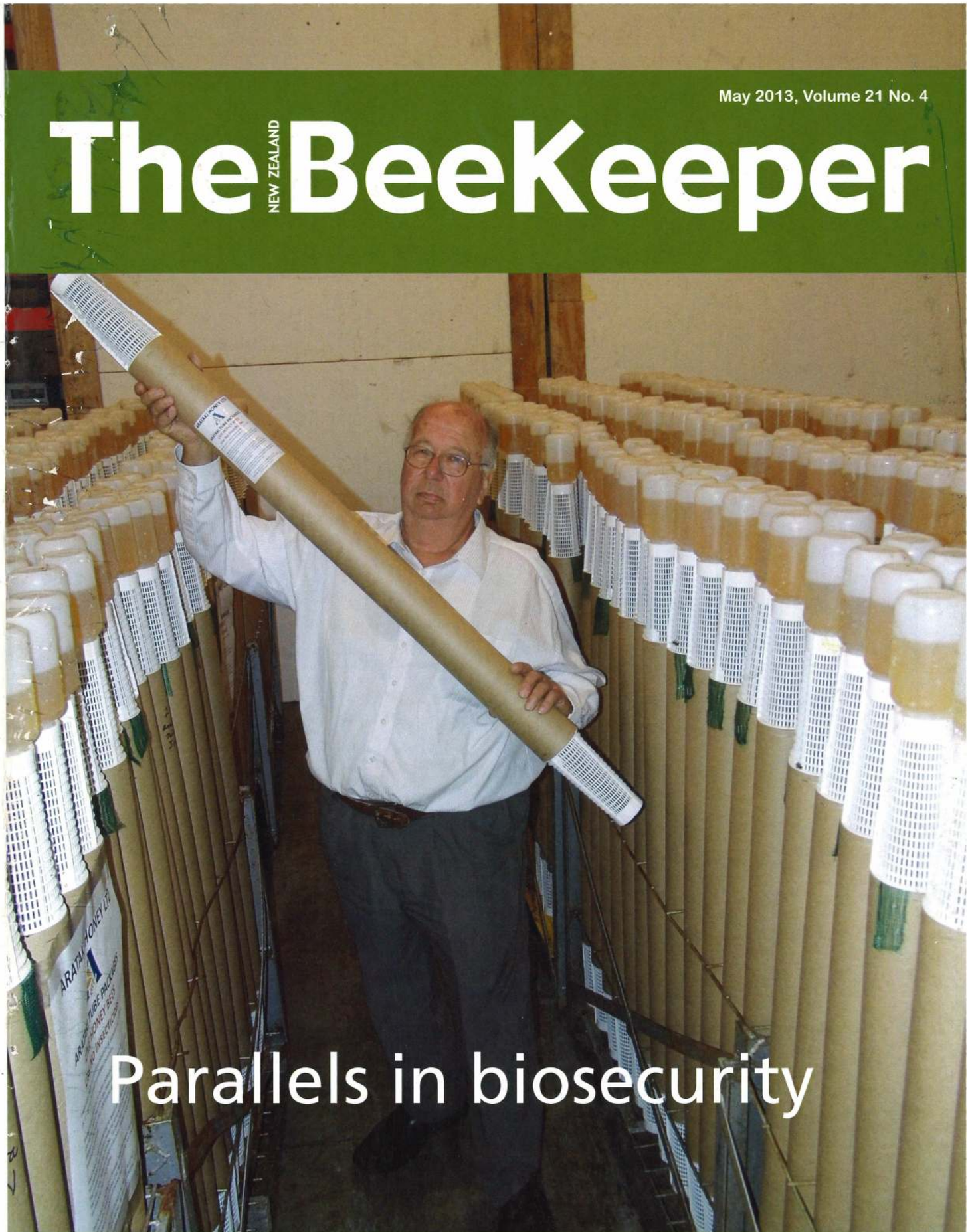
May 2013, Volume 21 No. 4

The NEW ZEALAND BeeKeeper



Parallels in biosecurity

Celebrating 100 Years SINCE 1913 NATIONAL BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

- Travelling with bees
- Auckland–Waikato field day reports

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)
Miriam Nicholson
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 $140.00 GST inc - incl P&P
Australia $165 .00+ NZ $25.00 TT fees and incl P&P
Rest of the World $176.00 + NZ $25.00 TT fees 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 NPMP Manager
PO Box 44282, Lower Hutt 5040
Email: rbaynes@ihug.co.nz
Phone: 04 566 0773

American Foulbrood Management Plan
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: NBA Life Member Russell Berry, of Arataki Honey Rotorua, with one of the tube packages of bees that will soon be exported to Canada. Russell says, "We have developed long-distance air transport of bees and these tube packages over the past 25 years. We expect to export 30 pallets of packages this year, totalling over 21,000 packages, which will make 21,000 new beehives in Canada to help pollinate their crops and produce honey." Photo: Tracey Berry.

Parallels in biosecurity

By Barry Foster, NBA President

On 18 March 2013, the Court of Appeal issued a judgment on an appeal by the pork industry on a 2012 High Court document.

The High Court decision had upheld the approval by the Director–General of Agriculture to issue an import health standard for raw pork imports from the USA, Europe and one Mexican state. Of the three Appeal Court judges hearing the case, one dissented, but the appeal was quashed based on the decisions of the other two judges.

The 10-year history behind this decision has similar twists, turns, intrigue, assumptions and parody characteristic of the even longer running dispute between Government and our industry over the question of honey imports.

Some definite parallels exist between issuing an import health certificate to import raw pork and any future decision on the importation of honey.

1. In both cases it is accepted by MPI and the industry affected that such importations will contain exotic diseases not present in New Zealand that bring biosecurity risks. In the case of the pork industry, it is the porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome (PRRS) virus, which, if established in New Zealand, would have severe effects on the pork industry and in its animal health. In our case, current science suggests that not all EFB bacteria and viruses will be destroyed in any imported honey following heat treatment.
2. In both cases current import health standards (IHS) state that such risks can be 'managed' and do so in ways applicable to either IHS. In our case, it is heat treatment of honey and in the case of raw pork, it deals with consumer-ready packs of raw meat that have considerable assumptions around their disposal to prevent them from being fed to pigs and consequently infecting our national pig herd.
3. In both cases expert scientific opinion is divided.
4. In both cases a precautionary principle is sometimes allowed during initial and final phases when developing import health standards under WTO rules when there is insufficient scientific evidence to conclude a judgment either way. This was not applied in the pork industry case.

There is an area of considerable debate at the WTO and around the world regarding the precautionary principle. One appeal under a precautionary approach stated:

> *The status of the precautionary principle in international law continues to be the subject of debate among academics, law practitioners, regulators and judges. The precautionary principle is regarded by some as having crystallised into a general principle of customary international environmental law. Whether it has been widely accepted by Members as a principle of general or customary international law appears less than clear.*

See more on the precautionary principle at http://www.wto.org/english/res_e/booksp_e/analytic_index_e/sps_01_e.htm#pB4b

"be concerned … this Court of Appeal decision may indicate the probability of a similar decision for our own industry".

The take-home message is that the beekeeping industry should be concerned over this Court of Appeal decision, as it may indicate the probability of a similar decision for our own industry.

Judge White, the dissenting judge, stated in part 115 of the appeal document:

> *In these circumstances I do not consider that New Zealand's international treaty obligations should be read as qualifying the interpretation and application of the Act (Biosecurity Act 1993) in this case. On the contrary, in the face of the unresolved scientific uncertainty as to the possibility of a PRRS incursion in New Zealand through imported raw pig meat, an outcome that would have serious adverse consequences for New Zealand's economy, a precautionary approach requiring strict compliance with the statutory obligations is warranted.*

Any decision to issue an import health standard for honey will be made by the Director-General for Primary Industries with advice from the Chief Technical Officer. In doing so, the Director-General has to take into account the following principles:

1. the likelihood that the imported goods may bring organisms into New Zealand
2. the effect of those organisms on the people of New Zealand
3. its environment and economy, and
4. New Zealand's international obligations (including those assumed under the SPS agreement)

Has the pendulum swung too far in favour of trade at all costs? Undoubtedly New Zealand is heavily dependent on trade to earn income and maintain our lifestyle. But with an economy so dependent on biosecurity, should the Director-General not even be considering the deliberate import of foreign exotic diseases in meat, honey or any other biological material? They pose unacceptable risks to our economy. Recent biosecurity breaches such as Psa should add weight to this stance.

Continued on page 6

Now one of NZ's most popular varroa treatments.
Highly effective and reliable.
Safe for your bees and bee products.
Easy to use.
Order online at www.apivar.co.nz.
We are also happy to take email or phone orders.

Apivar®

Want to know more about Apivar?
Look at the FAQ's on the www.apivar.co.nz web site.
They contain some really good in-depth information.

