

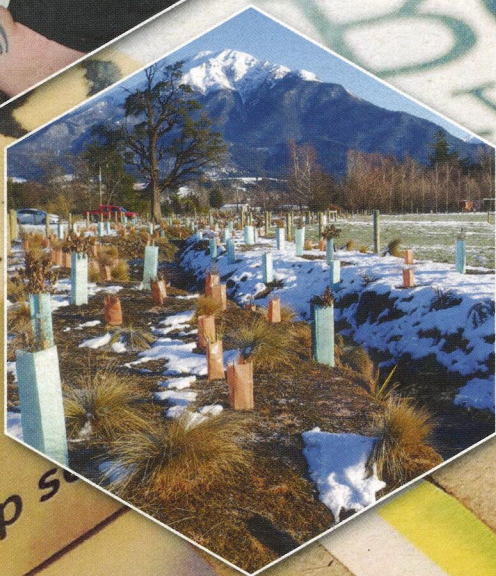
FOCUS ON AFB, EXOTIC DISEASES AND PESTS

OCTOBER 2016 | VOLUME 24 No. 9

The NEW ZEALAND BeeKeeper

Bee Aware Month roundup

ApiNZ Management Team



ey & help s

GIA and commodity levy

Ricki Leahy and John Hartnell

Conference/hui coverage

Various authors

Bees without borders

Linda Newstrom-Lloyd





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Front cover: Bee Aware Month 2016 was a great success, with thousands of New Zealanders getting involved by celebrating the month and backing the bee-friendly message with a vast range of activities. Reports start on page 4. Photo: Natasha Thyne.

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BEE AWARE MONTH

NEW ZEALANDERS SHOW LOVE FOR HONEY AND BEES

Natasha Thyne, ApiNZ Management Team



New Zealanders embraced the bee-friendly message this September, with Bee Aware Month proving to be a great success for the seventh year in a row.

From school kids planting bee-friendly gardens to apiary tours or participating in Facebook fun, there was no shortage of support for Kiwi bees.

The month was devoted to teaching New Zealanders, young and old, about bees and what they do for our biodiversity and economy. We also celebrated honey with the *Show Me the Honey* theme.

Thanks to Bayer Bee Care, more than 1000 schools across New Zealand were sent packets of bee-friendly seeds. Each packet came with an educational booklet about bees, their jobs as pollinators and why it's important to provide bee-friendly gardens as food.

Beekeepers visited schools through Comvita's bee education programme showing the pupils display hives.

Councils around the country got on the BAM bandwagon by planting bee-friendly gardens around their communities.

Wellington City Council aims to be a completely bee-friendly city. It is working towards that by using non-toxic products on the city's plants, growing seasonal flowers to support bee populations' delicate ecosystems, and having bee hives on public reserves.

Wellington cafés helped spread the word with Bee Aware Month stickers on coffee cup lids.

The Auckland City Council's Arataki Visitor Centre at the gateway to the Waitakere Ranges hosted *"Show Me the Honey"*-themed activities. Karlene and Terry from Earthbound Honey provided a series of educational talks with topics ranging from pollination and starting a hive to flowers and trees and honey tastings.

Special thanks to Analytica Laboratories executive director Steve Howse, Dennis

Greeks from Alchemy Beverages and *My Kitchen Rules New Zealand* winners Stella Robertson-Hale and Jess Rolinson-Purchase for providing helpful honey-related information during the month.

Steve provided information about all-things honey and gave insight into what goes into making it the best product it can be with his series of updates with topics, including tutin testing and what does the NPA or UMF of mānuka honey mean?

Stella and Jess's recipes showing different ways of using honey went down a treat with Facebook followers, as did Alchemy's mulled mead recipe.

Munch NZ, Sweetree Honey, Hunt and Gather Co. and Ecostore were also a huge support in offering up goods for giveaways on the BAM Facebook page.



A BAM-themed coffee cup lid.
Supplied: Sarah Adams.

Mac Ward celebrates Bee Week at Takapau School. Supplied: Mary-Anne Thomason.

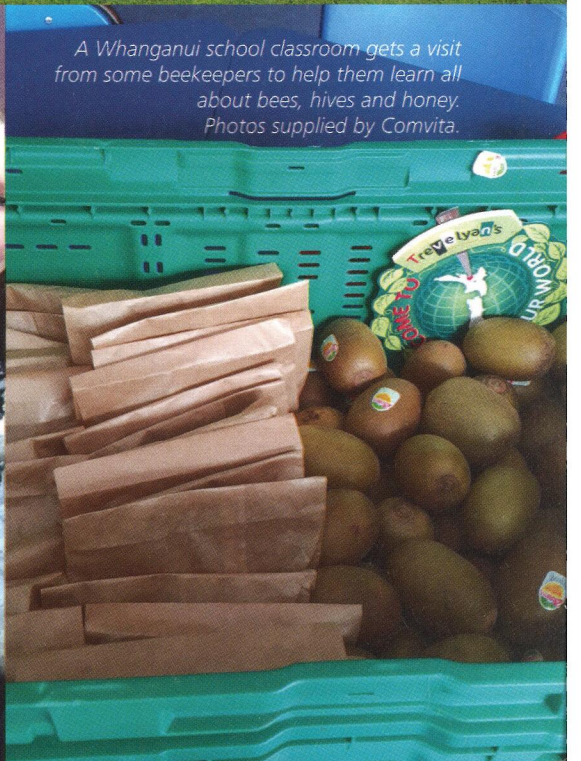




South Wairarapa District Council (SWDC) celebrated Bee Aware Month by extending its local bee-friendly wildflower patches, with help from local schools. The weather wasn't great, so it was lucky they had some friendly-bee umbrellas! In Featherston, children from St Theresa's School sowed more wildflower seeds into the bee-friendly patch at the Matthews pensioner flats.



Children from Martinborough School helped Hannah from City Care plant wildflower seeds in SWDC's bee-friendly patch at Centennial Park. Text supplied by Helen McNaught of SWDC. Photos: Trish Drury, who also supplied the awesome friendly-bee umbrellas!



A Whanganui school classroom gets a visit from some beekeepers to help them learn all about bees, hives and honey. Photos supplied by Comvita.

BEE AWARE MONTH

BEEKEEPER PASSES ON KNOWLEDGE TO SCHOOLS

More than 150 local Whanganui kids experienced what it's like to be a beekeeper first-hand when a beekeeper visited their schools as part of Bee Aware Month.

Comvita's Kiwi Bee Whanganui apiary ran a bee education programme in schools at Brunswick School and Waverley Primary on Thursday 8 September, and Kaitieke School on Friday 9 September.

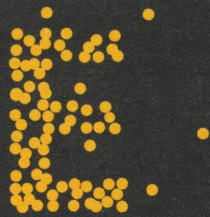
Following each hour-long educational session, the students were treated to a Comvita Bee Healthy snack, aimed at encouraging healthy eating among young people and drawing attention to the important role bees play in honey production and pollination.

Beekeepers from Comvita Kiwi Bee in Kerikeri, Hawke's Bay and Wairapa branches visited schools throughout September to celebrate all things bees and honey.

A Whanganui school classroom gets a visit from some beekeepers to help them learn all about bees, hives and honey.
Photos supplied by Comvita.



More BAM coverage on page 8.



