 (approx) new unwaxed. Still in original packaging. $1.80ea + GST, ono.

Phone 0273 766 908. Chch area.

ITALIAN QUEEN BEES

Order now for 2012-13 season

Queens	**Spring** (October to December) **Summer** (January to March)
Nucleus Hives (4-frame)	Late Spring and Summer
Queen Cells	Spring and Summer (pick up only)

SOUTHERN SUN QUEEN BEES

Gary Milne
Southern Sun Holdings Ltd
8 Spring Street, Foxton

Phone 027 248 941 Email: gary@southernsun.co.nz

REVIEW OF AFB DISEASE RECOGNITION TRAINING

An Invitation
to All Beekeepers to Submit Comment

At its meeting in August 2012, the Management Agency resolved to review the way in which AFB Disease Recognition training and the associated examination is provided to the beekeeping community. This has come about as a result of a number of beekeepers expressing concern as to the availability, timing, method of delivery of the courses and examination and the interrelationship between this training and the negotiation of a Disease Elimination Conformity Agreement (DECA).

The Review Team, consisting of:

- David Woodward — Apiculture Technical Adviser and AFB trainer
- Bryce Horner — Agribusiness and AFB trainer
- Paul Badger — AFB trainer
- Chris Shaw — Management Agency Member
- Rex Baynes — AFB NPMS Manager

will, as part of their brief, consider all aspects of AFB training. That will involve talking to a sample of commercial and hobbyist beekeepers, as well as those closely associated in the training and administration of the courses and test. In addition, the Review Team will investigate alternatives to the current modes of delivery for both the course and examination, as well as the relationship between the AFB Recognition training and the DECA.

The Review Team will be called upon to make recommendations as to the ways in which delivery of the course and examination might be carried out in the future.

Submissions should be lodged with:
Rex Baynes
AFB NPMS Manager
PO Box 44282
Lower Hutt 5040
Or by email: rbaynes@ihug.co.nz

by no later than 1 November (Thursday) 2012.

Committee update

By Don MacLeod

Dr John McLean recently attended the Ministry of Primary Industries-hosted Pollination and Apiculture Science Review Meeting. The new Science Adviser for the MPI, Dr Ian Ferguson, was in attendance.

Key topics discussed at this meeting included:

- pollination needs for fruit and seed crops in New Zealand
- bee safety—pesticides and surfactants
- varroa control
- pollination alternatives.

Quickbayt Spray Fly Bait

Don MacLeod made a submission to the EPA at the public hearing on APP201268 for Quickbayt Spray Fly Bait, a sugar-based insecticide spray containing imidacloprid as the active ingredient. The applicant was Bayer Environmental from Sydney.

Early indications were that Bayer wanted exemptions to a large number of controls. But we were somewhat surprised when, in their opening presentation to the EPA, Bayer said that it is accepting the default controls that the EPA would apply if the product were approved.

- Bayer has agreed to market only to commercial applicators, who will have to be approved handlers, and they will complete a Bayer environmental assessment before they apply the product.
- There will be no direct marketing to farmers or homeowners.
- The EPA review did not take into account any multiplier effect caused by sugar when mixed with an insecticide, or consider the effects of C4 sugars on trade in honey products.
- The (Z)-9 tricosene pheromone used in the product to attract flies has a very short half-life, breaking down rapidly in sunlight, approximately seven to 12 hours. So the sugar is the main long-term attractant, not the pheromone. The new label will state the product contains sugar.
- Bayer had no comment on sublethal doses and the length of time before bee death after first exposure. They stated in their presentation that the bees would die on immediate contact with Quickbayt and would not get back to the hive. (I explained that their own bee toxicology data was time measured: 24 hours, 48 hours and 96 hours, so was it possible for bees to make multiple trips to the hive before death?)

We are still waiting for the final decision on the approval of this product from the EPA, but expect that it will be approved with stringent controls. If your hives are within foraging distance of a rubbish dump, composting facility, a chicken farm or meatworks, you may see some effects of the use of this product to control flies.

Movento

The NBA has had accepted a submission to the EPA to establish grounds to reassess Movento. The proposal is to ask for the use of Movento to be restricted to after flowering in kiwifruit. At present the use of Movento is permitted prior to and during flowering. We believe this is having an adverse effect on bee colonies used for kiwifruit pollination (based on data supplied by Bayer in their original application for approval). A decision is expected about 25 October.

ARG APP201365

Your local regional authority may have supported one of the most expensive applications to the EPA to extend the use of four herbicides over waterways to control invasive waterweeds. This application, ARG APP201365, has been submitted by the Agrichemical Reassessment Group (ARG). All these herbicides are used with surfactants, either incorporated in the formulation or added to the spray tank. Your technical committee has not been surprised to see that this application has not made any environmental assessment of the surfactants, especially the effects on beneficial insects such as bees. Instead, ARG APP201365 has focused on the herbicides alone.

Deadlines for advertising and articles

Advertising deadlines

Reservations for advertising are due on the 6th of the month prior to publication.

Material received after the 12th of the month prior to publication may not be published.

In order to be fair to all advertisers who occasionally offer deals for a limited time period in their ads, there will be no exception to these rules.

Article deadlines

Articles are now due on the 6th of the month prior to publication. Material received after the 15th of the month prior to publication may not be published.

Contacts

Advertising: sales@southcityprint.co.nz
Articles: editor@nba.org.nz
Membership and subscription enquiries: secretary@nba.org.nz

FROM THE COLONIES

Auckland Branch

I thought the equinoctial gales hit us in October, but here in Auckland we seem to be having them in early September as I write. Thank goodness, however, we are having a break from the heavy rain that has soaked the ground over the past months.

A lot has happened since our last colony report, not least of which was the NBA Conference. Congratulations to Hawke's Bay Branch for an informative and well-run conference. Unfortunately, we had to miss out through illness, but those who went from Auckland felt it to be very worthwhile.

The second notable event was the Varroa Sensitive Hygiene seminar in Hamilton, arranged by the NBA Executive. We took a busload of 35 from the Auckland Branch and the Auckland and Franklin beekeepers clubs. Thanks to Guthreys Coachlines for a very cost-effective and stress-free trip. All felt the seminar was valuable, and Auckland Branch has meetings in the pipeline to follow up on both the conference and the seminar.

Bee Week has come and gone, and some members were active in promoting beekeeping in various ways. I know our 5-year-old grandson has become an expert on bees and beekeeping thanks to a school study about bees, a school visit by Kim Kneijber and a visit to the Honey Centre at Warkworth. It's surprising how much information has stuck! We also had "mood lighting" for dinner (his words exactly) using the candle he made out of wax foundation at the Honey Centre.

With preparations well under way for the honey season, we just have to wait for the bees and the weather to do the right thing. May the season be bountiful.

- Helen Sinnock

Waikato Branch

The first week of spring here in the Waikato was glorious: clear blue skies, crisp days, kowhai blossoming, tui everywhere and SUN!

Since then it's been rain, hail and it even snowed on Maungatautari Mountain bird reserve. It is still raining. On the bright side, most of us have got our sheds in order and our gear is ready to go.

For Bee Week our branch excelled themselves and set up an information stall in Chartwell Square, a mall in Hamilton. Our observation stands were a big hit and we had honey tasting, info on the varroa mite and Trees for Bees, Maureen Maxwell's wildflower seeds for sale, masses of posters on all sorts of bee info and applications for membership to the NBA. *[See photos on page 37.]*

Most people stopped and had a chat and were genuinely very interested in 'loving our Kiwi bees'. All in all, a pretty successful day.

Most of us do not think we have resistant mites: fingers crossed!

We are planning a field day, so pencil in 23 February 2013 on your calendar: it's going to be a 'not- to-be-missed' event.

Till next time, have fun and look after those bees!

- Barb Cahalane

Bay of Plenty Branch

Spring arrived in mid August with early flowering of some trees, notably willow. My experience is that hive strength on average is lower than normal for this time of year. I put this down to small hives that struggled in last autumn's poor conditions and were carrying low bee numbers though winter. These hives are now building slowly and with luck, kind spring conditions will see them build quickly. I'm also seeing more failing queens (mainly drone layers), which again may be due to poor conditions while mating last season.