10 – 90 strips	$3.48 each plus G.S.T.
100 – 990 strips	$3.23 each plus G.S.T.
1000 – 4990 strips	$3.01 each plus G.S.T.
5,000 – 9,990 strips	$2.80 each plus G.S.T.
10,000 – 19,990 strips	$2.74 each plus G.S.T.
20,000 plus strips	$2.69 each plus G.S.T.

Dosage Rate: 2 Apivar strips per brood chamber.
Price includes delivery, except for Rural Delivery, which is $4.44 plus G.S.T. for each 1000 strips or part thereof. Payment is required prior to delivery by cheque or electronic banking.
Prices subject to change without notice.

New Zealand Beeswax Ltd

Postal: 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@apivar.co.nz; Web: www.apivar.co.nz

Apivar® is the product and the registered trademark of:

Veto-pharma S.A, Véto-pharma 14, avenue du Quebec F-91945 Courtaboeuf Cedex France

BK236

Continued from page 4

A decision to issue an import health standard is made on available evidence. This poses limitations as risks are constantly evolving and changing. The risks to our beekeeping industry are now far greater than they were 10 years ago while the industry has grown in value and size, making New Zealand potentially vulnerable to a far-greater impact from any future biosecurity breach than previously. The NBA is in consultation with MPI on this issue.

Hon David Carter, Hon Kate Wilkinson and other National Party MPs meet protesting beekeepers on the steps of Parliament, 4 April 2006. The National Party was then in Opposition. Photo: Barry Foster.

It is worth remembering that trade and politics go hand in hand. It is now seven years since beekeepers marched on Parliament to express their opposition to proposed honey imports based on biosecurity grounds. I've included a photo taken on 4 April 2006 of National Party members (then in Opposition) greeting and showing support and solidarity to the protesting beekeepers on the steps of Parliament. The process of developing an IHS for honey began under previous governments, including Labour. I leave you to draw your own conclusions. However, I like this quote from James Freeman Clarke, a church minister, reformer and scholar in the United States in the 19th century, "A politician thinks of the next election; a statesman thinks of the next generation".

Interview with Allan Richards

Allan Richards is the president of the Southern North Island Branch of the NBA.

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

How long have you been a beekeeper?

Thirty-something years.

How did you get into beekeeping?

I caught a swarm at my parents' place, put it in a cardboard box, and then went to a local beekeeper and said, "now what do I do?" One hive became two, two became 20, 20 became 100 and so on.

What do you enjoy about beekeeping?

I like being my own boss and working outside. I enjoy the more technical side of beekeeping—the queen rearing and the genetics, and trying to improve bee stock and productivity.

Tell me about your current business.

I live in Wanganui and have hives south and west of Wanganui. I have a small operation compared to some, approximately 600 hives. There are 400 in honey production and 200 for queen rearing, producing cells, nucs and hives for sale.

What made you decide to be Branch president?

I have already been president once before, and agreed when I was asked to stand again.

Tell me about your priorities as branch president.

To try and unify beekeepers and get co-operation between them when tackling common goals.

Do you run any events for your branch members?

We have branch field days at least once and sometimes twice a year. We also run diseaseathons when necessary. We also run training courses and disease recognition courses.

What are the details of upcoming events?

We are having a training weekend for new and expanding beekeepers at Pohangina Valley called "Camp Rangi", from 6–8 September.

What do you think your branch does well?

Communicates well with members.

What do you think the Southern North Island Branch could improve on?

Membership—we need more members.

What important issues is your branch currently dealing with/informing members of?

Nothing at the moment—we are currently looking after our own businesses!

What do you believe to be positive about the beekeeping industry in New Zealand?

We are starting to attract younger beekeepers to the industry.

What do you believe to be negative about the beekeeping industry?

Not everyone belongs to the beekeeping association and are freeloaders, getting the benefits of others' work in advancing the industry's interests nationally and internationally. The greed of manuka beekeepers fighting over sites and moving in on other beekeepers' areas. Not enough money being put into research.

How do you see the future of beekeeping in New Zealand?

As long as we keep New Zealand free from imports of honey from places such as Australia (and the diseases that would bring), the future is bright.

What would you like to see improved in the beekeeping industry?

Simplification of the bureaucratic bullshit.

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time/what are your hobbies?

What spare time?! Organised chaos! Actually, I am a competitive ballroom dancer, and have danced in competitions around New Zealand with my wife.

What is your number one tip for beginner beekeepers?

At least belong to a hobby club. That will give good information and experience. If you have the opportunity, offer your services or assistance free to a commercial beekeeper for a day or week. The experience will be invaluable.

And for the more experienced?

Just become actively involved with your local branch and with other beekeepers in your area. Helping each other is a two-way street and everyone benefits, without being underhanded or standing on anyone's toes.

The National Beekeepers Association of New Zealand

Notice of 2013 Annual General Meeting

The AGM of the NBA will be held at the

Hotel Ashburton
Racecourse Road
Ashburton

Thursday 20 June 2013
commencing at 9.00 am

Chief Executive Officer

POLYSTYRENE MATING NUCS

Easy to use • Cost effective • Proven results
1-100 $13.00 plus GST 100+ $12.00 plus GST
Phone Steve, Apiflora NZ Ltd
07 543 0984 027 4923 937

***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**

BEEKEEPING MANAGER
TE AWAITI STATION

6612 hectares coastal Wairarapa Station requires an energetic and experienced Manager to drive expansion of its existing manuka honey business.

Accommodation provided.
School bus at gate.

Email applications to dan.riddiford@paradise.net.nz
or phone Dan Riddiford, 06 306 9849 or the Station Manager, 06 307 8870

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

Beekeepers

We are a leading New Zealand beekeeping company looking for experienced beekeepers for the coming season. The ideal candidates will have the drive and energy to develop a team into team players that produce positive results with their hives.

Candidates must be looking for a challenge and be able to demonstrate knowledge and experience in all aspects of a commercial beekeeping. Training can be provided for the right candidates.

Applicants for this position should have NZ residency or a valid NZ work permit, a positive attitude and strong attention to detail. Remuneration will be based on experience.

Applications Close 20 May, 2013

steens

Steens New Zealand Ltd
298 Manaia Road, RD5, Masterton, 5885
Landline: +64 (0) 6 370 2900
Fax: +64 (0) 6 390 2934
Email: adminmasterton@steenshoney.co.nz
Website: www.steensnewzealand.com

Beeline Supplies Ltd

"Suppliers of Quality Beekeeping Equipment"

Suppliers of:

- ***Apistan® (Varroa treatment used in over 50 Countries) & Apiguard® (A thymol based gel formulation that has proven to be very effective in the control of Varroa & approved for use in organic hives)***
- ***Stockists of Southern Cross Plastic Frames - full depth 33mm and 35mm end bars. ¾ depth 35mm & Manley style end bars,***
- ***Wooden Frames & foundation (Beeswax & plastic) [Kitset & assembled]***
- ***Suits, ½ suits & lightweight suits, gloves, hats & veils, Safety glasses (magnified from 1.25-3.00 in increments of .25)***
- ***Books, smokers, hive tools, metal lids, hive mats, bee escapes.***
- ***Honey extractors for the commercial and hobby beekeeper, Tecpak Containers, 1, 2 & 3 frame feeders, top feeders***
- ***Assembled & Wax Dipped: boxes, hive mats, bee escapes & mesh floors.***
- ***Boxes all sizes and grades(kitset), bottom boards & mesh floors, Queen excluders metal & plastic.***

VISIT US AT: 21 GLADSTONE ROAD SOUTH, MOSGIEL, DUNEDIN.

"Come check our display of beekeeping equipment"

Now back In Stock: Honeybee Foulbrood Test Kit
(AFB Diagnostic Kit)
A reliable and cost effective way to test for AFB;
Every beekeeper should have one on hand as it saves time and money;
Not sure if your hives have AFB? Test before you burn.
Cost $23.50 plus GST each

For orders & quotes email: beelinesupplies@xtra.co.nz
OR Ph Brian or Adrienne on 03 488 0151,
leave a message and we will call you back.

Information survey on beekeeping

Compiled and summarised by Russell Berry, NBA Life Member

Following is a report of a survey of beekeepers, designed by the Waikato and Auckland branches of the NBA.

This survey was carried out at the combined Auckland/Waikato field day on 23 February 2013. More than 200 people attended, and 113 people completed the survey. It was pleasing to see so many hobby beekeepers take part, boosted perhaps by the inducement of a cash prize of $500 for one lucky person whose name was drawn from a hat.

As promised to field day participants, a summary is printed for New Zealand beekeepers to read.

The information survey predominantly covered these topics: varroa, the NBA, colony-forming units (CFUs) and keeping exotic new bee diseases out of New Zealand.

Number of hives farmed

Forty people had between 1–10 hives, 23 had 11–100 hives, 32 had 100–1000 hives, and 15 were in the over–1000 hives category. So this survey represents close to 100,000 beehives, which is a substantial number and possibly the biggest survey of its type ever conducted of New Zealand beekeepers.