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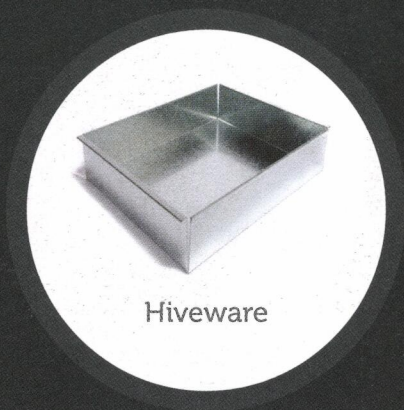
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BEE AWARE MONTH

KIWI BEES GET A BOOST FROM KIWI KIDS

Thousands of bee-friendly gardens will be blooming all over New Zealand, thanks to the next generation of bee-loving school children.

As part of Bee Aware Month (BAM) celebrations, Bayer and Apiculture New Zealand (ApiNZ), with the help of Yates, supplied 1,040 schools through Garden to Table Trust and Enviroschools with packets of bee-friendly plant seed mixes.

Bayer farm animal products marketing manager George Reeves said it wanted to help promote flowering gardens at schools to increase access to food and nesting habitats for bees and other pollinators.

As a responsible life science company with many years' experience in bee health topics, Bayer understands that healthy bees are necessary, not only as pollinators for sustainable food production and as honey producers, but also for the important role they play in many ecosystems around the world.

Bayer supplied the schools, aged from early childhood centres to secondary schools, with a packet of wildflower seeds which will provide food for bees all season long.

Each packet of seeds also came with an educational information booklet about the honey bee and how planting seeds can help.

ApiNZ CEO Daniel Paul said all of the organisations working together shared the same ethos of caring for the environment and honey bees in a sustainable way.

"Bees pollinate one-third of the food we eat and life without them would be a struggle.

"But it's a two-way street. Bees need us to plant food they can eat to keep them buzzing. At the moment the bee population here is increasing; there are close to 700,000 hives in NZ, but that doesn't mean the honey bee is free from challenges and they still need our help.

"It's great to see Kiwi kids getting involved and showing Kiwi bees some love. Hopefully, we are not only building bee-friendly gardens but the next generation of bee-friendly New Zealanders and maybe even beekeepers."



Book and Hugo plant bee-friendly seeds.

Immanuel makes sure the freshly planted seeds are watered.



Above: ApiNZ CEO Daniel Paul and Bayer New Zealand representative Hayden Paul with the Clyde Quay Green Team.
Below: Bella, Meg, Sophie R, Laura-Rose.
Photos: Natasha Thyne.





APICULTURE

NEW ZEALAND

THANK YOU

to our sponsors for your support at our 2016 National Conference

The New Zealand Apiculture Conference 2016, held at the Rotorua Energy Events Centre had over 1,400 registrations with a vast array of interesting topics, international speakers, educational workshops, practical learning and superb camaraderie.

Thank you to our sponsors, speakers, presenters, volunteers and especially to everyone who attended. We hope you learnt something new and made new connections plus strengthened existing ones.

Looking forward to 2017.

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COMMENTARY

ACKNOWLEDGING 103 YEARS OF THE NBA

Apiculture New Zealand Board

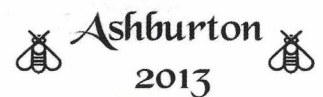
Many of us have been long-time members of the National Beekeepers Association (NBA) and will be proud of the achievements that the organisation has delivered over the past 103 years.

It took great wisdom to establish the NBA in 1913, during an era when travel was difficult and communication took time. There were obvious needs to establish better communication and to share knowledge amongst beekeepers. Even in those early days, beekeepers were facing challenges similar to those we experience today.

Acknowledgement must be given in recognising that the NBA was an organisation that served with great distinction in representing beekeepers throughout New Zealand. Many members throughout these years have done their part in serving at branch and national level to guide the association through all manner of challenges faced. Difficult decisions were addressed and resolved continually over these years, no doubt always with the intent to protect the good health of bees and with the best interests of all beekeepers and their livelihoods at heart.

Many will remember the vigorous toe-to-toe debates between passionate members of North and South Island as remits were thrashed out and policy positions established. We must recognise the insight and commitment of the NBA in establishing an industry Marketing Committee, funded by a commodity levy at that time. The resulting investigative work subsequently launched mānuka honey on to the world stage, returning billions of dollars back to the apiculture sector over the last two decades.

History is important, and the lessons learnt must not be forgotten, but clearly our industry continues to evolve and new challenges await us.



Some of the NBA life members at the Ashburton Conference. Photo: Jody Mitchell.

History is important, and the lessons learnt must not be forgotten, but clearly our industry continues to evolve and new challenges await us.

At the beginning of 2016, members of the NBA were asked to make a decision via a special postal vote held strictly by the rules of the association. Members voted to adopt a new updated constitution and to rebrand as Apiculture New Zealand. These changes have brought the NBA into a space where the constitution now reflects a more future-focused and inclusive environment for the wider industry.

All the key sentiments, goals and aspirations of the NBA will continue under the Apiculture New Zealand modern brand. Life

memberships have been carried forward, and the history and memories of the past will be protected in our very well-housed and managed Apiculture New Zealand Library for all members to share.

We acknowledge and thank all concerned.

All the key sentiments, goals and aspirations of the NBA will continue under the Apiculture New Zealand modern brand.



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APICULTURE NEW ZEALAND NATIONAL CONFERENCE

THE “HAILNET HIVE”, AND RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE KIWIFRUIT INDUSTRY

Beth Kyd (Zespri)

Zespri was proud to have been invited to speak on behalf of the kiwifruit industry at the recent ApiNZ conference. It was an outstanding event and the industry should be proud of the attendance and engagement.

Dennis Crowley of ApiNZ and I addressed a topic that is challenging both of our industries—how to pollinate Gold3 kiwifruit under hail netting. In last month's journal, I outlined the research Plant & Food Research has been doing over the last 18 months to help us understand why pollinating orchards which have been covered in hail net to protect kiwifruit from hail and wind damage is having such a detrimental effect on standard honey bee hives (Kyd, 2016).

These results suggest that using smaller colonies and feeding them a pollen supplement can improve results for honey bee colonies in covered orchards. These findings have led us to suggest that we try a different approach—a concept we are calling the “Hailnet Hive”.

The “Hailnet Hive”

The opportunity to present the idea of a “Hailnet Hive”—hives of pollen foragers made up specifically for pollinating under hail netting—to the beekeeping industry at the conference was hugely valuable.

The responses we received to this idea from beekeepers and others involved in the industry were encouraging. Some of the beekeepers we met at the conference are helping us to test the stocking rates of these hives in trials this year.

Our goal is to release a “Hailnet Hive” standard next year, which will be supported by results from trials in orchards this spring. Like many things, we are learning as we go and we are very grateful for the support of the beekeepers who are working with us to develop this idea into a practical solution.

Pollination services

While our talk addressed the issue of pollination under hail netting, both Dennis



Don MacLeod presenting at the Zespri pollination planning event, September 2016. Photo courtesy of Zespri. Read more on page 15.

and I also reflected on a history of the beekeeping and kiwifruit industries working together. The successful relationships between beekeepers and kiwifruit growers that have developed through the decades demonstrates that both industries' needs can be met if we communicate effectively.

For many years, pollination services have complemented a beekeeper's honey business. Although the balance between pollination and honey production has now tipped massively in favour of honey, the kiwifruit industry appreciates the support of beekeepers who continue to provide pollination services to growers.