Advice from a number of orchardists both avocado and gold kiwifruit (yes, we still have some gold orchards) is that the growing season is earlier than normal. This will probably see hives in avocados by early October.

- Greg Wagstaff

Poverty Bay Branch

July and August have been very wet months and hives have consumed most of the honey reserves they had. The bee numbers in the hives are very variable this spring. Quite a few of the autumn 2012 queens are fizzling out due to poor mating conditions.

Trees for Bees project

This project is aimed at improving the bee forage for bees on a demonstration farm. Planting has finished and the wet July and August has given the plants a good start. In Gisborne they will have to get used to dry summers or they will not survive. The local NBA branch has supplied the trees and the labour for this project.

Barry Foster and John McLean were very busy over Bee Week promoting our industry to several schools in the area.

Our annual AFB Diseaseathon was set down for 22 September and an AFB training day and exam was held on 29 September.

- Paul Badger, Branch President

Hawke's Bay Branch

Most of the writers of this column suffer from the same lack of feedback as I do. Although we all do our best, more information about what is happening around our own districts would be helpful.

Hawke's Bay beekeepers are a disparate group and many live in far-flung corners of the province, so it is not surprising that many of them seldom get to meetings. But this does not mean that their input is not welcome, whether they have one hive or thousands. The Hawke's Bay Branch is a small branch of a small organisation and as such, anyone's ideas can be heard and directions can be changed by anyone willing to be involved. Everyone is welcome.

The Hawke's Bay Branch is donating $15,000 to research, including $5,000 towards research into the importation of suitable parasites to control passion vine hoppers. This will be a very expensive project with no guarantees of success, but the potential gains for both beekeepers and the horticultural industry are huge. All the regulations in the world won't make this problem go away but with a bit of luck and a lot of research, we can.

- John Berry, Branch President

Southern North Island Branch

As I write this we are experiencing storms, high winds and rain—not ideal beekeeping weather.

The Branch is gearing up for our Field Day being held on 23 September, so by the time you read this it will be all over.

Some members have been hopeful and already started queen cell raising. A couple of days last week were ideal but it may be too early yet for most of us.

Hobby clubs are continuing to be active, particularly Manawatu. Future branch meetings will be held at their facility on the outskirts of Palmerston North as this is a central location suitable for most of us to get to a meeting. The Branch welcomes hobby club members to meetings so that they can be involved in beekeeping activities in our area, and also to learn what is happening in the commercial beekeeping sector.

A recent problem with AFB has been identified and dealt with. Of concern to us all was the likelihood of the problem spreading to other apiaries, so a couple of members pulled out all stops to deal with the situation.

AFB can affect so many innocent beekeepers who are in flying range, so this was a lesson learnt: *never stop checking hives and if in doubt, seek another opinion.* If AFB is found, talk to other beekeepers in your area so that they can also double check their hives. We all have a part to play in eradicating AFB.

Now we look forward to a good spring and hive development for the summer honey flow.

- Neil Farrer, NBA Life Member

Canterbury Branch

What a difference a couple of weeks make. Two weeks ago we were having trouble getting around in a 4WD; now, I'm wondering what the problem was. At least I'm not carrying syrup into sites anymore! With the nor'westers ripping into it even as I write this, I'm hoping at least a few catkins on the willows survive to produce a little pollen and nectar.

The GIA seems to be an interesting subject at present that is bringing out a diverse range of opinions. I am not just referring to our industry; it seems to have gained traction across the various farming mags I read. The catch-cry from government over the last 10 years or so has been 'user pays'. I understand this philosophy and it has gained acceptance (although begrudgingly) throughout the community until it has become accepted protocol. Under this scenario, one would think that the user of the quarantine services (i.e., the importers) would do the paying. Pretty simple really.

A cynic would conclude that the government has utilised the user-pays mantra to its point where it can't suck any more money from the population and is looking for the next crop of 'low-hanging fruit'. This is a phrase I picked up from MAF during the South Island varroa fiasco.

To start supplying funds to help with biosecurity is a very slippery slope. This is a role solely for government. Government needs to think very carefully where its own funding comes from; i.e., successful companies that pay tax. I can envisage that if we start down this slippery slope as a nation, we could well see on a ballot paper in 10 years whether we want the police to patrol for graffiti, or petty crime. Imagine if one street chose to pay and the next one didn't? Anarchy.

- Brian Lancaster, Branch President

AFB Recognition and Competency test

Canterbury Branch will be offering training and test option
On SATURDAY 3rd NOVEMBER 2012, 1PM
At St Johns Room, ASHBURTON
Cost: NBA Member $35, Non-Members $55 (includes test fee)
REGISTRATION ESSENTIAL BY 18 OCTOBER!!
Contact Linda Bray 03 308 4964
Or email birdsnbees@xtra.co.nz

Southland Branch

After a warm late winter the weather has subsequently deteriorated as spring arrives. Hives have wintered well due to the good autumn and short winter. Most Southern beekeepers began their first spring rounds early when the weather was favourable.

The Southland Branch held its AGM recently and welcomed a number of new members. Varroa continues to spread in the province and most hives will need treating within the next year. Still, it has been over 10 years since we heard the news that varroa had been found in Auckland. Russell Berry spoke at AGM on some things he has learnt in that time that should help us adjust to the 'new era' we face.

- John Stevenson, Branch Secretary

The Waikato Branch assembled a large display on bees, with bees and queens on display on Saturday, 25 August at Chartwell Square, Hamilton. A steady stream of people sampled honey, found out what bees pollinated and asked questions. Photos: Kelsey Bruns.

CELEBRATE 100 YEARS

National Beekeepers' Association

2013 Annual Conference • Hotel Ashburton • 16th - 20th June 2013

Book your Accommodation early!
Visit:
www.nba.org.nz

Conference Contact:
Linda Bray
Email:
birdsnbees@xtra.co.nz
Ph/Fax:
03 308 4964

Wanted:
- Old Records
- Memorabilia
- Anecdotes
- Old Stuff

1913 ——— 2013

Stainless Steel Mesh

for Managing Varroa Mite in Bee Hives

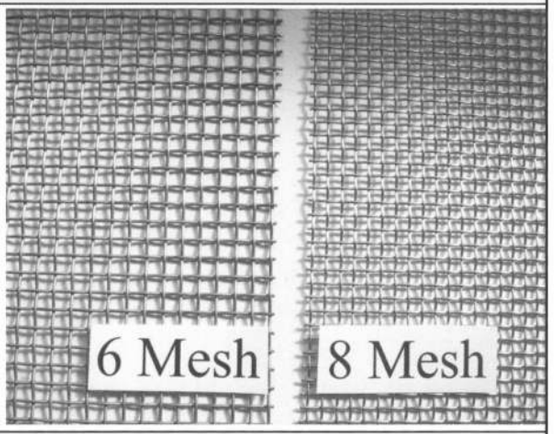
A corrosion resistant, long-life food grade product

MAF recommends mesh bottom boards as part of a varroa mite control strategy, to increase mortality and reduce re-infestation. Xcluder have been providing high quality stainless mesh to beekeepers throughout New Zealand for a number of years.

Stainless steel (ss304) woven mesh:

- **6 mesh 3.4mm hole x 0.8mm wire**
  1m wide x 30m long roll
- **8 mesh 2.5mm hole x 0.7mm wire**
  1m wide x 30m long roll
- **Full rolls, part rolls or pre-cut panels to any size you require**
- **Pricing while current stock lasts:**

  $730.00 per roll or $24.50/m² + GST & freight



For more information & panel pricing please contact us:

Phone: (07) 349 4505

Email: info@xcluder.co.nz

Xcluder® Pest Proof Fencing

BEE PRODUCTS STANDARDS COUNCIL

Sugars, PAs and Tutin in the spotlight

By Dr Jim Edwards ONZM, Chairman

At the latest BPSC meeting on 5 September, there were extensive discussions about C4 sugars and the PA Project.

Dr Karyne Rogers reported on her very busy schedule since the last time she met the Council and her schedule ahead until the next meeting. There is a lot going on, with very significant numbers of honey samples being submitted for testing. Karyne has also been preparing a scientific paper for publication. Such papers are very important if regulators around the world are going to accept any proposed changes to the international (AOAC) testing standards.