Location of respondents' hives

Northland 3, Auckland 33, Waikato 39, Bay of Plenty 14, Hawke's Bay 2, Taranaki 1, Manawatu 1, Wellington 2, West Coast 1, Multiple areas 6, Unknown 6, Canterbury 5.

Varroa

It was very pleasing to note that only 10 people out of the 113 respondents only used one treatment during the past two years. Sixty-five people used three treatments or more over the past two years, which was great to see.

It appears that only two people in the survey used organic treatments only. Seventy-six people put their treatments in during February and March, which is the optimum autumn treatment time. The rest of the treatments were getting in somewhat late (mainly in April). It shows you how hard it is to get your strips in early enough; I am sure a lot more will go into hives in April this year as beekeepers can't take the honey off fast enough.

What percentage of hives were lost last winter?

An interesting finding was that 65 people reported losing fewer than 10% of their hives (which is not too bad), and only four people had losses over 50%. These losses are not nearly as bad as one might have thought.

Why did the hives die?

Twenty-four respondents reported dwindling, another 24 people said starvation, and 34 people said the hive had gone queenless. Only six people said varroa was the cause, which is a good result. I was a bit surprised to see that four times the number of hives died of starvation than of varroa, but I guess it was a very difficult autumn with no honey flows.

Varroa resistance

Twenty-two commercial beekeepers believed they have resistance to varroa treatments, and 86 believed they do not have resistance.

Resistance to which product?

Apistan and Bayvarol were neck and neck for respondents' answers to this question. Both products have far more than their share of the varroa becoming resistant to the product; however, that is to be expected as a lot of people have been using the product for longer than other products.

Queen supersedure problems?

Forty-one beekeepers reported having more problems than five years ago, 54 beekeepers said no. (I am a little surprised at this response, as just about every beekeeper I speak to says they are having more problems now than they used to have.)

Why do you think you are having supersedure problems?

There is no clear indication on this question. The four top answers were viruses, lack of drones for mating, varroa treatments and varroa.

Forty-one of the beekeepers requeen hives every two years, 46 beekeepers requeen every year, two requeen six-monthly and 14 requeen occasionally.

Under one-third of beekeepers thought their beehives were in poorer condition, even if they did not go into pollination, than they were five years ago.

NBA

Are you an NBA member?

80 said yes, 29 said no.

Why are you an NBA member or would join, in order of preference, 1–5?

Most people join the NBA to talk to other beekeepers, then to encourage research, get the NBA journal, stop bee diseases entering New Zealand and to attend seminars.

Fifty-one beekeepers said the NBA membership fee discouraged them from joining the NBA, and 55 beekeepers said it did not discourage them.

Are the branches of the NBA more important than the central organisation?

45 said yes and 47 said no.

Colony-forming units (CFUs)

Dead bees in the honey at the time of extracting, and secondly, extracting combs with brood, are the two major factors that contribute to CFUs (bacteria in honey).

Three areas of research you would like to see occur?

Varroa far outstripped everything else. Other responses included chemical and pesticide effects on bees, nosema and viruses. ➜

Overwintering

Eighteen beekeepers overwintered their hives in one storey, 67 in two storeys, and 15 were unsure.

What training do you most require?

Once again, varroa was the most popular by far; general beekeeping knowledge was fairly high.

Three biggest risks to beekeeping in five years' time?

1) Bee diseases coming into New Zealand; 2) varroa resistance; 3) effect of chemicals.

It was felt that imports of honey would most likely lead to the introduction of EFB into New Zealand.

How long after honey is imported from Australia will we get EFB, even with heat treatment?

Eighteen people thought within one year, 34 thought within two years, 16 thought within three years, 15 thought within five years and five thought longer than five years. Of these responses, no commercial beekeepers thought it would be longer than five years.

If we have a small hive beetle outbreak in Auckland, would you be available to help fight it?

49 people said yes, 29 said no. A pretty good effort.

Commentary and acknowledgements

This survey probably cost under $5000 to carry out. Although we sought to obtain a snapshot of some beekeepers' views and practices rather than designing a scientific survey, we think this provides a useful guide to Government, MPI and the beekeeping industry as a whole of the issues that are of most concern to beekeepers.

I thank all participants for filling in this important survey written on behalf of the Auckland and Waikato branches of the NBA. Having the information gleaned from this survey printed in this journal is a reason why you should be an NBA member.

[Note: This is an informal survey conducted by the Waikato and Auckland branches recently. It provides an interesting, although non-analytical, view of beekeepers in 10 regions.

The NBA plans to work closely with MPI to run a scientifically rigorous bee health survey to analyse the state and health of NZ's bee populations across the country. We will keep you posted on progress with that.]

Travelling with bees

By John Bassett

Bees and beekeeping are enjoying increasing public awareness and support. It is therefore important that our industry strives to minimise the adverse effects that inevitably result from some of our work practices.

Two activities recently receiving negative attention are travelling with bees and transporting honey supers. A few bees left flying around the fuel station lights or at the lunch bar might be nothing to beekeepers, but it would be 'hundreds' to a member of the general public who will have to cope with those bees long after we have gone. And the sight of bees spewing from the back of a truckload of honey supers certainly doesn't earn us any 'brownie points'.

Shifting hives

The majority of hives shifted are for pollination or migratory cropping, and more often are done with the entrances open to prevent overheating. The load is usually covered with a 'scrim' (hessian cover) so that bees are securely contained even in daylight or under lights. Some points to remember are:

1. an excellent scrim cover can be made from green 80% shade cloth. The heavy duty knitted variety does not 'pull' on the corners of hives, nor billow excessively in the wind
2. even if you prefer to travel at night uncovered, take your cover with you in case of delays
3. the best time to load is in the half hour before dark and after bees have stopped flying. The load will be happier too!

A truck-load of hives under scrim.

4. a diesel motor left running at idle will encourage bees to sit quietly on the truck if you stop
5. at refuelling stations, pick the pumps furthest from bright lights, then park in the shadows as soon as possible
6. beekeepers using screened bottom boards for varroa control are usually able to plug the entrances for shifting
7. top screens with spacer cleats fitted under the roofs and the hives secured with EMLock® straps are excellent, especially for small numbers. With entrances plugged, they can then be safely transported in daylight, but all the equipment must be bee-tight
8. foam rubber strips made from a 25-mm topper pad are very efficient for plugging entrances
9. in the event of an accident or spill, bees can, if necessary, be killed efficiently with foam (detergent/water mix). Serious operators should carry a foam-type (not powder) fire extinguisher.

Examples of a top screen and escape board (showing top and reverse sides). Photos: John Bassett

Honey loads

When honey is harvested using escape boards the supers are free of bees, and with a little care the load can be kept that way.

Where bee blowers (or other methods) are used, it is common to have a load of honey with quite a few bees. Unfortunately, some beekeepers still head for home with the load uncovered to let these bees out. Food hygiene regulations require honey supers to be covered during transport (i.e., "minimise exposure to contamination" in the harvest declaration) and it makes good sense.

Pointers for convenience and safety

1. Escape boards make excellent covers for honey stacks and allow for robbers to escape one or two at a time.
2. Alternatively, sacks or a scrim cover rolled back as loading progresses will keep some of the bees out.
3. Individual covers (such as escape boards) have a bad habit of coming loose under load straps. A tarpaulin or scrim over them is advisable on the open road.
4. If the load has attracted a significant number of robbers during the loading process, it is better to cover up (tarpaulin or scrim) then briefly stop and uncover a few hundred metres away before re-securing the cover for the road home.
5. If you must let bees out, do it at your own apiary or depot—not someone else's!
6. Some beekeepers with truck-mounted cranes now stack their supers of honey on pallets and cover with a large plastic bag before loading onto their truck. Trapped bees can escape through a hole in the top of the plastic bag.
7. Sticky supers still need to be covered for transport; otherwise they will cause trouble for someone wherever you stop.

"...we all suffer when those with a 'cowboy' attitude undermine the public's increasing goodwill..."

Most of the complaints from businesses and the public relate to bee spills from commercial beekeepers. The majority of us are professional operators, but we all →

suffer when those with a 'cowboy' attitude undermine the public's increasing goodwill towards our industry. Some of the above points may be useful to those needing guidance.

Careless travel with bees

By Miriam Nicholson, NBA Executive Secretary

The importance of following best-practice guidelines when travelling with bees can't be overstated. Careless travel not only endangers the public, but can have disastrous consequences.

Neil Farrer, in his 'From the Colonies' reports published in the last two journals, highlighted an incident where beekeepers were parking their trucks overnight in the centre of town, causing issues for the general public (Farrer, 2013, March).

Additionally, it was noted that, "a truck loaded with hives stopped to fill up with diesel", causing the BP station to "close for several hours" as a result of the chaos. Neil reported, "Now all Wanganui-area BP fuel station managers have decided to automatically ban from their forecourts any truck that arrives with bees on or flying around it" (Farrer, 2013, April).