Bee safety

In early September, Zespri invited ApiNZ to address growers at a pollination planning event where Don McLeod and Dennis Crowley spoke to over 100 growers from the outlook of the beekeeper. Don and Dennis reminded them that taking good care of bees is essential for good pollination and will help ensure beekeepers continue to supply our industry with bees in the future.

This season, Zespri's message to growers is that they must consider the impact of their

orchard activities on bees that may be visiting from neighbouring properties. A focus on open communication with beekeepers and neighbours—and ensuring that all possible steps are taken to keep bees safe—is more important than ever before.

Working together

Biosecurity is a common concern for both industries but there are other issues affecting both groups that we can work together on, such as the giant willow aphid, passion vine hopper and availability of healthy beehives. Our industries come together for a short but extremely crucial time for kiwifruit growers. We have worked through some major issues over the years and strong open relationships, open communication and collaboration have been pivotal. Continuing to focus on what is important from the viewpoint of both industries will ensure this cooperation can continue for long into the future.

Reference

Kyd, B. (2016, September). Pollinating Gold3 kiwifruit under hail net: A new approach. *The New Zealand Beekeeper*, 24(8), 26–27.

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FOCUS GROUP REPORTS: TECHNICAL

ZESPRI POLLINATION CONFERENCE

D.N. MacLeod, Technical Focus Group member

On 7 September, ApiNZ Board Member Dennis Crowley and I addressed the Zespri Pollination Conference on Bee Safety.

Our address focused on the following issues:

- the methiocarb poisonings of 2015 and the use of organosilicone surfactants
- the impact of giant willow aphid (GWA) control in and around orchards extends the risk period for honey bees well outside the normal willow flowering period. GWA sooty mould has been identified in kiwifruit. (Zespri is a contributor to the GWA pathogen study.)
- poor planning and faulty decisions cause the majority of problems for beekeepers. The key to bee safety is smart orchard planning and communications.

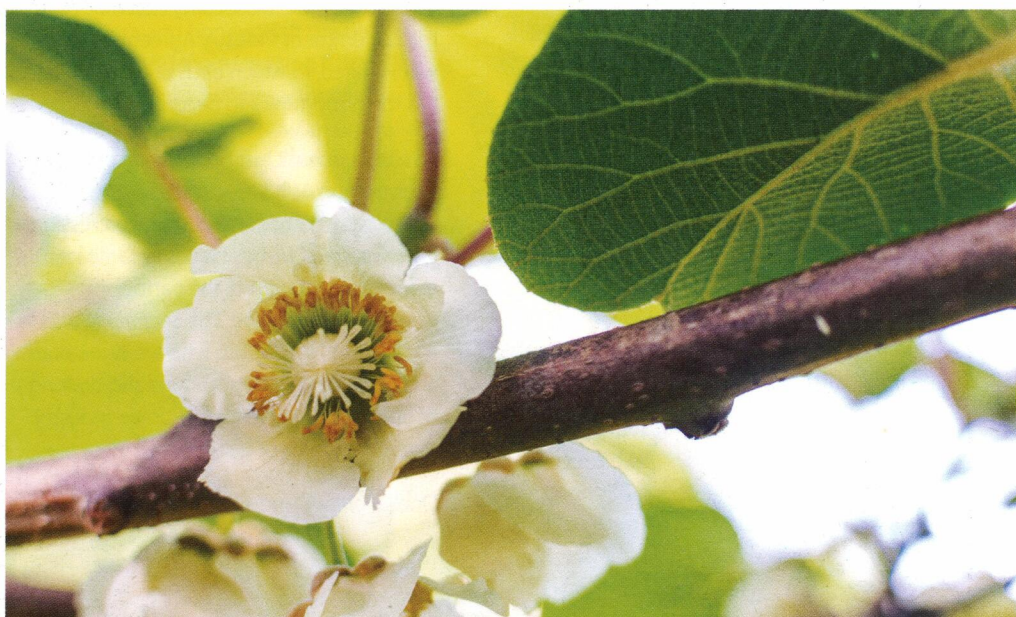
Honey bees are still the major pollinators of New Zealand's kiwifruit crop. Kiwifruit is one of the most challenging crops to successfully pollinate and with the advent of *Pseudomonas syringae* *pv.* *actinidiae* (Psa) and the netting of crops, the challenges are getting tougher. The three main methods of pollination are honey bees, harvested pollen being sprayed (either dry or wet) on the flowers, and bumble bees.

The challenges in ensuring a successful pollination season are many; e.g., male and female flowering synchronicity, large hives may not be as good as small ones, and split introductions (moving groups of hives in and out of orchards over shorter time intervals). Zespri supplies its growers with excellent support bulletins detailing many aspects to improve pollination success, ranging from pollination system evaluations, pollination planning, and tips for safely keeping bees in the orchard to details of common spring- and summer-flowering weeds.

Conference speakers included well-known faces such as Dr Mark Goodwin and Dr David Pattermore of Plant & Food Research and Ella Maxwell, William Max and Chrissy Stokes from the knowledgeable Zespri Orchard Productivity Centre.



Dennis Crowley presenting at the Zespri pollination planning event, September 2016. Co-presenter Don MacLeod is at left. Photo courtesy of Zespri.



The most interesting future initiative discussed is the future introduction of hermaphrodite kiwifruit clones. These clones currently are being developed and evaluated and will not require any third-party intervention for pollination, such as a foraging bee.



FOCUS GROUP REPORTS: GIA/BIOSECURITY

GETTING OUR GIA AND COMMODITY LEVY DUCKS IN A ROW ...

Ricki Leahy and John Hartnell

The effective functioning of New Zealand's biosecurity system is, without question, critical to the apicultural and horticultural industries. Both industries depend on a robust biosecurity regime to protect the good health and wellbeing of our livestock and the quality of our produce.

Funding our industry adequately is another fundamental necessity. At present we can't do the things that we should to drive value back into the industry. We cannot continue to depend on the minority to voluntarily fund benefit for the majority—it is neither sustainable nor equitable. Our industry must step up and address the key question of a commodity levy: it is a critical discussion with a must-do outcome.

Earlier this year, we took a key step to address these two issues. On 1 April 2016, Apiculture New Zealand (ApiNZ) was launched along with its new constitution that represents all sectors of the industry. ApiNZ is now recognised as the peak industry body and therefore able to represent industry on these two key issues—the Government Industry Agreement on Biosecurity and the application to Government to establish a commodity levy or levies.

So what is a GIA and how does it apply to apiculture?

The GIA story started back in 2003, when the government directed that a biosecurity strategy with a fresh approach was needed as to how New Zealand managed its biosecurity functions. A system of partnership relationships between individual primary industries and MPI was proposed with the objective of strengthening our biosecurity by sensibly utilising both industries and government's expertise to mutual benefit.

This partnership intention, after many false starts, is now finally documented within an agreement described as the GIA Deed. This Deed is an agreement between Government, through the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) and industry organisations that sign it. It establishes the basis for a transparent, consistent and equitable partnership to improve biosecurity readiness and response outcomes. The Government's intention is to involve the primary sectors directly with a more collaborative approach to managing risk across the whole biosecurity network. Hence the Government Industry Agreement (GIA) was initiated, to which each primary industry has the opportunity to become a signatory.