Jane Lancaster reported on the PA (pyrrolizidine alkaloids) Project. Jane was joined at the Council meeting by experts from Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) and the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI). Those who have contributed funds to this BPSC research project have been given access to the BPSC website to read more detailed reports.

The BPSC has been receiving contributions from industry members following decisions by the Federated Farmers' Bees Group and the New Zealand Honey Packers and Exporters Association to make voluntary contributions at the rate of $1.00 per hive or $20.00 per tonne of honey processed.

The BPSC still needs more funds and asks that you consider giving your support. We need to do the work described above and develop standards. Failure could place market access in further jeopardy and with it the export revenue cash flow.

The BPSC reminds you that you all have an obligation to report tutin test results. You will find the general requirements at: http://foodsafety.govt.nz/industry/sectors/honey-bee/tutin/index.htm and the tutin test results reporting instructions in the guide at: http://foodsafety.govt.nz/elibrary/industry/tutin-compliance-guide-2010.pdf

Exporters must report all market rejections: see http://www.foodsafety.govt.nz/industry/exporting/export-non-conformances.htm.

OUT AND ABOUT

Promoting bees in the Manawatu

By Paul Jenkin, Manawatu Beekeepers Club

The Manawatu Beekeepers Club had a stand at the Manawatu Country Living Expo in Feilding, 8–9 September 2012.

The stand was a great success. Thanks to those who came and helped out, and especially to Peter Rogers who gave a beekeeping demonstration (without the bees of course!) on both days.

There was much interest in the club and in beekeeping in general. As usual, the observation hive was a big hit with the kids. Quite a few of the club flyers were taken, as well as a number of people being very keen on the beginners' course the club is running soon. We can expect quite a few new people at the next meeting!

Other flyers from the NBA Bee Week, Trees for Bees etc all went as well, so clearly people are interested in doing their bit to help the bees.

Peter's demonstrations drew quite a big crowd, particularly on the Saturday, where it looked like he had more people watching than most of the other demonstrators. He had to move to the side so he could keep talking to people for a good half hour after his time slot was over.

A reasonable amount of honey, seeds, books etc were sold, though there was significantly less trade than at the Garden Expo, which drew quite a different sort of crowd overall.

Peter Rogers captivated the crowd with his beekeeping demonstration. Photo: Paul Jenkin.

That said, the sales were secondary to getting an awareness of the club and bees in general out to the public, though it covered the cost of the site. All in all, it was a very worthwhile exercise. Despite the work involved, it's always rewarding to be able to talk to people who are genuinely interested in bees and beekeeping.

Next up is the Manawatu Harvest Festival in Palmerston North on 13 October.

An interview with Ricki Leahy

Ricki Leahy is the new Upper South Island Ward representative on the Executive Council.

The Secretariat interviewed him about his role and experience in the industry.

What made you decide to become a beekeeper?

When I was in my early twenties, I arrived back from my big OE and met an Australian hitchhiking around New Zealand. His father was a beekeeper in Queensland, and he could not stop talking about bees! He told me he would send me a couple of beekeeping books when he got back to Australia, which, to my surprise, arrived a few weeks later. From there, I was hooked! I joined the Christchurch Beekeepers' Club, and to this day I am eternally grateful for the guidance and tuition provided by the older beekeepers as I learnt all about beekeeping.

Tell me about your current business.

I started out as a hobbyist beekeeper, with two hives. My two hives soon become four, then nine, and they have continued to grow significantly! I settled in Murchison with my partner, Lee, and we now run about 1500 hives. We employ three beekeepers, producing honeydew, manuka and bush honey, as well as breeding most of our own queens. We do a fair bit of migratory beekeeping to try and maximise the production from the hives.

What do you enjoy most about beekeeping?

My life really does revolve around the bees, and I love that. I really enjoy 'living' the season with the bees, constantly finding the more effort I put in, the more happiness I take away. It's a very satisfying job.

Why did you decide to become an Executive Council member?

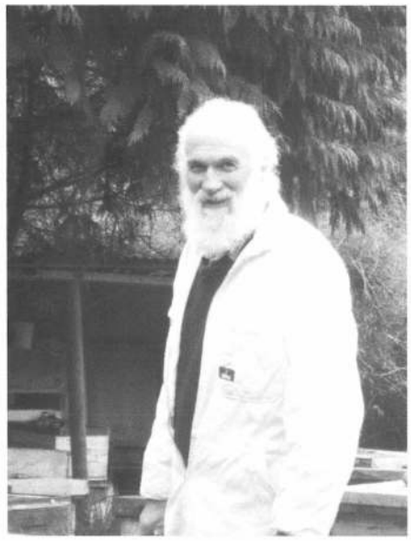
I think I might be able to offer some new energy to the Executive. Although I haven't been on the Executive for very long, I can already see a huge amount of ongoing work that needs to be done. I imagine a lot of beekeepers don't realise how many issues need to be addressed for the benefit of ALL beekeepers, regardless of whether they are a member of the NBA or not.

Tell me a bit about your role on the Executive Council, including your priorities as an Executive Council member.

My role on the Executive Council is to represent NBA members in the Upper South Island Ward, and in that capacity I would like to encourage as many unaffiliated beekeepers to join the NBA as possible. All beekeepers should allow themselves to be supported by this nearly 100-year-old association of beekeepers.

What key issues and challenges do you see the beekeeping industry facing?

There are so many challenges faced by the beekeeping industry—resistance to varroa, biosecurity issues, working through the proposed Government Industry Agreement, spraying damage to bees, the threat of GE and the diminishing amount of bee food in our landscapes. It's an ongoing and ever-growing list! However, I think the biggest challenge is getting the industry to put their hands in their pockets and give something back, particularly for the constant research projects that need funding.



What will you do about those issues and challenges, during your time on the Executive Council?

While I'm on the Executive, I will put my time and energy into strengthening the NBA, and do everything I can to help the Executive achieve some great outcomes for the benefit of our members.

When you're not at work or attending a Council meeting, where will we find you?

I thought you'd never ask! Hopefully riding my Triumph motorbike, but more than likely pottering in the garden.

BEE INSPIRED

The ultimate energy drink

By Maureen Maxwell, Honey Ambassador to the NBA

Honey not only tastes good but is low GI, helps boost the immune system and speeds recovery.

Try a little raw liquid honey with either a slice or squeeze of lemon or lime in your drink bottle. Another favourite of mine is fresh mint and honey!

If your natural honey has crystallised, blend with a little hot water to dissolve, then add your preferred flavouring and top up with ice and water.

100% PURE NEW ZEALAND HONEY

We want your honey!!!

All Honey varieties required

Steve Lyttle at
100% Pure New Zealand Honey in Timaru
is waiting for your call:

Phone: 03 688 7150 Mobile: 027 499 5599

Email: steve@purenewzealandhoney.com
Post: PO Box 2155, Washdyke, Timaru

*BEEZONE QUEEN CELLS *CARRICELL INCUBATORS
*BEEZONE QUEEN BEES *QUANTITY DISCOUNTS
*John & Judy Dobson

*67 Poporangi Rd RD1 Hastings 4171 New Zealand
*Ph: (06) 870 7070 *Fax: (06) 870 7077 *Mobile: 0274 494 396
*Email: beeline@xtra.co.nz *web address: www.carricell.com

MANUKA HONEY PRICKER/LOOSENER
Sjølis Honningløsner
One button operation, air operated, automatic with side shift. Works well.
Offers over $4,000 + GST.
Phone 0273 766 908.

Honey for sale

Northland Pure Honey
A blend of clover and bush honey collected by the bees from Northland and extracted by the Whangarei Bee Club.
500grms to 20kg packs.
Enquiries to **sales@northlandpurehoney.co.nz**
Payment required with confirmation of order.
Courier freight NZ wide additional cost.

Tunnicliffe's

Tunnicliffe Timber Company Limited

Beehive Boxes

Full Depth
¾ Depth
Top-feeders
Beehive Floors
Etc. etc.

Untreated Kiln Dried

or bee friendly

Tanalised® Ecowood™

ECOWOOD™
www.tanalisedecowood.com
TANALISED

Contact Daan

NEW

ThermoWood®

Revolution in Bee Woodware

Thermally Modified Radiata pine

High durability

Free of any chemical

Check our Website

Call us free on 0800 657 934
Visit our website: www.tunnicliffes.co.nz
37 Kowhai Ave, PO BOX 54, Edgecumbe, Fax 07 304 8208

Rehousing a swarm

By Carol Downer, Auckland Beekeepers' Club

In this article, Carol describes one method of removing and re-hiving a bees' nest.