The Ruapehu District Council also wrote to the NBA in March about safety issues when travelling with bees.

The council's letter said, "The council is aware that there is a lot of activity with bee keeping traffic around the Ruapehu District at this time of year. The majority of rural roads are unsealed and narrow with low traffic numbers; however it is not unusual to meet traffic of all sizes on them. Care must be exercised at all times."

The letter continued, "the concerns from Board Members are that bee keeping truck drivers may be unfamiliar with the area and are not driving to the conditions; there have also been observations of bee keeping trucks travelling more quickly than the road environment would suit." (Ruapehu District Council, personal communication, March 2013)

The NBA believes that careless travel with bees has a damaging effect on the reputation of beekeepers.

Things to consider when loading and travelling with bees and/or honey

- Ensure you follow guidelines, not just when transporting bees but honey boxes as well.
- Slow down through road works. If you have to wait for a 'lollipop man', be considerate and stop 100 metres away so road workers are not affected by hovering bees.
- Travel at night whenever possible.
- Put a cover over the truck. You can use scrim (hessian cover).
- Ensure the load is secured tightly to avoid anything falling off or becoming unstable and therefore requiring you to stop.
- Check loads regularly during your trip, ensuring you stop away from housing or schools etc.
- Park in uninhabited places. Do not stop in built-up areas or anywhere that will cause a problem—service stations, towns, motels etc.
- Fuel up prior to loading.
- Be considerate and use common sense.

We all need to do our part when travelling with bees. If not, we risk the possible formulation of regulations around this issue. We need to ensure that it doesn't become a persistent problem by acting considerately and remaining informed of best practice for the greater good of the industry.

Acknowledgement

A big thank you goes to Neil Mossop and John Bassett for their advice and direction on things to consider when loading and travelling with bees and/or honey. Both Neil and John very kindly provided me with information and advice on travelling with bees safely.

References

Farrer, N. (2013, March). From the colonies. *New Zealand BeeKeeper 21*(2), 17–19.

Farrer, N. (2013, April). From the colonies. *New Zealand BeeKeeper 21*(3), 39.

Just passing through

This photo, taken in February 2013, was submitted by Leanne Ormsby. Leanne says, "As my husband and I were finishing up collecting our honey boxes from the National Park, bees buzzing around us, I decided to take a photo of Tongariro smoking in the background. As I snapped I successfully captured a lone bee flying by; thought it made for quite a cool photo which I wanted to share!"

Auckland–Waikato field day

By Frank Lindsay, NBA Life Member

This joint field day, held at Thames on 23 February, was well attended. Beekeepers came from many regions to hear Randy Oliver and others.

The organisers had set the date around Randy's schedule of almond pollination activities in the United States. He opened the day with a talk on bee biology. Randy explained what he and his sons do immediately upon arriving at an apiary. Two hives are selected to alcohol wash a sample of bees to get an idea of mite levels, and then they check each hive's health. A healthy hive will have all the young larvae surrounded with royal jelly. If this isn't the case they reject the queen, as she won't be a good producer.

Managing varroa

Randy's second talk in the afternoon was about managing varroa. He said we are not into varroa control but virus control, as viruses kill our hives. The important thing is to treat often and keep varroa numbers low, as varroa is the vector for viruses.

Randy outlined a treatment regime that New Zealand beekeepers could adapt with the chemicals that are registered here. He didn't include ApiLife VAR®, which many beekeepers are using successfully, so perhaps Randy wasn't aware of this treatment. Asked why he hadn't included oxalic acid fumigation as a method, Randy said he set off a cloud of vapour, walked into it and decided against the method because he didn't want to kill himself.

Someone from the audience asked whether everyone here should pass on his message. Randy replied, "NO, let them lose hives and then you will have extra apiary sites". Knowledge of alternative treatments is essential to be prepared for when resistance hits.

If you missed the field day, most of what Randy said is on his website www.scientificbeekeeping.com

Star Trek comes to the hive

Jerry Bromenshenk was already visiting New Zealand. He demonstrated a device with a similar function to a tricorder used in Star Trek. His firm, Bee Alert Technology, is developing it to use sound to identify problems within a hive. They have been working on the device for eight years and have used it to measure Africanised bees, beetles, *Apis ceranae*, mites and queenless, empty and normal hives in the USA. Jerry is selling the device at cost (about USD 700) in order to encourage beekeepers to record hives and send in the Secure Digital (SD) disc of their recordings. This will help Bee Alert Technology to improve the software to better identify the different sounds associated with diseased, queenless hives.

I'm taking recordings of diseased hives and hives with different configurations and bee types so that the software can be calibrated to New Zealand bees and diseases. When this is working, hopefully within a year or two, we will only need to inspect those hives where a problem is indicated. This will make checking hives during diseaseathons quicker, enabling us to cover far more hives in a day.

The technology could also be used for biosecurity checks. Jerry was hoping to present one of these devices to Dr Mark Goodwin if he received donations to cover the cost. Several branches offered donations for this purpose.

Jerry also presented the findings from a research project that showed that corn and canola crops didn't present a problem to bees when neonics were used as a seed dressing, but farming practices still caused bee deaths through seed sowing dust contaminating other flowering sources during sowing. His message was to talk to farmers and move hives in only when it's safe.

During the discussion after Jerry's presentation, one beekeeper said he was using a stethoscope to identify problems in his hives and he could already identify problems including swarming. It's amazing what beekeepers get up to. →

Left to right: Some of the many beekeepers at the field day; Randy Oliver relaxing at the barbecue; Ceracell Beekeeping Supplies were among those providing trade displays.

CFUs

Russell Berry spoke about CFUs (colony-forming units). His take-home message was don't let dead bees, capped brood or pollen frames go through the processing plant, as it increases the CFUs in the honey. Some countries are now putting CFU conditions on the entry of honey.

Dr Jerry Bromenshenk.

For years we have been told that honey is a pure product and that bacteria and viruses can't live in it. Well, yes that's correct. The bees polish the cells with propolis, making them sterile for a pure product, but as soon as we remove the honey frames from the hives, transport and put them through an extracting plant, the honey can become contaminated. It takes months for the osmotic effect of honey to neutralise the introduced bacteria.

It would be better to be careful in the first place and keep your honey pure and whole as nature intended. Just one mashed-up bee can have an effect.

Resistant mites

Brian Alexander told of his experiences and how he was using Apiguard® to knock down his resistant mites. This is Brian's last year in beekeeping, having sold his business. I'd like to thank him for his support to the industry and his many talks at field days and conferences, where he freely passed on information.

AGMARDT

AGMARDT generously funded Randy Oliver's airfares to the field day.

Carniolan bee breeding programme

Hermann Pechhacker talked about an international Carniolan bee breeding programme with the aim of breeding for better productivity, lower swarming and varroa tolerance. Hermann was already in New Zealand to help David Yanke (Daykel Apiaries) to set up a Carniolan breeding programme.

There were trade displays at the back of the room as well as a table displaying tutu plants with photographs. There was no excuse not to become familiar with tutu and your responsibilities as a beekeeper.

Photos: Mary-Ann Lindsay.

The decade 1943–1953

By Apiarius Antiquary

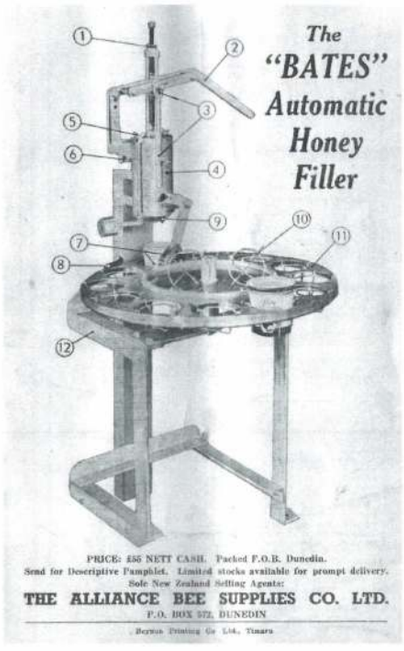
This decade started as World War II was nearing its end.

Perhaps of note was the commandeering of the honey crop by the government. Beekeepers were regulated to supply 70 percent of their crop to the Internal Marketing Division (IMD), which then distributed the honey according to the Government Emergency Regulations. The prices were fixed by the regulations. The remaining 30 percent was able to be sold on the open market.

Whilst it would appear that beekeepers supported the war effort, there was an increasing tension with some beekeepers regarding the situation, as evidenced by a letter to the Editor from EA Clayton, Tuakau:

Dear Sir, – Might I crave some of your valuable space to voice a protest against 60lb tins and the ridiculous Regulation that the producer is to sell only five lbs. at any time to a customer at the apiary.