So all this doesn't just happen without some cogs turning. MPI has appointed a Secretariat which has a manager and skilled professionals from within MPI whose job is to facilitate the implementation of the partnerships described in the Deed. The Secretariat acts in the interests of all those who are signatories and facilitates the negotiations and drafting of operational agreements, should industry determine this is of benefit.

Once a primary industry has gone through an approved mandate process and Government has approved the GIA application, then that industry becomes a signatory to the Deed and has entitlement to appoint one person to represent their industry on the Deed Governance Group (DGG). Signatories sit at the governance table, with a single vote, and

Biosecurity is a shared responsibility and benefits all New Zealanders.

are part of any decision-making process that the DGG may be involved in.

Biosecurity is a shared responsibility and benefits all New Zealanders. We all have to be aware of how important it is to protect our borders from all types of incursions. We have probably all seen border security items on television of pests being found in imported cars, tyres, animal feed products and containers. You might think that this has nothing to do with bees, but we are sure none of us really wants to work our hives wondering if there is a snake coiled up underneath. This does, however, illustrate that New Zealand's biosecurity involves us all. Far more devastating for beekeepers would be the consequences of small hive beetle (SHB) larvae unexpectedly arriving here, perhaps as easily as in a handful of earth jammed under a pallet.

Within our industry, the greatest incursion threats may well be microscopic in the form of viruses or spores. The serious biosecurity risk of imported honey entering New Zealand remains our primary focus. Honey can easily harbour the spores of European foulbrood

(EFB) or any virus such as the Israeli acute paralysis virus (IAPV) that are not present at this time. The impact of their entry on our bees would be devastating. The Ministry for Primary Industries represents the front line of protection. MPI's role is imperative, whether it is an illegal commercial shipment or a single jar in a suitcase. One mistake has the potential to seriously impact our business and bee health nationally and is a real threat that cannot be taken lightly.

Why should the apiculture industry sign a GIA?

There are many sensible reasons why we should sign up to a GIA. The apiculture industry has a huge investment to protect. The whole industry depends on the health of our bees. There are biosecurity risks out there that can affect our bees, so we need to position ourselves so we are able to offer industry knowledge and expertise in any biosecurity decision-making process. Why on earth would we leave decisions that affect our livelihoods to others who may not have the depth of knowledge? Clearly it is our responsibility to limit risk for the apiculture sector; therefore we have a responsibility to sign the deed and take our rightful seat at the GIA governance table.

Why on earth would we leave decisions that affect our livelihoods to others who may not have the depth of knowledge?

To date, nine primary industries have become signatories to GIA and four others are working through the process of attaining that required mandate from their respective members. As part of this process, consideration must be given to other primary industries that depend on our bees for the pollination of their crops. These industries have an expectation that the apiculture industry will also become a signatory. As recognised beneficiaries they also have a vested interest in maintaining the good health of our bees, and will potentially be a party to cost sharing involving future apiculture operational agreements.

Achieving a mandate and signing up to a GIA is a sensible first step. The mandate would include a zero-rated biosecurity levy that would only be activated if and only when an incursion of a serious nature triggered

a response requirement. This may or may not be covered under a predetermined operational agreement. Minimal commitment includes securing appropriately skilled and committed people to engage in readiness and response activities, communication with industry membership, working with MPI on developing operational agreements, paying our share of the Secretariat's cost and generally keeping up to speed with biosecurity issues. All these industry costs need to become budgeted items for Apiculture New Zealand.

Actually, we need to get our ducks in a row first. Each primary industry must demonstrate to the Minister for Primary Industries that they have been through a process of communication with their respective members and have achieved a mandate that signing the GIA Deed would have industry support. The process will involve communicating to industry nationally, in our case most likely using the regional ApiNZ Hubs as the point of contact. It will require a well-planned communication process that gives all of industry the chance to understand the facts and implications of signing up to a GIA. The cost of this communication process must be funded by industry and may involve regional roadshow activity.

Why is a commodity levy so important?

Our industry is riding a very prosperous wave at present. All of our stakeholders are benefiting from the early work undertaken by a marketing sub-committee formed in the early 1990s to deliver greater value for our New Zealand honey. With the help of Dr Peter Molan and the marketing flair of Bill Floyd, the mānuka honey sector was born, it has prospered and it is now an unrivalled international success story. This work was achieved using the then industry commodity levy, something the majority of us have either forgotten or simply did not know. Not

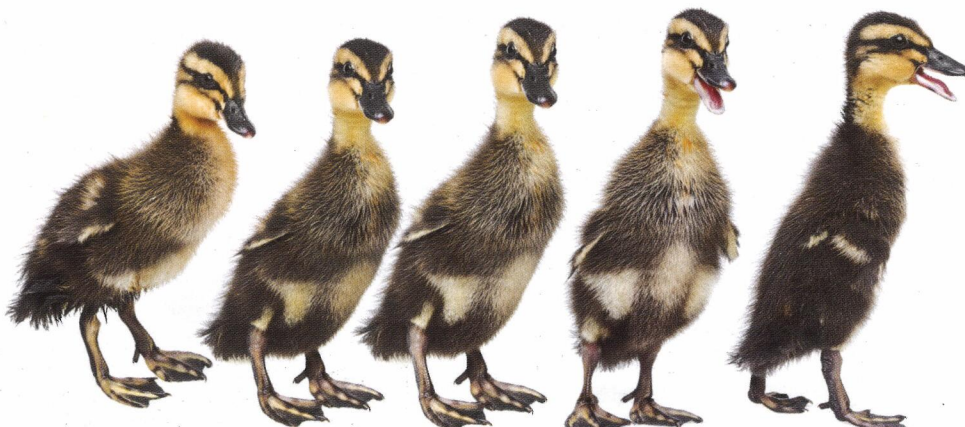
one of us would question the value delivered for industry on what was a relatively small budget. At that time the commodity levy was approximately \$1.40 per hive, honey prices were around \$2.00 per kilo. So let's look forward to 2016. Honey prices are now at a minimum \$12 per kilo, the ApiNZ subscription levy is \$1.00 per hive ... do we need to say more?

Conscious that ApiNZ must live within its current financial means, but recognising the need to undertake critical science, research, biosecurity and market development, the ApiNZ Board is very clear in its belief that the first priority for industry is to achieve a mandate and strike a commodity levy.

This levy could then be allocated under industry direction to the various critical projects that at present we are struggling to fund, which is an appalling situation and extremely embarrassing to say the least. Dollar-for-dollar subsidies, and in most cases an even greater leverage, could be negotiated to provide an advantage to certain projects that benefit the wider apiculture sector and our other industry partners and stakeholders.

As a starting point, it is obviously critically important to get our industry's finances sorted first. To become well-funded is a key step and the first duck in the row. It is important that we have an industry 'fighting fund' available at all times to tackle those issues that affect our industry. A commodity levy will target a broad contribution base from our commercial and market sectors, and it will ensure the burden of cost is shared by those who will benefit the most.

As a starting point, it is obviously critically important to get our industry's finances sorted first.



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FOCUS GROUP REPORTS: RESEARCH

COMBATTING THE GIANT WILLOW APHID THREAT

Barry Foster, Chair, Apiculture New Zealand Research Focus Group

In late July 2016, the Sustainable Farming Fund (SFF) announced funding of collaborative research into methods to combat the giant willow aphid (GWA). The project team, led by Apiculture New Zealand (including Barry Foster and Dr John McLean from the ApiNZ Research Focus Group), together with scientists from Scion and Plant & Food Research, leapt into action to finalise the cash contributions from industry.