I had a call from a resident at Beachlands (50 kilometres south from Auckland on the coast). He described a stream of bees going in and out of a box. Luckily he was bee friendly and was happy to wait for me to visit the following week. I have an apiary there and they had obviously come from my hives.

At his place, a wooden box had been built to cover a gas cylinder bottle and this was located next to the house, beside the front deck.

To retrieve the swarm the box was carefully removed; only a little of the comb was attached to the cylinder so this was easy. The box was turned upside down. It was mid-morning so the comb was not affected (or made softer with the summer heat), and there was not a large amount of honey stored (which could have caused the comb to collapse).

I then cut a piece of 50-millimetre square plastic mesh to cover an old empty frame.

The gas cylinder with some of the attaching comb.

The inside of the nesting box after a few rows of comb had been removed.

I used a staple gun to attach mesh to the side of the top bar of the frame, and also to the side and bottom of the frame to create a solid base/side. The mesh was measured to wrap around the bottom and attach to the top/side on the other side of the frame. The mesh was hard to cut and would have been easier to work with if it had been pre-cut. The size of mesh to be attached to the frame was worked out with the emphasis on a tight fit around the frame.

I took the comb off the box and carefully placed it on the mesh in the frame, getting as much comb in the frame as possible to create a wall of comb, after which the mesh was folded over onto the top/side of the frame and attached.

While going through the comb, I made an effort to find the queen. Once found, she was put into a cage for safekeeping. The brood comb was placed in another meshed frame in the hope that the bees would cover the brood adequately. Three frames in total were used to house the comb, and new frames with foundation were added to the new bee box. The outside frames were wedged in for safe travelling and the queen introduced back into the new hive.

I used a mesh bottom board and banded the box ready for removal/travelling. The box was left on site for a few days and the bees cleaned up any honey from their old home. They were then collected in the evening, after blocking them into the hive. The mesh bottom provided ventilation while they were blocked in.

The bees built up steadily and by the end of the season there was a box of honey to take off and the comb in the mesh covered frames used as winter-feed.

The owner of the wooden box, where the swarm was at Beachlands, had clear instructions on cleaning the wax off the box as it could attract a swarm at a later date. The box was to be scraped, sanded and painted to remove all traces of any wax.

Sometimes when swarming bees decide to relocate and build a new nest, it is possible to remove them and this is the method I used. An alternative method will be described in a future issue of the journal.

A frame with the mesh attached and comb spaced (the mesh was stapled to the sides of the frame after the photograph was taken). Photos: Carol Downer.

Comment from Frank Lindsay

Generally the hive is left in situ to clean up any honey dribbles and for all the bees to find their new home, but there's nothing more disheartening after working half a day to save a colony to find it has absconded the next day. Perhaps it's due to the disturbance but they seem to take off.

There are two ways that can prevent this from happening: place a queen excluder between the bottom board and the first super, or else cage the queen and put a marshmallow in the release compartment so the queen and the bees are allowed time to accept their new dwelling.

[Editor's note: If you have used another method of removal, we'd love to hear from you. Email editor@nba.org.nz]

Reminder from MPI to beekeepers selling honey

The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) reminds beekeepers selling honey that they need to comply with the Food (Tutin in Honey) Standard 2010 to avoid the risk of poisoning their customers. The Standard and its companion guide are found at: http://www.foodsafety.govt.nz/industry/sectors/honey-bee/tutin/index.htm

Note that where honey is tested for tutin, it is mandatory to submit the testing data to MPI—information on how to do this is found in the guide. This information is being collated to better refine areas that require active management for tutin in honey.

Hobby beekeepers are advised to also follow the principles found in the standard and guide to avoid poisonings.

Beekeepers who wish to sell their honey are required to have their honey extracted and packed in premises registered under the Food Hygiene Regulations 1974 by their local Council or under a Food Safety Programme. If export certification is required for the product, the honey must be extracted and packed under a registered Risk Management Programme under the Animal Products Act. More information can be found at http://www.foodsafety.govt.nz/industry/sectors/honey-bee/

Managing an issuing swarm

By Frank Lindsay, NBA Life Member

If you are in an apiary and a swarm starts issuing from a hive, leave it a minute or two until there is a fair crowd of bees flying, then block the hive entrance for about half an hour.

In the meantime, take a couple of frames of brood from another hive, shake the bees adhering to the frames back into the hive they came from, and place these frames of brood in an open top nuc box in front of the swarming hive.

Generally the queen is quite late in issuing with the swarm so she will still be in the hive. After the bees circle the apiary for a few minutes without detecting the queen, they will start forming up on the frames of brood in the nuc box in front of the hive.

After half an hour, the bees in the hive are no longer congested and will have settled down, so that when the entrance is unblocked only a few guards will emerge.

It is now safe to open the hive and remove all the queen cells, one being put on to the top centre of one of the brood frames in the nuc box. Take a couple of outside frames containing honey and pollen and put them, along with the adhering bees, on either side of the frames of brood. Move the nuc to a new position, either in the same apiary or further away. The swarm bees will have accepted the nuc as their home so will not go back to the original hive.

You have saved a swarm but the original hive now may be weaker, so may not be useful as a honey producer. But with a number of queen cells and brood frames from the hive, this hive can be divided into a number of nucs or perhaps halved. Each nuc is given a queen cell, so once the new queen has mated these splits can be used to boost other hives, or simply put aside for autumn replacements.

Don't bother looking for the old queen if there is a good brood pattern, as the bees in the nuc she is in will tear down the queen cell you have given it and will begin building again.

If you are not sure which queen cell to use, cut the cells off the frames, leaving an extra bit of wax at the top, and hold them gently up to the light. You should be able to see the developing queen inside. Some cells will be on the verge of the queens emerging, so use these or the longest cells for your nucs. If you still are not sure, put a couple of cells into each and leave the first to emerge to rule.

"Don't throw away those old queens when you replace them."

This procedure is good if you want to increase hive numbers but it's not desirable if you have enough hives and want them to produce honey. In this case, you have to split the hive into two to eliminate the swarming instinct. About three weeks later, recombine them so they become a honey-collecting unit again.

Attracting swarms

Have you ever noticed that swarms tend to land in the same place as last year's swarm? The bees are attracted by the smell of small particles of wax or the pheromones left by the previous swarm. You can use this behaviour to your advantage.

Don't throw away those old queens when you replace them. Take the old queen and kill her by squashing her head, then select an easily accessible place where you would like a swarm to hang and rub the queen on to the branch or post. When a swarm issues, more likely than not the bees will fly to the spot you have chosen as they are attracted by the old dead queen's pheromones.

Please support our benefit partners and sponsors for 2012

CORPORATE TRAVELLER
Bring an expert on board

Corporate Traveller offers NBA Members discounted holiday packages via our Deals of the Week. These can be accessed via the Members Area of the NBA website or by calling Jennifer Reid on (04) 495 9586 or jennifer.reid@corporatetraveller.co.nz

Swanndri New Zealand is proud to offer all National Beekeepers' members, friends & family 20% off all Swanndri Garments at www.swanndri.co.nz.
Enter promo code "beekeepers" on main page to access discount. $5 postage nationwide—offer ends 31 December 2012. Phone 0800 652 558 Email info@swanndri.co.nz

The Rural Fuel Card offers NBA Members discounts of up to 5c off the National Recommended Price on fuel at any BP, Gasoline Alley or Spirit Service Station, plus other joining benefits. For further details please contact Rochelle Eade at Rural Fuel on 0800 383 582 or 021 444 055 or send an email to rochelle@ruralfuel.co.nz

Anapen® adrenaline auto-injector (the Anapen®) for people to carry who are at risk of an anaphylaxis event. Buy one and get one free.

Resene
the paint the professionals use

Members of the National Beekeepers' Association can enjoy discounts of up to 25% on Resene products at Resene-owned ColorShops nationwide.

Cardplus Shell Fuelcard is available to both individuals and businesses who are NBA members. Easy to apply: go to www.cardplus.co.nz. You will receive a 5 cents a litre discount off pump prices on Shell fuels, diesel and LPG, plus joining bonus offers.