When I attended the Conference with members of the Marketing Dept. at Hamilton, I heard no mention of any ban on 60lb tins, and the meeting was given to understand that the Regulations would be the same as last year. In other words that the producer would be able to dispose of the 30% allowed him at his discretion. We might even say that it is like putting a man on a twenty foot rope and then telling him that he is free to go where he likes … There is a war on, of course, but ill-advised petty regulations will not help us to win it.



An ad in the journal in 1948.

We all know about honey's medicinal properties and the following appeared in print:

Honey has been rediscovered as a remarkably effective ointment. In a Red Cross hospital in Hamburg, Germany, tests have been carried out with honey during the past half year, and it has been found that even much soiled wounds quickly become cleaner under its influence.

The magazines of the decade include much information on the marketing of honey; however, there were also items which particularly related to the war 'shortages'. Recipes featured honey as a main ingredient for jams and preserves, no doubt because of a rationing of sugar. Other items which had to be "approved" were the wire gauze, queen excluders, timber and the tin plate to make the extractors, tanks and 60lb honey tins.

As a comment from the Ministry of Supply stated:

Gumboots: I have to advise that at the present time all gumboots are issued under a control scheme which has been set up to ensure that only really necessitous cases are supplied.... I am quite prepared to give full consideration to applications from beekeepers having regards to the particular circumstances of each, and the claims of others who require gumboots for their dairy work.

An ad from the November 1953 journal.

AFB inspections

An indication of the work in AFB disease control gives the following statistics:

1,657 apiaries comprising 17,643 hives were thoroughly inspected under this plan alone, against 1,389 apiaries and 15,547 hives respectively last season.

This work revealed an all round slight improvement of the position in regard to bee diseases over last year. Fifty box hives were located and dealt with against 114 last season, while it was found necessary to destroy by fire 219 complete hives badly diseased, against 260 last season.

Internal Marketing Division (IMD)

Marketing of honey is always dependent on supply and demand. The variations of seasons caused fluctuations in the supply and price of a honey crop, resulting in beekeepers receiving fluctuating returns from their endeavours. The IMD and seals levy had been set up just prior to the war and initially appeared to be of benefit to beekeepers in stabilising honey prices.

Towards the end of the 1940s there appeared to have been some dissatisfaction amongst beekeepers at the performance and activities

Continued on page 17

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, For current stock expiry date please enquire
- 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 15

of the IMD. The original concept of the IMD exporting 'surplus' honey was not being met with the IMD competing on the local market, whilst the seals levy became more a subsidy to the suppliers of the IMD. There were calls to revisit the seals levy and there is a record of a conference poll vote on a remit from the Manawatu Branch to abolish the seals levy. The voting was 1189 favouring retention of levy and 756 favouring abolishing the levy.

Around this time there were calls for more beekeeper involvement in the IMD and for levy payers to be eligible for seats on the Board. It appears that a great deal of time was spent 'discussing' a resolution to the situation at a number of annual conferences with little solution.

By 1953 there was a way forward from the beekeepers and the Minister of Marketing (Hon K J Holyoake), who had previously rejected the beekeepers' proposals, started to look at winding up the IMD and replacing it with a beekeeper representative organisation that later became the Honey Marketing Authority.

Perhaps the greatest concern of the beekeepers was the opportunity for a competitor of the co-operative to be 'on the board' of that co-operative. This concern is expressed in the quote below:

> *It appears that the motives of some non-suppliers are under suspicion and it is feared that they might gain control of the Committee in order to serve their own means. Such fears are groundless. If any of these wreckers exist they could easily qualify for nomination under the present Regulations by supplying the minimum quantity of three tons; the only real bar to their election is the good sense of the electors. Nobody will gain a seat on the Committee unless he has the ability and integrity to merit the confidence of his fellow producers and if this single safeguard is not sufficient then democracy means nothing.*

Spray issues

It is notable that this period sees mention of bee deaths and research work being conducted on the use of DDT and the likely damage to bees. The Hawke's Bay area suffered considerable damage with lead arsenate sprays being applied to pipfruit trees to control codling moth. As a result of persistent efforts by the Hawke's Bay Branch, the Apiaries Act was amended to prohibit harmful chemicals being applied to plants in flower.

The first prosecution under the Act was taken against a Havelock North orchardist who was charged with spraying apple trees in bloom with a poisonous preparation. Whilst the fine was minimal the Crown Prosecutor stated, "This man is not the only one responsible. He was just the unlucky one caught".

The Magistrate, after imposing a fine of 22/6 (22 shillings and sixpence) in February 1952, summed up by saying, "Now take that gospel back to Havelock North and tell the orchardists."

The NBA had been pressing for controls to be placed on the use of bee toxic chemicals and the Department of Agriculture was indeed listening.

Sources

The New Zealand Beekeeper, 1943–1953.

Ceracell Beekeeping Supplies Ltd

www.ceracell.co.nz

Manufacturers and Suppliers of Quality Beekeeping Goods. For All Your Beekeeping Needs.
Please contact us for competitive pricing! Just some of the items we supply:

Stainless Steel Double Honey Strainer for 30 Litre Pail / 50kg Tank ***$133.00 + GST***

Fits 30 litre poly pail or 50kg tank
Consists of a coarse and fine stainless steel net. Comes with support so can also fit 100kg tank
Diameter: 300mm
Height: 150mm

Fine Nylon Conical Type Strainer with Metal Ring ***$17.50 + GST***

Diameter:330mm
Micron Size: 70

Plastic Honey Strainer For 20 Litre Pail ***$15.95 + GST***

Diameter 300mm Available in micron sizes:200 & 400

Nylon Bag Honey Strainer ***$31.00 + GST***

Size 200mm x 700mm

Available in micron sizes: 300, 400, 600, 800, 1000, 1200

Stainless Steel Single Honey Strainer for 30 Litre Pail / 50kg Tank ***$61.60 + GST***

Consists of a single fine stainless steel net. Comes with support so can also fit 100kg tank
Diameter: 300mm
Height: 150mm

Stainless Steel Double Honey Strainer with Extendable Bracket ***$43.00 + GST***

1 course and 1 fine strainer
Diameter: 230mm
Bracket: 260mm – 420mm extended

Nylon Cone Honey Strainer for 20 Litre Pail ***$31.00 + GST***

Washable nylon round strainer. Fits in 20 litre poly pail. Diameter: 300mm. Available in micron sizes: 300, 400, 800, 1000, 1200

Sugar

Invert Sugar

Sugar Product Description

Invert sugar is a specially manufactured blend of glucose and fructose prepared by hydrolysing high purity cane sugar (sucrose) syrup. This process is commonly known as inversion and is achieved by adding acid to liquid sugar. As inversion reaches completion, the syrup is neutralised.
Another term for these sugars is 'reducing sugars', which describes the chemical property relating specifically to monosaccharides.
Available in:
Maxi Drum (approximately 843 litres) or Bulk Tanker Load (approximately 9000 - 8,000 litres)

Fine Liquid Sugar (FLS)

Sugar Product Description

Fine Liquid Sugar is partially decolourised syrup taken from the white sugar refining process prior to crystallisation. This product can vary in its characteristics of colour, flavour, odour, microbial on the quality or source of the raw sugar.
Available in:
Maxi Drum (approximately 843 litres) or Bulk Tanker Load (approximately 9000 - 8,000 litres)

Check out our website for our full range of filter equipment and specials

Manufacturers White Sugar
Sold in 25kg bags or per tonne / pallet (25kg x 40 bags)

Industrial Raw
Sold in 25kg bags or per tonne / pallet (25kg x 40 bags)

Sugar prices available upon request

We are open Mon - Fri 9am - 5pm

Sugar Feeders

Top Feeders	
Shallow (5 litres)	*$9.65 + GST*
Medium (9.5 litres)	*$9.65 + GST*
Deep (13 litres)	*$9.95 + GST*
Top Feeder Rims	
Shallow	*$6.00 + GST*
Medium	*$9.11 + GST*
Deep	*$13.50 + GST*
Internal Division Feeders	
1 Frame (2.5 litres)	*$8.70 + GST*
2 Frame (4.5 litres)	*$9.70 + GST*
3 Frame (7.5 litres)	*$9.70 + GST*
Bee Ladder for 3 Frame Feeder	*$2.00 + GST*

Discounts on large quantities apply

Prices Exclude GST and Freight. Subject To Change Without Prior Notice. Goods subject to availability.
Contact: Ceracell Beekeeping Supplies: info@ceracell.co.nz / PH 09 274 7236 / FAX 09 274 0368.
Physical address: 24 Andromeda Crescent, East Tamaki, Auckland.
PO Box 204184, Highbrook, Manukau 21631, Auckland.

Regional representation advantageous

By the NBA Secretariat

Apimondia's newly established 'regional commission' positions have been successful in facilitating information sharing and ensuring Australasia is well represented in the world's beekeeping industry.