Scion's entomology team, working with a number of partners, immediately began working to identify natural overseas enemies of GWA that could be utilised as biological control agents. The search for resistant willow varieties is also under way in collaboration with Plant & Food Research.

Andrew Pugh from Scion travelled to Japan in August to locate collection sites for giant willow aphids and to look for incidence and timing of attack by parasitic wasps (parasitoids). He was hosted by Kenichi Ozaki at the Forestry and Forest Products Research Institute in Tsukuba. Some parasitoids have already been successfully reared from collected aphids, and are awaiting identification by a taxonomic expert in Japan.

This initial Japan visit is vital for planning a subsequent trip in 2017 to collect and import the live parasitoids to the containment facility

Dead remains of giant willow aphids on a willow in Japan, after parasitoids have emerged. Photo: Andrew Pugh, Scion, 2016.



Barry Foster recently visited Scion's biological containment facility at Rotorua, where he was hosted by Dr Toni Withers (left) and Dr Stephanie Sopow, who are involved with the GWA parasitoid project. Photo: Barry Foster.

at Scion in Rotorua. By that time, Scion will have prepared colonies of giant willow aphid ready for the parasitoids to infest and will be able to test the efficacy of the new organism for its control potential. After testing on giant willow aphid and establishing a parasitoid colony, trials will be conducted on other aphid species to make sure they are not affected by the parasitoid. The photograph at left shows empty 'aphid mummies' AFTER the parasitoid has eaten out their insides and exited from the dead remains. It may appear gruesome, but it is a pleasing sight to Scion entomologists!

Dr Stephanie Sopow, also from Scion, travelled to California in September with the same aims as Andrew Pugh. She will be based at the University of California, Davis. Sourcing the biological control agent from two areas of the world will provide greater genetic diversity among the parasitoids collected, and may increase chances of success for controlling the population of giant willow aphid in different climatic regions of New Zealand. Looking for parasitoids in two countries also provides Scion with a backup plan in case anything goes wrong along the complex chain of events needed to successfully import a live agent and establish a population in containment.

FUNDING ASSISTANCE SOUGHT

We are looking for further co-funding for this project. Simply put, we can do more with more, so it's not too late to be a contributor to this group. If you'd like to be a part of the solution to this pest, please phone Barry Foster (06) 867 4591 or contact our CEO Daniel Paul at ApiNZ Wellington, (04) 471 6254.



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Stu Ferguson



PRODUCT ANALYSIS

Minerals and Trace Elements (mg/L - ppm)	
Nitrogen 50.35	Potassium 2134.84
Sulphur 271.89	Magnesium 211.47
Sodium 1701.83	Copper 0.064
Manganese 0.041	Molybdenum 0.01
Selenium 0.01	Boron 6.060
Cobalt 0.010	

Vitamins Vitamin A, Vitamin C, Vitamin E, Vitamins B1, B2, B3, B5, B12, Fucoxanthin, Choline, Folic Acid

Amino Acid (mg/100gm)	
Aspartic Acid 7.17	Threonine 1.72
Glutamic Acid 19.19	Prolin 0.90
Alanine 8.64	Valine 1.90
Leucine 1.71	Tyrosine 1.41
Lysine 1.85	Histidine 0.68
Arginine 1.50	Cystine 2.05
Methionine 0.47	Tryptophan 0.21
	Serine 1.91
	Glycine 2.62
	Isoleucine 0.87
	Phenylalanine 1.31

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FOCUS GROUP REPORTS: TECHNICAL

EPA DECIDES AGAINST APPLICATIONS

D.N. MacLeod, Technical Focus Group member

As reported in last month's journal, The Apiculture New Zealand Technical Focus Group recently appeared at two Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) hearings; namely, APP202093 Grizly Max® and APP202774 aerial application of Exirel®. The EPA has published its decision, which is not to approve either application.

APP202093 Grizly Max® is a formulation of three active ingredients that are already on the market. The EPA Decision Committee noted that the risks posed by Grizly Max® are non-negligible, but do outweigh any benefits that may be forthcoming for the product users. Note that the applicant did not consider the benefits of using Grizly Max® would outweigh the benefits already being gained in the sector from using the active ingredients in existing products.

This decision is interesting as it clearly states that to have a product approved, the applicant needs to show that benefits of that product need to be significantly better than products it replaces. Finally, the EPA noted that any potential benefits are outweighed by the risks to earthworms and other soil organisms. The product Grizly Max® was not approved.ⁱ

APP202774 was for the aerial application of Exirel® insecticide, which is already approved for use by ground spray on fodder brassica crops. The EPA did not decide in favour of the EPA staff report, which recommended the approval of this application.

The Decision Committee noted the following with respect to claimed benefits in their decision:

- there was no quantified evidence showing a claimed safety benefit to farm workers (section 8.6 Decision);
- that avoidance of ground compaction from ground sprayers would happen with aerial spraying, but the applicant did not discuss livestock pugging leading to ground compaction (section 8.7 Decision);



- that the applicant presented no evidence to show an increase in crops to be protected if this application was successful (sections 8.8 and 8.9 Decision).

The EPA Decision Committeeⁱⁱ clearly felt that the claimed benefits of aerial application did not stack up against the current practice of ground spraying. Therefore it did not approve the application.

Of particular interest is that the EPA Decision Committee did not resolve the huge variation in defined aerial spraying buffer zones (MacLeod, 2016, p.23) where the applicant proposed 100 metres and EPA staff only 10 metres in hill country. If these proposed 'no aerial spray buffer zones' are to become used as controls of hazardous pesticides, then we all need to see the complete modelling and

calculations of how they are determined. At the moment, even the EPA is not revealing its modelling and the applicant only released six pages of its 198-page study. No spray buffer zones are recognised as a suitable method to prevent crop spray drift into neighbouring environments.

Significantly, both of these decisions were the result of poor applications, which claimed benefits of the substance and its use but these benefits were not clearly described and quantified.

Reference

MacLeod, D. N. (2016, September). Working with Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu. *The New Zealand BeeKeeper*, 24(8), 22–25.

ⁱ http://www.epa.govt.nz/search-databases/HSNO%20Application%20Register%20Documents/APP202093_APP202093_Decision_FINAL_correct_dates.pdf

ⁱⁱ http://www.epa.govt.nz/search-databases/HSNO%20Application%20Register%20Documents/APP202774_APP202774_Exirel_Decision_FINAL.pdf

TREES FOR BEES CORNER

BEES WITHOUT BORDERS: WHAT IS THE LIMIT?

Linda Newstrom-Lloyd (Trees for Bees)



New Zealand has become the 'California' of the southern hemisphere in terms of hive numbers and hive density. Almond pollination drives the demand for millions of hives needed in California, while mānuka honey drives the demand for hundreds of thousands of hives in New Zealand.