Buzzy Bee supports Bee Week. The NBA logo has been placed onto Buzzy Bee and a percentage of the profit on the products sold is contributed to the NBA.

BEESWAX WANTED

We are buying both **Cappings and Combs Beeswax**
Minimum quantity 50 kgs. Compliant or non-compliant
Contact Peter for our current prices.

Total Frames

The totally complete frame with natural beeswax comb foundation ready to use.
Tests have shown the **bees greatly prefer Total Frames** over plastic substitutes.
We can manufacture to your foundation spec but **we recommend Manuka Special**.
The **most efficient** way to produce honey or new beehives.

Sustainability – **Total Frames** are biodegradable and will not cause disposal issues that plastic frames do.
See: www.beeswax.co.nz/totalframes.htm or phone for details.

Quality Beeswax Comb Foundation

We are New Zealand's leading manufacturer of Beeswax Comb Foundation and the **only manufacturer in the South Island.**
We have developed innovative manufacturing techniques to ensure that we can offer you the highest quality product along with the best service.

For full product range and details along with prices,
go to www.beeswax.co.nz/foundation.htm or phone for details.

Alliance Woodware

ALLIANCE
Beekeepers Woodware

We are a major distributor of Alliance Woodware. We offer very competitive prices and great service.

We can deliver to anywhere in NZ.
See www.beeswax.co.nz/woodware.htm

Beekeeping Equipment

We can supply a comprehensive range of Beekeeping Equipment including.....

Excluders, Hive mats, Roofs, Floors, Veils and Beesuits, Gloves, Smokers, Hive tools, Cell cups, Paraffin wax, plus much more

See our website for details.

We accept beeswax as payment for all our products.

New Zealand Beeswax Ltd

Post: Private Bag 6001, GERALDINE 7956, New Zealand
Factory: 44 Gladstone St South, ORARI, South Canterbury
Phone: 64 3 693 9189; Fax: 64 3 693 9780
Email: info@beeswax.co.nz; Web: www.beeswax.co.nz

The Beeswax Specialists

Setting your hives up for the season

By Frank Lindsay, NBA Life Member

By the time you read this, pussy willow, kowhai, and native clematis will have finished flowering.

Willow shelterbelts have set bud and should be only a week or so away. Gorse and broom are in full bloom, giving valuable pollen in waste areas and shortly a lot of the trees and shrubs in our native bush will begin to flower.

For the urban beekeeper, there are heaps of nectar and pollen-producing shrubs stimulating the hives between showers. All these are stimulating the queen into action, laying more than 1000 eggs per day or out to the edges of the frames that the bees can keep at brood temperature. That means the queen could be producing a frame of brood every three days and when these bees emerge in 21 days' time, they will need another two or three frames to hang out on, clean and polish the cells so the queen can then lay in these also. The number of bees expands at a considerable rate, although at the same time older field bees are dying off.

What you do now sets your hives up for the year. Allow your hive to swarm and it will not produce an excess. Allow the hive to run out of stores and the bees that don't die will cannibalise the young brood in order to stay alive. This will create a brood break right on the honey flow so again, very little honey will be produced.

Maintain adequate stores

For each bee produced, your hive will have to supply a cell of honey. It doesn't take much to upset the balance of stores in the hive. A week of unsettled weather can quickly see reserves reduced. During your checks, make sure there are always at least three full frames of honey in reserve in the hive for a bad week. When a hive gets down below this level of reserves, it's best to start feeding it.

When you feed a hive with sugar syrup it should be as thick as possible and given in a large amount (five litres or more). Make sure the bees have room to expand.

Control swarms

Generally the first swarm control measure we take early in the season is to reverse the first and second supers so the brood nest is concentrated into the bottom super. If the hive is strong, the bees may have already moved down into the centre of the bottom super and there may be partly filled frames of brood there. By reversing the supers, this brood will be isolated from the now main brood nest in the bottom super and could be abandoned if there is a cold snap.

Any brood that is in the top of the frames should be moved to the outside of the brood nest in the bottom super. This may mean that frames of pollen and honey will have to be moved sideways to accommodate them. The brood nest should always form an ellipse in shape. If the hive is very strong, a frame of capped brood from the bottom super may have to be moved up into the centre so that the partly filled frames of brood in the top are not isolated.

"...keep an eye on queen cell bud development."

During the rearrangement, if the weather permits, you should also check areas of emerging brood for signs of disease. Check any cells not emerged in a group of emerged cells by flicking off the cappings. Check out the developing larvae underneath. All should be well. If you are not sure, consult another beekeeper.

The idea is to prevent or stop swarming. Ideally the hive should have a young queen as first-year queens generally don't swarm. We all learn after a while to read the frames and judge the colony's development. A strong hive that has bees covering two supers with lots of drone brood could be an indication that the hive is preparing to swarm. Keep an close eye on these or take measures now to reduce the population.

If you have new queens at hand or well-developed queen cells, the hive can be either split in half if they are excessively strong (bubbling over the top of the supers), or the population can be reduced slightly by removing two or three frames of emerging brood. If you don't have queens or cells available, give these frames to a smaller hive provided it is disease free. If you have developing queen cells, make up a nuc hive with two frames of emerging brood and two frames of honey and pollen. Move it away from the original apiary so the field bees on the frames can't drift back home to the original hive.

If everything looks good in the strong hive, give it more room by adding another super or two so they don't start storing nectar around the top part of the brood frames. When adding another super, bait the bees into it by moving an outside frame covered with bees into the centre of the new super. Not sure whether it's strong enough for another super? If you have bees covering all the frames in the top super, tilt the hive back and look along the bottom bars of the bottom super. Bees hanging down on four frames indicates the hive is ready for more supers.

The idea at this time of the year is to keep an eye on queen cell bud development. I generally remove any buds around the top of the frames, leaving only those along the bottom bar. This way, every 10 days, it's a simple matter to check the hive by tilting back the top super and looking along the bottom bar of the top super at the queen cell buds. As soon as I see an egg or young larva in a queen cell bud, it's time to artificially swarm the hive.

Once you find a queen cell developing or about to emerge on your 10–15 day inspections, the first instinct is to kill it. DON'T. Put this frame aside and look for eggs. Sometimes a hive will supersede rather than

Continued on page 51

Ceracell Beekeeping Supplies Ltd

24 Andromeda Cres, East Tamaki, Auckland, New Zealand PH 64 9 274 7236 Fax 64 9 274 0368
email: info@ceracell.co.nz

Looking for a TOTALLY ALTERNATIVE treatment in the warmer months then try APIGUARD ®

Apiguard ®

Registered as an input for Organic Honey Production with AsureQuality New Zealand

- Up to 93% efficiency rate
- Works best in warmer temperatures
- Thymol based treatment. Thymol is a natural constituent found in thyme and some honeys such as lime.
- Withdrawal period for honey: 0 days
- Easy to use foil trays, sold in carton of 10 x 50g trays. 2 trays per treatment per hive. Also available in 3kg tubs.
- Registered in over 36 countries worldwide including such countries as Germany, France, Italy, Switzerland, UK and USA.

Apistan ®

The most effective Varroa Treatment
The most reliable Varroa Treatment

The standard against which other treatments are measured
Registered bee medication in over 50 countries worldwide

Resistance to Synthetic Pyrethroids has now been scientifically confirmed in a yard of beehives in Northland. This may not be an isolated instance. Please ALTERNATE your treatments!

- Still a viable treatment option where there is no resistance
- Eliminates up to 100% of all mites in a hive
- Strips can be used in a hive for up to 8 weeks
- Will not give sub-lethal dose during 8 week period - controlled release combined with therapeutic dosage, used correctly will not promote resistance in mites.
- Proven efficiency from beginning to end of treatment period
- Apistan is that effective that it will resurrect hives that are collapsing from parasitic mite syndrome
- Economic to use only two strips per brood nest required
- Long shelf life, current stock 01/ 2013 expiry
- Apistan is not affected by removal from its packaging and can be repacked for use if necessary.
- Packed 10 to sealed foil pouch, 10 pouches per carton=100

For more information ask for a brochure or refer to Vita Europe website http://www.vita-europe.com

Continued from page 49
swarm and that may be the only queen cell. If it is, then put everything back together and let the bees get on with it. It also might be that you killed the queen during your last inspection and this is the replacement.