Photo taken outside the Apimondia head office in Bucharest, Romania, of the international representatives:

Back row from left: Etienne Bruneau (Belgium), Riccardo Jannoni-Sebastianini (Italy), Mr Jo (Korea), Karl Crailsheim (Austria), Yurij Riphyak (Ukraine), Filippo Jannoni-Sebastianini (Italy), Theodore Cherbuliez (USA).

Second row from left: Korean diplomatic representative and his wife behind, Cleofas Cervancia (Philippines), Korean Business Representative, Christian Constantinescu (Apimondia Foundation Romania), Dimitris Selianakis (Greece), Philip McCabe (Ireland), Marta Giogia (Apimondia Foundation Romania), Ulrike behind (secretary head office, Rome), Wolfgang Ritter (Germany).

Third row from left: Mr Jo (Korea), Maureen Maxwell (NZ, representing Oceania), Nicola Bradbear (United Kingdom), Koos Biesmeijer (Britain/Netherlands).

Front row from left: Jose Gomercindo Correa da Cunha (Brazil), Lucas Martinez (Argentina), President Gilles Ratia (France).

Missing: Mulufird Ashagrie (Ethiopia) and Dinh Quyet Tam (Vietnam) Photo supplied by Maureen Maxwell.

That's the message from Maureen Maxwell, who in 2011 took on the voluntary position of Oceania president of Apimondia, the International Federation of Beekeepers' Associations.

Maureen believes the new regional commissions have created a more balanced Apimondia Executive Council.

"The regional commission role is a new initiative. Previously, there was no official representation from various regions around the world," she says.

"As a result, Apimondia was traditionally more European-focused. Under the current presidency the Executive was keen to make the organisation more global, and over the last four years has moved towards strong regional representation.

"Africa, the Americas, Asia, Oceania as well as Europe now are taken into account as the scientific and working groups consider, advise and regulate for our future."

Maureen says her priorities as Oceania president focus on representation and information sharing.

"My role is to represent Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific. By having representation from our region, when issues are tabled that directly affect us, I can respond from an Australasian point of view.

"Over the past year it has been extremely important for me to learn what is available and who is doing what around the world. New Zealand is a small country, with not a lot of taxpayers or beekeepers; it really is in our best interests to utilise and leverage overseas resources.

"There is a huge amount of research happening around the world with millions of dollars being invested in bee research, both commercially and by government. For instance in Romania, at the Apimondia Foundation, there are 100 scientists working fulltime on bee research. In New Zealand, we struggle even to have one scientist dedicated to bee research."

Maureen believes international representation and relationships should be fundamental to New Zealand beekeeping. Apimondia facilitates the exchange of information between beekeepers, scientists, honey traders and government agencies.

"The world is getting smaller, and most problems experienced offshore are either starting here, or could potentially be problems in this part of the world," she says. "Let's learn, and leverage off the global experience and research.

"Meeting people and being in the loop as to what is happening in the rest of the world →

is crucial to New Zealand beekeeping, and it's so important for New Zealand to continue to raise its profile across the world.

> "Being part of Apimondia raises New Zealand's credibility and profile ..."

"The world is very interested in New Zealand beekeeping; we punch well above our weight. International beekeepers are interested in how we've marketed research for manuka, how we're running our pest management strategy and our antibiotic free-status.

"Being part of Apimondia raises New Zealand's credibility and profile, and offers the ability to raise the integrity of our produce." Knowledge sharing is a powerful tool.

Apimondia's 2013 International Apicultural Congress, a biannual event, takes place this year in the Ukraine, 29 September–4 October. The Congress sees over 10,000 attendees and over 1,000 scientific papers presented. Maureen encourages members to attend at least one of these events in their lifetime, both commercial and serious amateur beekeepers alike.

Annually there are many symposia around the world organized through and by Apimondia working groups or members in such areas as medicinal honey, apitherapy, organics or queen breeding. Many are well worth attending for New Zealand members if these are your areas of specific interest.

For more information on Apimondia, or international beekeeping research, please contact Maureen at Maureen@wildforage.co.nz or visit www.apimondia.com.

[Editor's note: for Apimondia Congress registration information, go to http://nba.org.nz/news-events/events/international-apicultural-congress. If you register before June 1 you will save up to 30%.]

PEST AND DISEASE CONTROL

Have you reviewed your APIWEB files lately?

By Frank Lindsay, NBA Life Member

Ever participated in a diseaseathon or surveillance exercise?

Before GPS co-ordinates were incorporated into the system, we could spend an hour going up and down a road looking for a "blue house" as a marker to an apiary. This happened at one diseaseathon exercise, only to find the house had been painted a few years before to a different colour.

When updating APIWEB, take time to input data, including the residence of the farmer. Inspectors (AP2s) will always approach the landowner, but with the amalgamation of farms, newer farmhouses are being built, shifting the farmer's residence from what would have been the normal in days gone by (i.e., beside the tanker track, house on the driveway where your bees are located, etc).

Over the last few years we have seen changes in dairy numbers, dairy companies and amalgamations, and the addition of individual numbering down roads (e.g., '291' being 2.91km from the start of the road). GPS co-ordinates now make it a little easier to find apiaries but the quickest way is always to ask the landowner, as hives can move around with today's migratory beekeeping. Descriptions are not always that detailed and in the past the text was often shortened to fit on to one line.

Is the landowner section up to date? If the gates are locked, is the key available from the landowner? Does the site have all-year access? Have you changed the hive numbers to reflect the correct number, or changed it to zero when hives are moved out of summer sites? If this is your queen-rearing yard, then note this on the form. APIWEB can accommodate much more information. This information is then printed onto the inspection sheets. With up-to-date information it takes less time to complete the inspections, ultimately saving money on your NPMP fees.

It's also a good idea to go into the website regularly just to see which apiaries are showing in red, meaning that AFB has been reported by another beekeeper with nearby hives. This will help you in deciding how to manage your apiary, whether you will quarantine, check more rigorously, watch for robbing etc. It is only when a neighbouring beekeeper reports a robbed-out hive that you will receive a rob-out notice.

With APIWEB you can see at a glance any reporting of AFB that is close to you. One robbed-out AFB hive can result in up to nine additional hives coming down with disease within the next 18 months, often showing itself in the spring when hives are stressed.

I have also noticed there seems to be an upsurge in the number of AFB-infected hives reported in the city in areas where I have never seen this disease before. The only explanation that comes to mind is perhaps a few conservationally minded people are feeding honey in bird feeders during the winter and spring to keep tui alive. Yes, honey watered down is better for the birds than sugar water, but it does carry the possibility of spreading AFB. Perhaps a little publicity as to the dangers of feeding honey is needed.

If this is the case, then it suggests a few commercial or hobby beekeepers are missing the odd infected hive when taking off the honey and putting the honey through the plant and on to the market.

Perhaps the NPMP should do more surveys of honeys to determine their AFB spore counts. Those with spore counts should be followed up or, as a minimum, advised.

Monitor your hives

By Frank Lindsay, NBA Life Member

The commercial beekeeping year is coming to a close with the packages off to the Northern Hemisphere.

In the hives, the bees have been pushed down into one or two supers and where necessary, supplies have been topped up by feeding sugar syrup.

This is the time of year when varroa mites start showing up again in hives. Anywhere there's been a swarm could be considered an at-risk area. I have been regularly treating with formic acid and the hives 'looked good' and strong but last month, one apiary I had five dead hives. They wouldn't have been dead if the other hives in the apiary hadn't been in robbing mode, but once the bees sniff that a hive's defences are down, they are in. So you get a small mat of dead bees in front of the hive and the telltale cappings at the entrance, or in my case, on the slide.

What I mean by saying the hives 'looked good' is that from my observations of the hive entrance (no small bees, no 'crawling death', good population), I had no idea that varroa numbers were building in this particular apiary, as mite fall on the mesh bottom board slides was already low and reducing. It seems the only way to really check is to do what Randy Oliver (California) does: alcohol wash a couple of hundred bees from a few hives and check the actual status of varroa mites.

Why had I selected formic acid as a treatment? As reported earlier, I'm seeing mites in hives after an eight-week strip treatment as I have had mites for 10 years, the result of a log coming down from Northland with a swarm in it. Pretty soon we will all need to change our treatment regimes, so why not now? We can learn while it's relatively easy to clean up mistakes (just pop in another set of strips and add frames of emerging brood if it goes wrong).

Formic acid is also cheap and fast to apply (I can do half my hives in a day). It is very effective if the brood is down in the bottom super, but not so good if the brood nest is in the second super, away from the majority of the fumes.

I'm not the only one having troubles. Several hobbyists using alternative treatments have called me to report similar problems. It's all a learning experience (but rather a dear one), and devastating for those with only a few hives. The take-home message—monitor your hives.

Honey competitions

After 43 years playing with bees, being around good beekeepers and sampling honey frames to separate different honeys, you get a taste for the stuff. Holding a honey competition is very good for hobby clubs. It gives members feedback on how to improve presentation and quality but eventually this makes it much harder to judge a competition.