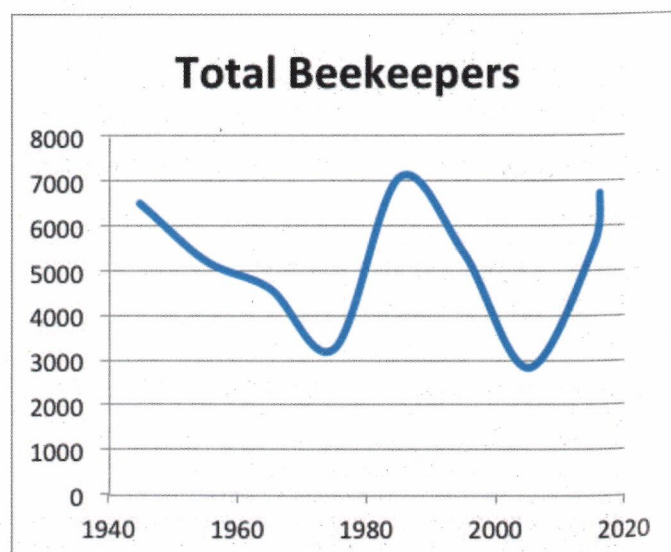
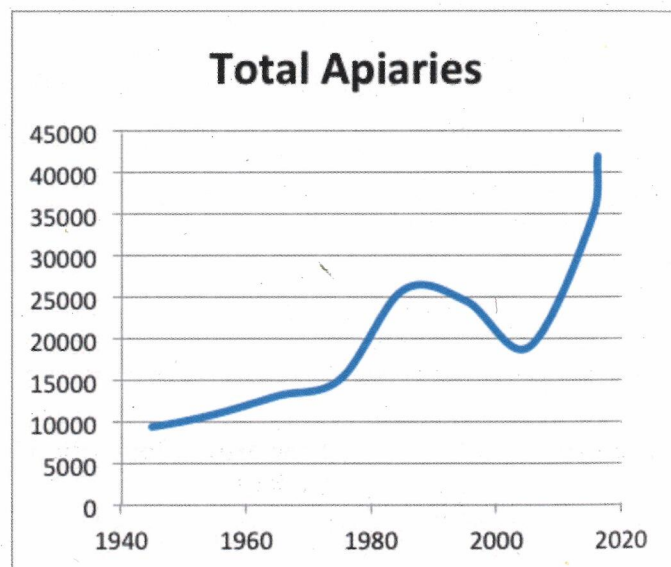
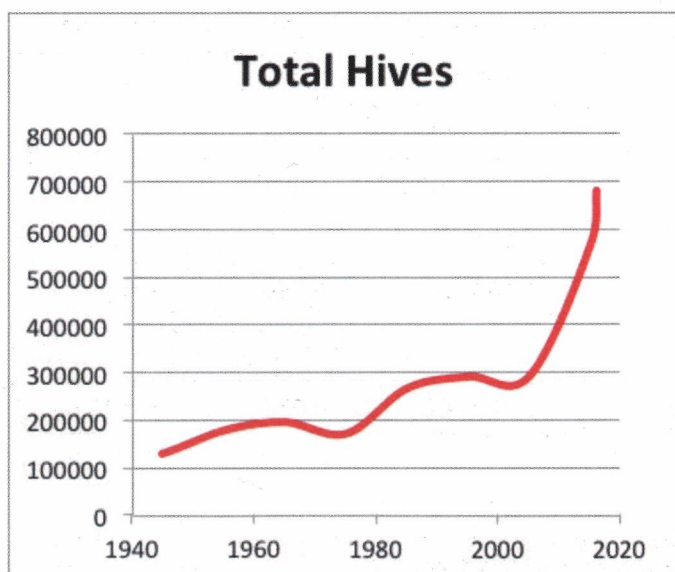
California is supplied with beehives by migratory hives from Florida and other states where abundant floral resources are available in winter and early spring to sustain and build-up colonies. In contrast, New Zealand is a small, isolated oceanic island and cannot import migratory beehives. We are confined to only 263,310 km² of land—much of it unsuitable for beekeeping because it is too wet, too cold, too windy or too dry, according to beekeeper John Berry.

Looking at the 70-year trend, New Zealand's hive numbers have grown exponentially in the last five years to an unprecedented 700,000 managed colonies. Never before has New Zealand held this many domesticated hives. Never before have hive numbers increased so rapidly. Historically, feral hives with wild bees have never existed in such concentrated densities.

To ask if we are over the limit is to ask the most difficult question: what is the carrying capacity of the land? Even if we planted up every suitable square metre with the best mānuka cultivars (eco-sourced or not) along with the maximum number of Trees for Bees plants to provide support for autumn and spring forage, would we be able to meet the market expectations for mānuka honey production? Can New Zealand's apiculture industry cope with this rapid exponential increase? What is the limit to growth in this sector and equally important, what are the consequences to the pastoral, horticultural and arable sectors that require pollination services in the midst of more lucrative honey harvesting opportunities?

To ask if we are over the limit is to ask the most difficult question: what is the carrying capacity of the land?

Figure 1. Number of hives, apiaries, and beekeepers over 70 years in New Zealand from 1945 to 2016. Data from Murray Reid,ASUREQuality Limited.





International comparisons of hive density

To put this rapid rise in hive numbers in perspective, let's compare New Zealand's density of hives per land area in the context of population density to other major beekeeping countries and regions. For this viewpoint, we are looking at overall hive density for total land area, and not small scale estimates of actual hives/ha. For context, we are using the number of hives per capita, not the number of hives per beekeeper.

As shown in the table, the density of hives over the total land area in New Zealand is 2.658 hives/km² — similar to California with

The density of hives over the total land area in New Zealand is 2.658 hives/km² — similar to California with 3.538 hives/km².

3,538 hives/km². Looking at an island nation with comparable land area to New Zealand (but with more land available to beekeeping), the United Kingdom with 1.13 hives/km² has less than half the density of hives as New Zealand while the other countries listed

have much less; for example, USA, Germany, and Canada. It is difficult to obtain accurate current beehive and beekeeper data for most countries; it may be that Italy and Turkey have similar hive densities per land area to New Zealand but they both have much smaller numbers of hives per beekeeper.

New Zealand actually has the same number of hives as a country as large as Canada at 700,000. Even if we consider only a tenth of the land area of Canada to be available to beekeeping (a conservative estimate), the density of hives in New Zealand is three and half times greater than 10% of Canadian land area.

Country	Land area (sq km)*	Population**	Pop Density (per sq km)**	Number of Beehives****	Density Hives (per sq km) of land area	Beehives per capita
California	423,970	38,800,000	91.5	1,500,000	3.538	0.0387
New Zealand	263,310	4,595,700	17.5	700,000	2.658	0.1523
United Kingdom	241,930	65,138,232	269.2	274,000	1.134	0.0042
United States	9,147,420	321,418,820	35.1	2,740,000	0.299	0.0085
Germany	348,540	81,413,145	233.6	55,560	0.159	0.0007
Canada (at 10% land estimated to be available for apiculture)	909,351	35,851,774	n/a	700,000	0.759	n/a
Canada total land area	9,093,510	35,851,774	3.9	700,000	0.076	0.0195

* <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/AG.LND.TOTL.K2>

** <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POP.TOTL>

*** <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/EN.POP.DNST>

**** Beehive numbers were obtained from various internet sources for each country. Details available on request. California data comes from <http://www.ipl.org/div/stateknow/popchart.html> and other Internet sources. The number of hives for California includes the migratory hives in spring.