Splitting a hive

If the hive has developing queen cells and has eggs, it is going to swarm. If it has developed queen cells and no eggs, it's on the verge of swarming. In both cases, the hive must be split so the bees think they have swarmed. This means leaving the field force with the old queen and the uncapped brood on the bottom board. The rest of the sealed brood, queen cells and bees should be hived on top above a split board.

Remove the hive lid and place it to the side of the hive, then place all the supers (except the bottom one) on top. Take a new super with foundation frames, place it on a split board next to the hive and take out most of the foundation frames.

Remove the frames of open brood with the adhering bees (check first that there are no queen cells on them) and place them in the centre of the new super. Take two frames of honey and pollen from the original hive and place these on the outside of the super. You now have a super with honey and pollen frames on the outside, with foundation frames on either side of the frames of open brood.

Go through the hive and try and find the queen. Take her and the frame she is on (cut or rub out any queen cells) and place them in the centre of the new super. Then remove the old super off the floorboard and replace it with the new super. Let the field bees return and if they quickly fill the super, put another one on top.

If you have only foundation frames, take a drawn frame with nectar from another super and place it in the middle of the new super to draw the bees up. If you have a mixture of foundation and drawn frames, interspace them with one foundation and one drawn frame across the super, starting with a drawn comb in the middle. Then put on the split board with the entrance to the rear and rebuild the hive again: capped brood in the middle bottom super, nectar and pollen to the outside and the leftover foundation frames interspaced in the second super. You can leave two or more of the longest and fattest queen cells. Cut around the rest and remove them so you have spares in case another hive needs splitting.

Leave the hive until the new queen has emerged, mated and the first lot of brood is capped in the top supers, then recombine with the bottom hive using newsprint, or move the top colony away to make up a separate hive. It will depend upon the brood pattern of the old queen as to whether she's replaced or left as a separate colony.

The key point is to have the hive expanding all the time without making queen cells. This aim can be achieved by requeening every second year and giving the bees room to expand. With regular inspection every 10 days you can see the hive developing. When the first super is nearly covered with bees, lift a couple of outside frames to the middle of the next super, close the remaining frames to the centre and replace those removed with drawn frames if you have them. If you use a queen excluder above the first super, shake off all the bees from the capped frames so the queen is not inadvertently lifted into the second super above the excluder. The same goes for honey supers. When the bees are working the four centre frames of the top honey super, it's time to put on the next super as a strong hive full of bees can fill a super of drawn frames in a week.

If you only have undrawn foundation frames, the bees take a little longer to fill the super. In this case, it's important to bait the bees up into the next super by spacing a foundation frame between each drawn frame in a checkerboard effect. These foundation frames will give the bees something to do and it will also help alleviate swarming.

For some, swarming will be a few months away but those up north and on the coast, it can be in early October. *Get to know your area.* Ask other beekeepers nearby what their hives are doing so that you have some idea of where your hive is at in terms of its development.

For those that have just started with a nuc, feed them continuously with a heavy sugar solution (two parts sugar to one part water) so the bees use their bodies as storage devices, stimulating wax production. Move the pollen frames out by one frame as the bees start to cover them by putting a new foundation frame in between for the bees to build out.

When all the frames are built out in the first super, add another and lift two frames of brood from the outside of the brood nest and place them in the centre of the new super. At the beginning of December the hive should be big enough to look after itself.

Reference books

If you want to read a good book that explains things in detail, go to www.archive.org and download a PDF of the book A *year among the bees* by C. C. Miller. Charles Miller was one of the biggest producers of comb honey in the late 1800s and this book explains his methods in detail. You can then read his other books, all online free from the archives, or purchase a hard copy. These books were written when beekeeping was expanding in the USA and the only way you could learn was from a book. Charles Miller is one of my favourite authors. For those with a Kindle, use the Kindle download option.

Another good book (available from other online sources) is *Hive Management: a seasonal guide for beekeepers* by Richard Bonney.

Things to do this month

Check that your varroa mite treatments are working by the sugar shake method (scoop the bees from an outside brood frame), or note the mite fall over seven days.

Check food, check pollen: sometimes there's a dearth of both early November and hives may need feeding.

Do an AFB check: once you have completed a full inspection of all frames, just check in areas of emerging brood whenever you open a hive.

Raise queen cells, super hives, requeen or unite any hives that aren't expanding.

Control swarming, cull out old dark frames or move them into the honey supers for removal later.

Fit foundation to cut comb honey frames.

If you are a commercial operator and all is going well, you shouldn't have time to do much of anything else.

A FEW YEAR-END SPECIALS

PARAFFIN WAX

25kg per carton

	Was	Now
100kg	~~$398~~	$330
500kg	~~$1840~~	$1495
1000kg	~~$3490~~	$2790

All pricing excludes GST

0.75m GALV. LIDS

Spring End – One or two handle versions

	Was	Now
100	~~$14.43~~ ea	Call
500	~~$13.78~~ ea	Call
1000	~~$13.55~~ ea	Call

All pricing excludes GST

HIVE STRAPPERS

Complete with 4.5m Galv. strapping

	Was	Now
120	~~$7.90 ea~~	Call
480	~~$7.59 ea~~	Call
1000	~~$7.38 ea~~	Call

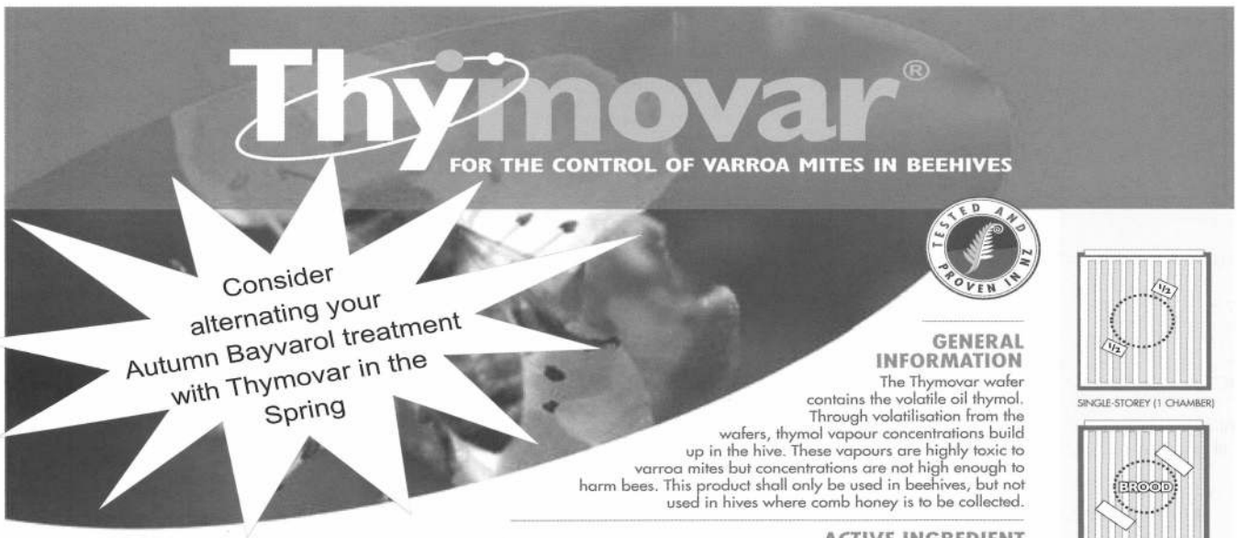
Bare also available. All pricing excludes GST

F.D. "A" FRAMES

Assembled, wired and embedded with Manuka Special foundation

	Was	Now
75	~~$3.45 ea~~	$3.39 ea
600	~~$3.45 ea~~	$3.29 ea
1050	~~$3.29 ea~~	$3.18 ea

3/4D also available. All pricing excludes GST



Bio Gro Certified

Thymovar®
FOR THE CONTROL OF VARROA MITES IN BEEHIVES

Current Pricing as at 1st October 2012

10 to 90 wafers	$3.43 plus GST each	100 to 470 wafers	$3.20 plus GST each
480 to 4990 wafers	$2.70 plus GST each	5000 + wafers	$2.61 plus GST each