I recently attended a Wanganui Beekeepers' Club meeting to judge their competition and was rather surprised by the number of entries and categories. The difference between the winner and second place in the runny honey section was a bit of lint. Meticulous preparation is the key to winning competitions.

Another thing that I noticed was the different honey types. In Wellington we get a variety of bush types as well as pohutukawa in the city, with light clover further north.

In the Wanganui region, the majority was lotus major (with pohutukawa in the city), but there was one gorgeous sample of a malt barley sugar honey. Nothing of the bush varieties we get around here as their season is later than ours.

Things to do this month

Winter down hives—some may need extra feeding. If you want to reduce the amount of sugar you have to feed them, reduce the hives to a single super and feed until at least six or seven frames are full of nectar. The only problem is that you will most probably have to start feeding the hives again in August to get them to full strength again before the main honey flow.

AFB inspection. This is very important at this time of the year after the robbing season has finished. Better to find AFB now instead of perhaps finding a hive dying out during winter and the neighbouring hives robbing it and spreading the disease.

Check the hives' foundation. It's a good time to change pallets and set up the hives so they have a slight slope forward so rain runs out of the hive.

Then *replace any supers that are showing signs of aging*; e.g., extra opening due to rot.

If the apiary is in a rural area, *check the fencing.* I've known cattle and horses to push over hives and eat the frames once the bees have got chilled.

Check any stored honey supers for wax moth. Generally store them in an open shed where there is a good draft running over and under the supers, with queen excluders fitted top and bottom to prevent rodents making a nest in the frames. Put out rodent baits in a plastic bottle under a hive in the apiary to clean up any mice that are considering using your hive as a comfortable warm home. (Entrances should have already been reduced to 8 mm by 100 mm to prevent mice entering.)

Clear away grass in front of the hives. If the apiary is partially shaded during winter, consider placing a sloping board in front of the hive so that any bees that come in cold and land short of the entrance can walk in. Otherwise they tend to be lost, which can be a real problem if the bees fly a lot during winter.

And finally, *extract the last of the honey.*

Not all research is beneficial

By Brian Lancaster

Our industry appears in the spotlight at present with the amount of research that is being undertaken both worldwide and now within New Zealand.

All bee-related research is got to be good for the industry right? Well, it's time to reconsider this belief with the reality. Also, who is doing the research and to what end.

I would like to state at the beginning of this that I am very supportive of any research that is going into alternative pollination sources, because (1) I believe that diversity is the key to long-term success and (2), this research will ultimately prove how successful and cheap current honey bee pollination is.

Insect pollination of flowering plants has evolved over the millennia in a harmonious relationship between the plant wanting to be cross-pollinated and the target insect. This system can simply be summed up as the plant offering a reward to the insect. Evolution would dictate that the plant would only offer just enough reward (nectar or pollen) to get the job done. Plants offering not enough reward would not get pollinated and die out as a line and ultimately as a species.

On the other side of the bell curve, plants offering too much, while being well pollinated, would be punished by the excessive loss of unnecessary energy. Therefore a happy medium would be achieved. This has been going on well before man took his first steps on two legs. Legumes and brassicas have evolved along these lines and honey bees have been one of their target insect species.

Two presentations from the scientific community that I have attended have been looking for research grants to improve pollination of target crops.

With regard to honey bees, the primary focus is on looking at ways to trick or encourage bees to visit plants that they otherwise would not find rewarding enough. This can be done by isolating crop-specific volatile compounds and/or nectar secondary compounds and using these scents, combining them with a sugar reward system. This system is best demonstrated by Jerry Bromenshenk's work in using honey bees to locate landmines as these bees are trained to associate a nectar reward with the smell of explosives. Think of this as conditioning, very similar to Pavlov's dog (bells, drooling, etc).

While this approach may be beneficial to getting better crop yields, who is the main benefactor?

1. The seed growers? That is, the one to 200 seed growers who use the trained bees to produce seed for commercial sale.
2. The beekeepers? There are perhaps 10 to 20 beekeepers who are lucky enough to get the contract to train their bees.
3. The company with the patent on the seed?

"...it is inappropriate that tax dollars are being applied for research that will benefit only a few..."

This kind of research is only going to produce propriety rights that will benefit a select few; that is, the owner of the seed rights. If this type of plant (i.e., a plant that cannot attract a pollinator) is released into the environment, the future of sustainable farming will come into question. In my opinion, this kind of research is more dangerous and ultimately more sinister than the terminator gene that has been banned throughout the world. If this type of plant is released into the pastures and swards of New Zealand, then every farmer who doesn't have the luxury or access to 'trained bees' will have to come back to the seed companies every few years to re-sow their pastures.

Also, where is the future of beekeeping in New Zealand? The majority of beekeepers rely on nectar as their main source of income. Without a viable honey industry, the future of a pollination industry is in jeopardy as it would be very small and not be able to maintain a 'critical mass' and be even more susceptible to exotic pests and diseases and therefore ultimate disaster. This is the exact opposite of what sustainable farming is all about.

While I respect the right of every farmer to make what decision is best for their own operation, I feel it is inappropriate that tax dollars are being applied for research that will benefit only a few and disadvantage a large majority and push another export industry (honey) to the brink of survival. I don't think there are many pastoral farmers out there who realise that current research proposals are leading in the direction of exclusivity and priority rights.

It is the view of beekeepers that the nectar availability in plants is diminishing with each new release of cultivar. Scientists quest firstly for more nitrogen fixation, then in later years considerations such as more dry matter per hectare, plant protein, megajoules of energy, and larger leaf size are being made at the expense of nectar secretion. This is going against the natural selection and the symbiotic relationship that the bees and the plant have developed over the millennia.

It is my view that plant scientists have hit the proverbial brick wall and cannot build on the 'improvements' seen over the last few years without using the above technology to influence bees to pollinate cultivars that they would otherwise choose not to visit for nectar.

Research dollars should be applied where there is a benefit to the majority involved and not what benefits a select few.

Institutions that apply for funding should not be able to produce a monopoly-type situation as outlined above. Also, institutions applying for funding should not have a conflict of interest in what research is going on as it undermines the findings.

Case in point: Landcare is doing research into pollen sources that are available and which plants could be planted that would give bees a healthy selection. This is a great project that should be enabling to beekeepers. Research to date has identified several exciting plants (including gorse and broom). I would have hoped that beekeepers could have used this information to lobby against the destruction of gorse and broom in some areas that are pollen deficient. To date Landcare is conveniently ignoring these two valuable pollen sources and again, as the research has been done, one would have to ask why they are not promoting this. Would it have anything to do with the fact that in most areas gorse and broom is considered a weed and that Landcare gets government grants to research biological control methods for gorse and broom? A cynical person could come to the conclusion that the Trees for Bees project is an appeasement project so that beekeepers take their eye off the ball.

If this is how a research organisation conducts itself, (i.e., ignores its own research when convenient), how can they be trusted not to take advantage of the above technology and create plants that have a short terminal lifespan?

Please put some serious thought into this as researchers are telling us that this is good for our industry. When you read between the lines and delve deeper, they are really only after research dollars and this may not always be in our best interest.

Errata

We published an article in the February 2013 issue entitled 'Rewarewa honey for inflamed skin'. The second citation in the References section (p. 9) is incorrect. This article was submitted to the *Journal of Experimental Biology and Medicine,* but was withdrawn from that journal and was included by mistake in the references. The author and we regret the error.

And there were two errors in the Club Contacts page (April 2013, page 53). Alan Harwood is one of the contact persons, and the postcode for correspondence is PO Box 44-427, Pt Chevalier, Auckland 1246. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

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 99% of all customers totally 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 April 2013

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

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

FROM THE COLONIES

Auckland Branch

The scribe rather let the side down for last month's colony report, but the Auckland Branch did want to thank all those who attended the field day at Thames on 23 February. Full marks to the organisers for a great choice of venue—well positioned, with plenty of parking, and good facilities. The food provided by the local ladies was also much appreciated.

There was also plenty of food for thought in the presentations, and practical ideas to use in our beekeeping. The trade displays generated a good deal of interest. Altogether it was a very worthwhile day.

Frank Lindsay has covered some of the presentations in more detail in his report on the field day (see pages 13-14). In addition to the presentations that Frank has reported on, we also heard from Dr Mark Goodwin on the current state of play regarding varroa resistance to chemical treatments, and Dr Karyne Rogers spoke about her work on C4 sugars.

We are very pleased that Dr Karyne Rogers will speak at our AGM on 18 April. Karyne has been working tirelessly for the beekeeping industry, doing sterling work on the C4 sugar issue, and she will be expanding on her talk at the February field day. It will be very interesting to hear what she has been doing to resolve the issue of false positive readings in manuka honey. Watch out for Karyne's updates on her work in this journal from time to time.

Mark and Karen are of incalculable value to the industry not only because of the work they are doing, but also because of their personal commitment to and wide-ranging interest in the industry.