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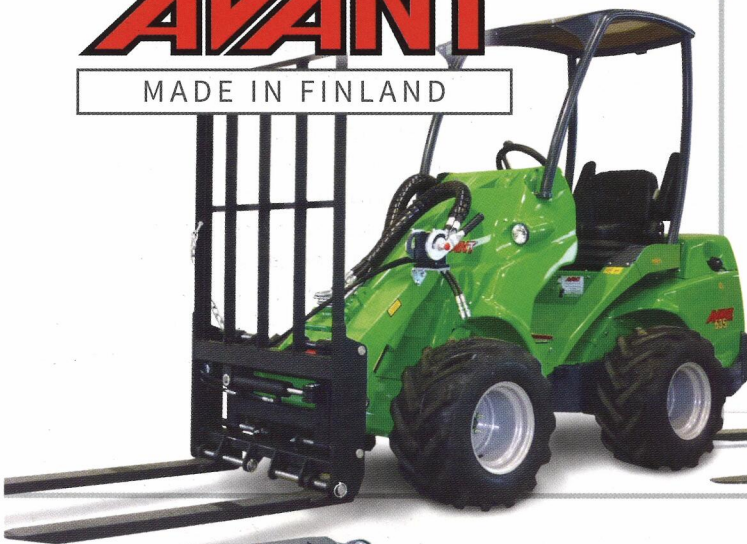
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Understanding overstocking and diminishing returns

Taking the above facts into account, as a nation, has New Zealand exceeded the limit? Can our foraging resources sustain increasing hive numbers? How will we know if carrying capacity is reached?

Traditionally, beekeepers know by trial and error over a number of years just how many hives per apiary and how many apiaries per region will give them the best return for their investment. Customarily, this information is passed on when beekeeping operations are sold. Beekeepers gain skills in estimating the carrying capacity of new apiary sites by recognising familiar vegetation types. They are cautious to begin with and then increase stocking until they experience diminishing returns for the extra hives they add to the apiary. Experienced beekeepers know that too many hives create an unviable apiary because excess bees increases the cost of production and reduces honey yields and profits. Too many bees will use all of the available nectar for their own maintenance leaving nothing for producing honey. Using an analogy to dairy cows, why would a farmer put 1000 cows on land that can only carry 500 cows that produce equal or more milk on that same land area as the 1000 cows?

The cost of production is one key to understanding overstocking. The health of the animal is the second key.

The cost of production is one key to understanding overstocking. The health of the animal is the second key. Malnourished or starving animals succumb to disease and perform poorly. Purchasing protein supplements is expensive and can be risky in terms of biosecurity if it is imported. Artificial protein supplements are necessary when bees have no other option, but the problem is that overstocking leads to the use of excessive artificial supplements that soon become prolonged whole diet substitutes, which can easily lead to nutrient deficiencies (palm kernel for dairy cows, for example). This will lead to health issues in bees as much as in any other animal, especially since the nutrient requirements of honey bees are so poorly understood at this time. The rapid increase in the use of bee feed supplements beyond a normal level is the primary evidence that carrying capacity has been reached and exceeded in many regions.

Reduced honey yields and activity levels as well as competition for apiary sites, both for mānuka honey production and for overwintering hives, provides further evidence. Since honey bees were first brought into New Zealand in the early 1800s to improve the pollination of clover and crops, the number of beekeepers, apiaries and hives has grown slowly over the decades, with fluctuations depending on disease and pest problems (e.g., AFB, varroa), as well as the relative economic returns from honey and pollination contracts. This slow growth up to 2005 is shown in the graph above. Along with this increase, a trustworthy infrastructure evolved with workable best-practice guidelines that everyone followed, namely a three-kilometre separation distance between apiary sites and a best estimated number of hives for each apiary site, depending on the climate and floristic resources of the area. As beekeeping expanded, eventually this separation distance was reduced to two kilometres.

In the last few years, however, this separation distance and the reasoning behind it has increasingly been ignored. This practice has become widespread with novice beekeepers and landowners (albeit unwittingly) participating in apiary takeovers, border stacking, and overstocking without understanding the consequences to themselves or others.

continued...





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Bees do not observe any man-made boundaries, fenced or not, that is within bee foraging range.

Although some of this behaviour is deliberate, some of it is innocent. Many landowners, novice beekeepers, financial investors, shareholders, bank managers, government policy makers, and enthusiastic start-up honey companies do not know or do not want to know what hive carrying capacity is or why separation distances are necessary. They do not understand that bees operate without borders. Bees do not observe any man-made boundaries, fenced or not, that is within bee foraging range. They fly anywhere within their foraging range. This range is from two to five kilometres, and even up to 12 kilometres if a rich nectar source is preferred at such a distance.

Furthermore, unsuspecting landowners do not know that overstocking leads to reduced honey yields and poor colony performance and survival. For instance, one landowner allowed 120 hives to be added to the farm in the middle of two traditional apiary sites, each with only 20 hives and a two-kilometre separation distance between them. These apiary sites were stable and at carrying capacity. They have been in the same place

for well over 20 years. The landowner was paid to allow this overstocking and told the traditional beekeepers not to worry because the new beekeepers said they were going to feed the added hives with protein supplement and sugar solution. The landowner did not know that bees prefer natural pollen to protein supplement, or that the new beekeeper was 'muscling in' to get access to the natural pollen and nectar resources or else they would not have paid the farmer for access to the site.

And herein we find a part of the solution to this complex problem in today's beekeeping. It is not surprising to hear that landowners are starting to learn by bitter experience after contracting with beekeepers for promised honey yields or clover pollination that did not eventuate. Slowly the word is spreading among landowners. It is heartening to learn that landowners are starting to agree with traditional beekeepers that the consequence of overstocking is that everybody inevitably loses.

Moving forward

It is beyond the scope of this article to discuss the consequences of overstocking to pollination services and the wellbeing of native bees and other pollinators, because the most urgent first priority is to inform everyone that honey bees without borders have a limit. Experienced beekeepers honour and understand the two-kilometre limit very well. The more experienced beekeepers can