Ecroyd Beekeeping Supplies Ltd

Distributors, Exporters & Importers (since 1913) of Beekeeping Equipment

Distributors of Bee Healthy & Beeway Honey & Bee Products

www.beehealthy.co.nz

P.O. Box 5056 Papanui, Christchurch, New Zealand • 6A Sheffield Crescent, Burnside, Christchurch

Phone: (03) 358-7498 • Fax: (03) 358-8789 • Email: ecroyd@beehealthy.co.nz

www.ecroyd.com

CLUB CONTACTS AND BEEKEEPING SPECIALTY GROUPS

WHANGAREI BEE CLUB
Meets first Saturday each month (except January)
Time: 10.15 am, wet or fine (we are keen)

Contact: Mike Maunder, Phone: 09 437 5847
Arthur Tucker, Phone: 09 436 1631
Kevin & Melissa Wallace
Phone: 09 423 8642 (Wellsford)
Email: whangareibeeclub@xtra.co.nz

WAIKATO DOMESTIC BEEKEEPERS
Meets every third Thursday (except January) at 7.30 pm *For prospective members: please contact the Secretary for venue meeting place.*
NB: We hold the Sept and March meetings at the club's hives.
Contact: Peter Gray, President, Phone: 07 855 0290
Email: president@waikatobeekeepers.org.nz
Maryanne Partridge, Secretary, Phone: 07 825 2691
Email: secretary@waikatobeekeepers.org.nz
Website: www.waikatobeekeepers.org.nz

WANGANUI BEEKEEPERS CLUB
Meets every second Wednesday each month (except January), at 7.30 pm at Canaan Apiaries, Mosston Rd., Wanganui.

Contact: Neil Farrer, Secretary/Treasurer
Phone: 06 343 6248

WELLINGTON BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION
Meets first Wednesday of the month (except January) at 7.30 pm in the Johnsonville Community Centre, Main Hall, Ground Floor, Moorefield Road, Johnsonville. All welcome.

Contact: Richard Braczek, Chairman
5 Tyndall St., Waiwhetu, Lower Hutt 5010
Email: ibraczek@paradise.net.nz

John Burnet, Treasurer
21 Kiwi Cres, Tawa, Wellington 5028
Phone: 04 232 7863
Email: johnburnet@xtra.co.nz
Website:beehive.org.nz

SOUTH CANTERBURY REGION

Contact: Peter Lyttle
Phone: 03 693 9189

CENTRAL OTAGO REGION

Contact: Nick Loughnan
Email: cobeekeepers@actrix.co.nz

Jo Boyd
Email: sunvale.meadows@xtra.co.nz

DUNEDIN BEEKEEPERS CLUB
Meets on first Saturday in the month September–April, (except January) at 1.30 pm. The venue varies so check phone or email contact below.

Contact: Margaret Storer, Secetary
Phone: 03 415 7256
Email: flour-mill@xtra.co.nz
Website: http://dunedinbeekeepersclub.org

NZ HONEY PACKERS AND EXPORTERS ASSOCIATION INC
Contact: Allen McCaw
Phone: 03 417 7198
Email: amccaw@clear.net.nz
or
Mary-Anne Thomason, Phone: 06 855 8038

AUCKLAND BEEKEEPERS CLUB INC
Meets second Saturday monthly at Unitec, Pt Chevalier, Auckland.

Contact: Alan Tinker
Phone: 09 818 9314
Email: alantinker2@gmail.com
Kim Kneijber
Phone: 09 418 1302
Email: kimk_bees@hotmail.com

NB: All correspondence to be directed to
PO Box 44-427
Pt Chevalier
Auckland 0122

Website: www.aucklandbeekeepersclub.org.nz

HAWKE'S BAY BRANCH
Meets at 7.30 pm, Arataki, Havelock North for workshops or meetings as advised to the members

Contact: Deanna Corbett, Branch Secretary
Home Phone: 06 876 8852
Email: djcorbett@xtra.co.nz

John Berry, Branch President
Phone: 06 877 6205

MANAWATU BEEKEEPERS CLUB
Meets every fourth Thursday in the month at Newbury Hall, SH3, Palmerston North

Contact: Paul Jenkin, Chairman
Phone: 06 376 8543 (after hours)
Email: paul@manawatubeeclub.org.nz
Mali Swanney, Secretary & Media Liaison
Email: secretary@manawatubeeclub.org.nz
(NB: Preferred address for email correspondence)
Mobile: 021 0225 4124
Phone: 06 376 8247
Mailing address: PO Box 4103, Manawatu Mail Centre, Palmerston North 4442

NELSON BEEKEEPING CLUB
Meets first Thursday of every month, 7pm
Waimea Lounge, Richmond Park Showgrounds
Lower Queen Street, Richmond
Contact: Scott Williamson, President
Ph: 03 544 9737 / 021 172 4181
Email: tasmanbees@gmail.com

CHRISTCHURCH HOBBYIST CLUB
Meets on the first Saturday of each month, August to May, except January for which it is the third Saturday. The site is at 681 Cashmere Road, commencing at 1.30 pm

Contact: Helen English, Secretary
Email: chch.beekeepers@gmail.com
Website: http://www.chchbeekeepers.org.nz

UMF HONEY ASSOCIATION

P O Box 19348, Hamilton
Website: www.umf.org.nz

Contact: Moira Haddrell, Chairperson
P O Box 862, Cambridge 3450
Phone: 64 7 827 3286
Email: info@haddrells.co.nz
or
John Rawcliffe, General Manager
St Heliers, Auckland
Phone: 09 575 3127
Cellphone: 027 441 8508
Email: rawcliffe@actrix.co.nz

NZ QUEEN PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

Contact: Russell Berry
Phone: 07 366 6111

FRANKLIN BEEKEEPERS CLUB
Meets second Sunday of each month at 10.00 am for a cuppa and discussion.
10.30 am open hives

Contact: The Secretary
PO Box 1082
Pukekohe Auckland 2340
Email: franklinbeekeepers@gmail.com

Website: http://www.franklinbees.co.nz/

TARANAKI BEEKEEPING CLUB
Contact: Stephen Black
685 Uruti Road, RD 48, Urenui 4378
Phone: 06 752 6860
Email: beeclub@beesrus.co.nz

WAIRARAPA HOBBYIST BEEKEEPERS CLUB
Meets the second Sunday of the month except January, Norfolk Road, Masterton, 1.30 pm.

Convenor: Gerald Atkinson
06 377 0741 or 027 448 1518

MARBOROUGH BEEKEEPERS
Contact: James Jenkins, President
159a Budge St., Blenhiem
Phone: 03 577 5433
Mark Biddington, Secretary
8 Belvue Crescent
Witherlea, Blenheim 7201
Phone: 03 578 9746
Email: amandab@xnet.co.nz

NORTH CANTERBURY BEEKEEPERS CLUB
Meets the second Monday of April, June, August and October in Rangiora.

Contact: Mrs Noeline Hobson
4/76 Tennyson St., Sydenham, Christchurch 8023
Phone/fax: 03 337 3587
Mobile: 021 2112 655
Email: n.hobson@slingshot.co.nz

NZ COMB PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

Contact: John Wright
Phone: 09 236 0628

NZ HONEY BEE POLLINATION ASSOCIATION

Contact: Russell Berry
Phone: 07 366 6111

BEE PRODUCTS STANDARDS COUNCIL

Contact: Dr Jim Edwards, Chairman
Phone: 06 362 6301

Is your group or Branch missing from here? Or have your details changed? Please contact secretary@nba.org.nz
Please also send any changes or additions to: editor@nba.org.nz

Apistan Varroa Treatment

Old Wives' or Husbands' Tales & Misleading Info on Apistan

Tale: *Cannot leave for more than 5 minutes in direct sunlight*
Fact: Apistan strips would have to be left in sunlight for many weeks to degrade it and the polymer plastic would fail before the active ingredients.

Tale: *Apistan gets into honey*
Fact: Apistan is hydrophobic and will not readily mix with water which is 18% of honey.

Tale: *Apistan breaks down in the environment & won't work*
Fact: Apistan (Fluvalinate) is a very stable molecule and will not readily break down to form other toxic compounds in your beehive and honey. A product which quickly changes its composition in the presence of water & oxygen generally has a low efficacy.