Daylight saving has finished, and with that a change to cooler mornings and evenings, although daytime temperatures seem still to be very warm. We have had a little rain, but not enough to please the farmers of the region. The word is that honey crops in the region have been average to better than average, and most beekeepers are pretty satisfied with their crop.

- Helen Sinnock

Poverty Bay Branch

Honey extraction should now mainly be over, with most beekeepers pleased with their season's crop. There seems to be plenty of willing buyers in the market this year.

Requeening went well in February and March. Most queens appear to have mated well. Hopefully we will not see a repeat of the poor mating conditions of last season, with queens starting off well but fizzling out in the spring.

Varroa levels have remained low with most beekeepers getting their treatments in nice and early.

Trees for Bees project

Early April brought some rainfall, but more is needed to replenish soil moisture levels so we can look at replanting our dry bank.

- Paul Badger, Branch President

Waikato Branch

I'm writing this on yet another sunny day. It is very, very dry and still hot. The ground around the hives is cracked and there is little food for the bees.

The gums and rata have just about finished, dandelions, honeysuckle, camellias are flowering but most vegetation is sizzled and brown. Most have gathered in the bulk of their honey and generally the honey crop was good. The clover crop was also pretty reasonable. The mite levels in untreated hives still appear to be low, with only the odd hive showing any damage.

Packaging bees is in full swing and everyone is tired. This is when accidents happen. Look after your workers and take care of yourself.

One concern noted was that people doing Eligibility Declarations (EDs) to transfer product from one storage place to another, and who are not auto-approved, are being charged by AsureQuality at the tune of $65 per transfer. A bit over the top!

- Barb Cahalane

Bay of Plenty Branch

The very dry weather conditions have brought autumn on quickly. While it has remained very mild, brood laying has slowed right down with natural pollen sources producing very little. Beekeepers are putting off returning hives from summer sites in other regions, as there is little on offer locally. On a positive note, it has been easier beekeeping than in past summers and I expect honey yields will be above average for the region.

Varroa numbers have been low and it appears that synthetic chemical treatments are mostly effective for now. I am typically finding one mite per 100 bees using an alcohol shake after strips have been in hives for six weeks, so will need to continue monitoring.

The branch meeting on 9 April received a presentation from Pete Richie, an off-road driving consultant. This topic is relevant to most, if not all, beekeepers and generated much discussion. Increased off-road driving knowledge and competency can make us both safer operators and save on operating expenses.

An outcome of Pete's presentation is that the branch is now planning a training day for members to gain both off-road driving knowledge and practical experience. If you are interested, contact the branch secretary.

There have been recent reports of hives being stolen. It is helpful to report any incidence of hives stolen or suspicious activity to discourage the perpetuators.

A local AFB Recognition course is planned for 24 August. Email Ross Carroll at robro@kol.co.nz to register your interest.

- Greg Wagstaff

Hawke's Bay Branch

As I write this most of Hawke's Bay has just had good rains but some areas have still had none. Autumn requeening has gone better than for many years, probably due to the excellent weather.

Last year more sugar was fed than normal because of all the rain and this year looks to be the same, except that drought has caused a lack of autumn honey flows. →

Generally speaking, most hives look pretty good at the moment, but there is a lot of chalkbrood round and speculation as to why this should be so. Is it a new more virulent strain from overseas or something else causing a synergistic effect?

- John Berry, Branch President

Nelson Branch

As usual, Mother Nature has given us another reminder that we can never quite be sure what the season may hold. We've enjoyed a warm dry summer, which has continued into a similar autumn. Site access has never been so easy. I struggle to recall the last time there was a need to stoop and put the hubs in.

But even as we've enjoyed being able to get things done without donning the parkas, it becomes apparent that the lack of pasture growth may present its own nutritional challenges. Some recent rainfall may have done enough to boost pollen resources, but I suspect we won't know until late winter/spring the effect of these dry times.

Until then, we have a few months to get our sheds and books in order, and forget about all the hard work that's just been done. As always, we'll build up our foolhardiness to do it all again, and ready ourselves for whatever twist Mother Nature may have in store for we keepers of bees.

- Nahum Kelly

Canterbury Branch

Conference update

To date the conference planning is well under way. Please book your accommodation ASAP.

Also, please contact Linda Bray, our conference secretary, if you have any memorabilia that you may have and would like to display relating to the 100 years of NBA and/or beekeeping in general. We would like to know what is coming before you arrive with it so we can organise to look after it.

Contact the **Ashburton i-SITE Visitor Centre** (Email: ashburton@i-site.org or Phone: 03 308 1050), to make a booking for bus connections from Christchurch airport to Ashburton.

- Brian Lancaster, Branch President

RESEARCH

Nosema ceranae not far away?

By Frank Lindsay, NBA Life Member

Nosema ceranae is a serious bee disease suspected to be in New Zealand for several years now.

Victoria University Professor Phil Lester, with the help of a Thames beekeeper, has confirmed the presence of *Nosema ceranae* in Thames. The hive in which he discovered the pathogen died about four to eight weeks later, though we cannot be sure that its death is solely *Nosema* related. A second lab in Gisborne has also confirmed this disease.

Phil and his group of graduate students have established bees with this disease in quarantine facilities within his lab and will track its progress there. But he is also interested to track the health of hives in Thames associated with this dead hive over a year-long period, to see how widespread this and other diseases are, and if there is evidence that this pathogen is associated with widespread hive death. The beekeeper in Thames has generously agreed to be part of this research.

Phil would like to identify other pathogens that are perhaps contributing to such hive deaths. Depending on funding availability, their team at Victoria University can also analyse pesticide residues, including neonicotinoids, which are known to amplify the effects of pathogens.

But to do this he needs extra funding. He has approached the Waikato Regional Council (WRC). The council gives grants up to $40,000 for research with the Environmental Initiative Fund, and have expressed interest in funding this work (the WRC Senior Biosecurity Management Team is also now discussing this disease with the Ministry for Primary Industries, which is a positive step). However, for such an award the industry is expected by the WRC to contribute financially as well; i.e., the council wants to see a local contribution before they will consider a grant.

Waikato Regional Council hasn't indicated exactly how much support is needed from the industry. Phil suspects even $10,000 would be seen as significant industrial support. But with more funding, they can do more samples and more analyses including pesticide residues. With $80,000, Victoria University would be well on the way to identifying pests, pathogens and pesticide residues in New Zealand bees—something we have to know before we allow imports of bee products into New Zealand—plus it will help with his *Nosema* research.

Have drought conditions, poor nutrition or beekeeper practices contributed to hives becoming stressed and coming down with this disease?

Some beekeepers in the upper North Island lost up to 30 percent of their hives last year. Did pathogens such as *Nosema ceranae* contribute to these losses? Did you send any samples off for testing to determine your losses?

It's not often you can get research at a reasonable price, so perhaps Waikato beekeepers can get together and dip into their pockets a little to start the ball rolling towards getting this grant. Others may then join in.

Contact information

Phil Lester
School of Biological Sciences
Victoria University of Wellington
PO Box 600, Wellington 6012
Phone: 04 463 5096
http://antsbeeswasps.wordpress.com

New and improved rules for agricultural vehicles will come into effect on 1 June 2013. For more information, go to http://www.transport.govt.nz/ourwork/land/agriculturaltransportreview/

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
Interested parties wishing to start this branch up again, please contact Neil Stuckey 09 415 5931 (wk) or neil@whoney.co.nz

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: bob.russell@xtra.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
Murray Elwood
10 Whiting Drive
Wakefield
Nelson
Ph: 03 541 8929
Email: muzzbuzz@ts.co.nz

Nicky Elwood
10 Whiting Drive
Wakefield
Nelson
Ph: 03 541 8929
Email: muzzbuzz@ts.co.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.

360ml Round Pot

500gm Round Jar

340gm Round Jar
(coming soon)

250gm Round Jar

2kg Hex Jar

1kg Hex Jar

500gm Hex Jar

250gm Hex Jar

2kg Square Jar

1kg Square Jar

500gm Square Jar

250gm Square Jar

NEW ZEALAND'S MOST EXTENSIVE RANGE OF HONEY PACKAGING

Pharmapac's range of export quality packaging for honey has now expanded to contain square, hex & round jars. 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.

All of our products are manufactured in our ISO9001-2008 accredited facility in Auckland, New Zealand.

No supply contracts are required.

Pharmapac follows well defined parameters of quality, conforming to various national and international standards. As these standards change, we work with our suppliers to continue to meet these requirements.

For more information or product samples please contact us at:

Pharmapac Limited
88 Wairau Road
Glenfield
Auckland 0627

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

100% NEW ZEALAND OWNED & OPERATED

TELARC REGISTERED™
Quality
ISO 9001

* Our stock jar colours are amber & clear. Stock closure colours are white, blue, gold, green & black. For your own custom coloured closures, a minimum order of 5000 units will apply.

PHARMAPAC PPAC NEW ZEALAND MADE

www.pharmapac.co.nz