Tale: *Apistan 4 strips in a hive*
Fact: 2 strips is the normal dosage that has been used around the world for many years.

Tale: *Apistan will get into your beeswax*
Fact: Yes, Apistan will get into beeswax because it is lipophilic and has an affinity with oily fats & waxes. To minimise residues, treat hives before the honey flow and again after, when honey supers are not on hives.

Tale: *Apistan kills bees*
Fact: Apistan is 20,000 times more toxic to mites than to bees and is highly unlikely to kill bees when hives are correctly closed.

Tale: *Apistan kills Queens or you cannot rear Queens with Apistan in the hive*
Fact: This tale does the rounds repeatedly. There is no scientific evidence that Apistan is more detrimental to the Queen than it is to workers and in many years when there is an upsurge in Queen mortality the same complaints of excessive Queenlessness are also heard from beekeepers who do not use the product.

Ceracell has supplied Apistan to the New Zealand Beekeeping industry for 11 years, in this time we have not been informed of any shipments of honey being rejected because of residues of Apistan.

While we will defend the use of Apistan, we are very much aware that it is only one of a number of products that should be used in conjunction with one another in the fight against Varroa to maintain the viability of commercial beekeeping in New Zealand. It behoves every beekeeper to become well informed on the products he or she may use and not be led by those that become instant "experts" or those that seek profit by disparagement and dispersion of misinformation.

Trevor Cullen

NATIONAL BEEKEEPERS' ASSN OF NZ (Inc.) EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

East Coast Ward
Barry Foster (President)
Tawari Apiaries Ltd
695 Aberdeen Road
Gisborne 4041
Ph: 06 867 4591
Fax: 06 867 4508
Mobile: 027 449 7131
Email: bjfoster@xtra.co.nz

Northern Ward
Neil Stuckey (Vice President)
PO Box 303251
North Harbour
Auckland 0751
Ph: 09 415 5931 (w)
Email: neil@whoney.co.nz

Southern North Island Ward
Mary-Ann Lindsay
26 Cunliffe Street
Johnsonville
Wellington 6037
Ph: 04 478 3367
Email: lindsays.apiaries@clear.net.nz

Central South Island Ward
Roger Bray
Braesby Farm, RD 1,
Ashburton 7771
Ph/Fax: 03 308 4964
Email: birdsnbees@xtra.co.nz

Waikato Ward
Stephen Black
Bees-R-Us
685 Uruti Road, RD48
Urenui 4378, Taranaki
Ph: 06 752 6860
Email: bees@beesrus.co.nz

Bay of Plenty Ward
Dennis Crowley
PO Box 16156, Bethlehem
Tauranga 3147
Ph: 07 579 2554
Email: crowleys@slingshot.co.nz

Upper South Island Ward
Ricki Leahy
151 Mangles Valley Road
Murchison
Ph/Fax: 03 523 9354
Email: beechdew@farmside.co.nz

Lower South Island Ward
Russell Berry
2488 State Highway 5, RD 3
Rotorua
Ph: 07 366 6111
Mobile: 021 741 690
Email: russell@arataki-honey-rotorua.co.nz

NBA Branches: First named is President/Chairperson. The second named is Secretary.

NORTHLAND
VACANT

AUCKLAND
Graham Cammell
20 Thorps Quarry Road
Clevedon, RD 2 Papakura 2582
Ph: 09 275 6457
Email: graham@cammellshoney.co.nz

Bob Russell
101 Kern Rd
RD 3, Drury 2579
Home Ph: 09 294 8656
Work Mobile: 027 284 8951
Email: bobrussell@kol.co.nz

WAIKATO
Cameron Martin
Haumea Road
RD 1, Galatea 3079
Ph: 07 366 4804
Fax: 07 366 4804
Email: busy-bee@xtra.co.nz

Jane Lorimer
Hillcrest Apiaries 'Kahurangi-o-Papa'
RD 3, Hamilton 3283
Ph: 07 856 9625
Fax: 07 856 9241
Mobile: 027 294 6559
Email: hunnybee_wave@ihug.co.nz

BAY OF PLENTY
Dennis Crowley
PO Box 16156, Bethlehem
Tauranga 3147
Ph: 07 579 2554
Email: crowleys@slingshot.co.nz

Barbara Pimm
448 Woodlands Road
RD 2, Opotiki 3198
Ph: 07 315 7650
Email:hikuhoney@xtra.co.nz

POVERTY BAY
Paul Badger
19A Pine St
Gisborne 4010
Ph: 06 868 4785
Email p-mbadger@xtra.co.nz

Tim McAneney
11 Oak St
Gisborne 4010
Ph 06 868 9446
Email: tim@mcaneney.gen.nz

HAWKE'S BAY
John Berry
46 Arataki Rd
Havelock North 4130
Ph: 06 877 6205
Email: jrberry@ihug.co.nz

Deanna Corbett
Home Ph: 06 876 8852
Email: djcorbett@xtra.co.nz

SOUTHERN NORTH ISLAND
Allan Richards
14 Bastia Avenue
Wanganui
Ph: 06 343 5039
Email: allan.serena@xtra.co.nz

Frank Lindsay
26 Cunliffe Street
Johnsonville
Wellington 6037
Ph: 04 478 3367
Email: lindsays.apiaries@clear.net.nz

NELSON
Frazer Wilson
Ward-Holmes Road
RD2, Takaka
Ph: 03 525 7571
Fax: 03 525 7569
Email: frazer.kerry@clear.net.nz

Kerry Gentleman
Ward-Holmes Rd
RD2, Takaka
Ph: 03 525 7571
Fax: 03 525 7569
Email: frazer.kerry@clear.net.nz

CANTERBURY
Brian Lancaster
1133 Coaltrack Road
RD 1
Christchurch 7671
Ph: 03 318 7989
Email: be.lancaster@xtra.co.nz

Linda Bray
Braesby Farm, RD 1,
Ashburton 7771
Ph/Fax: 03 308 4964
Email: birdsnbees@xtra.co.nz

OTAGO
Frans Laas
Wildlife Solutions Ltd
102 Gladstone Road
Mosgiel 9007
Ph: 03 489 4597
Email: f-laas@xtra.co.nz

Peter Sales
"Te Ora"
RD 1, Port Chalmers
Dunedin 9081
Ph: 03 472 7220
Email: foxglove@paradise.net.nz

SOUTHLAND
Doug Lomax
15 William Stephen Rd
Te Anau
Ph: 03 249 9099
Fax: 03 249 9068
Mobile: 027 245 3384
Email: dougandbarbara@xtra.co.nz

John Stevenson
Southern Lakes Honey
PO Box 163, Te Anau 9640
Ph: 03 249 7954
Email: sl.honey@gmail.com

NBA LIBRARIANS
Roger and Linda Bray
Braesby Farm, RD 1, Ashburton 7771
Ph/Fax: 03 308 4964
Email: birdsnbees@xtra.co.nz

APIMONDIA OCEANIA COMMISSION
Maureen Maxwell, President
Ph: 09 411 7065
Mobile: 021 956 349
Email: maureen@wildforage.co.nz

If your details have changed, please email editor@nba.org.nz and secretary@nba.org.nz so that we can update your details in the journal and on the NBA website www.nba.org.nz.

EXPORT QUALITY PACKAGING
NO SUPPLY CONTRACTS REQUIRED

Time for a fresh alternative for your packaging requirements?

Pharmapac's new range of export quality packaging for honey is now available, including the latest 2KG square jar. Our standard range of honey jars include clear and amber with white or coloured lids available. Sizes range from 250GM - 2KG.

Pharmapac is a New Zealand owned company, with more than 30 years in the business of designing, manufacturing and producing plastic packaging solutions for not only local, but an ever growing list of international clients.

Our products are all manufactured in New Zealand.and no supply contracts are required.

For more information or product samples please contact us at:

Pharmapac Limited
88 Wairau Road
Glenfield
North Shore City 0627

+ 64 9 444 9631
sales@pharmapac.co.nz

* The closure colours shown above are all stock colours (applies to 57mm & 60mm calosures), for your own custom colours a minimum orders of 5000 units will apply.

100% NEW ZEALAND OWNED & OPERATED

PHARMAPAC PPAC NEW ZEALAND MADE

www.pharmapac.co.nz