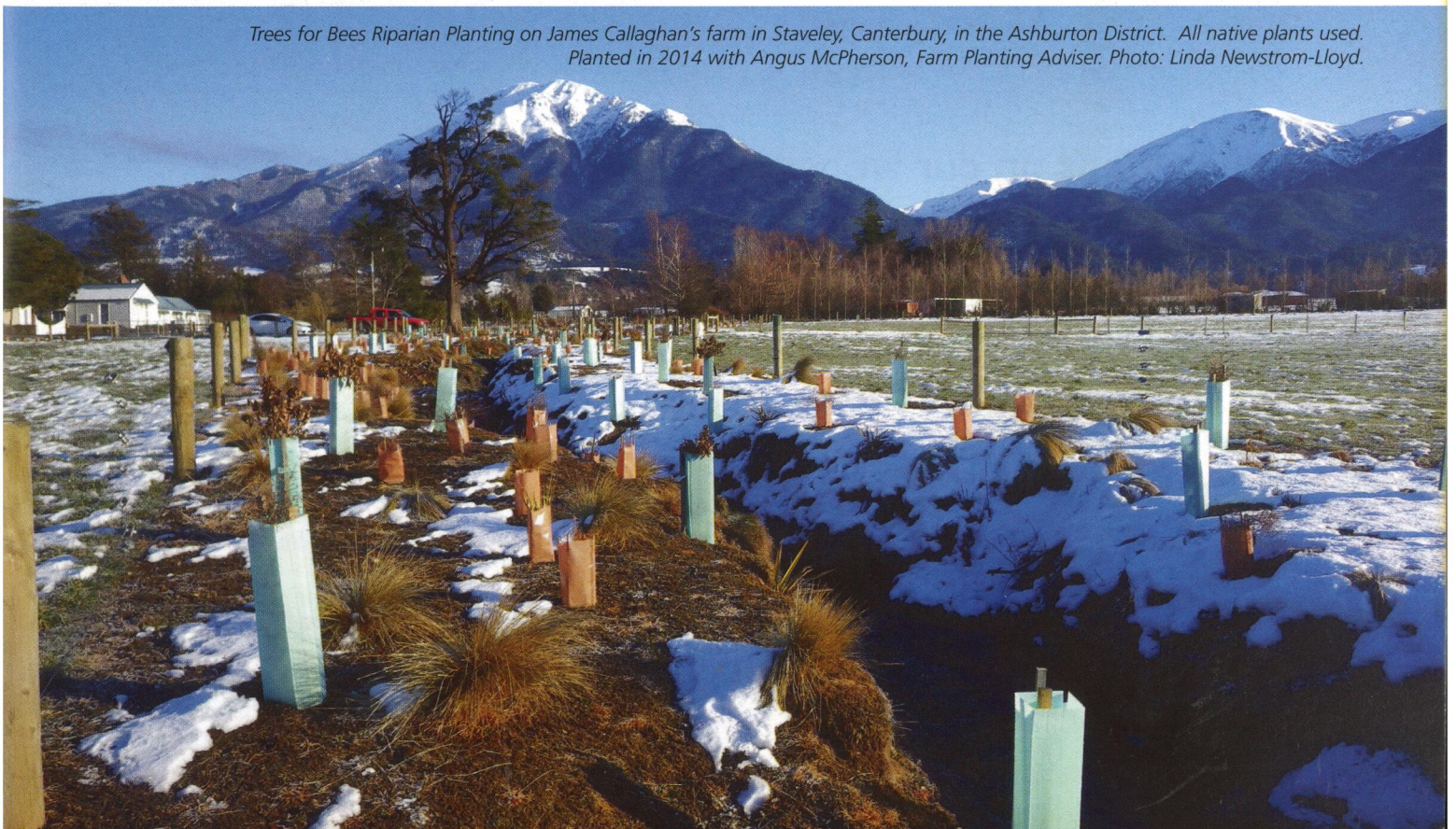
estimate the limit with more accuracy to keep their cost of production at the right level.

Let us hope that educational material can be developed and distributed widely and that word of mouth can spread quickly to stop the wasteful and expensive practices of overstocking and dishonouring the two-kilometre separation distance rule, as well as ignoring the carrying capacity limits for the number of hives at each apiary. Let us hope that immediate and significant planting of additional floral resources, particularly for spring build-up and wintering sites, can be actioned to alleviate overstocking and competition. See www.treesforbeesnz.org for ideas and "how to" information.

And let us hope that plantations of superior eco-sourced or fully domesticated cultivars of mānuka can be planted up rapidly to meet the market demands the apiculture industry now face. The outrageous claims of honey returns in terms of both yield and price, and the simplistic approach to beekeeping by newcomers and those hungry for success needs to be countered by real information before more landowners and novice beekeepers are disappointed and in some cases, severely disadvantaged financially.

We are encouraged to learn that ApiNZ is developing a beekeeping Code of Practice, which will address many of these challenges; how this will be received and adopted by industry will be interesting to follow.

Trees for Bees Riparian Planting on James Callaghan's farm in Staveley, Canterbury, in the Ashburton District. All native plants used. Planted in 2014 with Angus McPherson, Farm Planting Adviser. Photo: Linda Newstrom-Lloyd.





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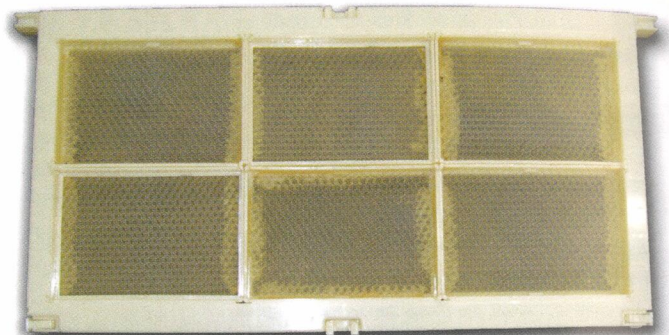
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HEALTH AND SAFETY

ANAPHYLAXIS: HAVE A PLAN!

Compiled from material from the Allergy New Zealand website and The New Zealand BeeKeeper

The new beekeeping season has begun. Now that the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 (HSWA) is in force, it is imperative that employers and individual beekeepers take additional measures to ensure that everyone is safe at work.

For beekeepers, the workplace can often be a remote location and the risks include allergic reactions or anaphylactic shock from bee or wasp sting(s). Hobbyists also need to be safe when working bees, whether at the club hives or elsewhere.

Allergic reactions can happen to seasoned beekeepers as well as new beekeepers. We all must be on guard if someone beside us is having difficulties after being stung.

Visit the Allergy New Zealand website

Allergy New Zealand has a wealth of valuable information about anaphylaxis on its website: <http://www.allergy.org.nz/A-Z+Allergies/Anaphylaxis.html>

This information includes downloadable resources such as:

- Anaphylaxis Action Plans: includes signs of allergic reaction and anaphylaxis and the actions to take, including how to give an EpiPen®
- EpiPen® Trainers & DVD (from their online shop)
- Adrenaline Autoinjectors for General Use guidelines.

Allergy New Zealand also offers free e-Anaphylaxis (online) training for the community from the Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy (ASCIA). This includes information for parents, friends, carers or patients themselves; sporting clubs, playgroups and workplaces.

We encourage everyone to visit the Allergy New Zealand website to learn more about signs and treatment of allergic reaction and anaphylaxis, and to download the Anaphylaxis Action Plans and have them available in your first aid kits.

Those at risk of anaphylaxis should also download the Anaphylaxis Management Plan, also available from the Allergy New Zealand website.

© ASCIA 2016 This plan was developed as a medical document that can only be completed and signed by the patient's medical or nurse practitioner and cannot be altered without their permission.

EpiPen® and Anapen®

The Allergy New Zealand website also provides information about EpiPen® and Anapen®. These are two different brands of adrenaline autoinjectors, and each has a Junior version (EpiPen® Jr and Anapen® Jr).

It is important to be aware that EpiPen® and Anapen® have different techniques for administering the product. Allergy New Zealand advises that "only one brand should be prescribed per individual and their ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis must be specific for the brand they have been prescribed".

**For Anapen® information,
go to www.analert.com**

**For EpiPen® information,
go to www.epiclub.com**

You do not need a prescription to purchase either an EpiPen® or an Anapen®, but as a

pharmacist-only medicine you will need to purchase it from a pharmacist.

Other strategies

In the October 2013 journal, as part of an article entitled 'Anaphylactic shock', Jason Ward of Central Hawke's Bay company Kintail Honey shared its procedure for managing bee allergy. These strategies included:

- stocking medication for bee allergy in their first aid kits, along with a 'BEE ALLERGY — Anaphylactic Shock' algorithm card to assess and act according to signs and symptoms
- developing a good relationship with their local pharmacist, who stocked their first aid kits
- having a registered nurse train all staff about anaphylaxis and the 'bee allergy' algorithm
- having all staff, including seasonal employees, complete a pre-employment health questionnaire asking about 'allergies' with specific reference to bees
- providing annual anaphylaxis refresher training for all permanent staff during quieter winter months, and for seasonal employees at induction. This includes discussion about the risks of bee venom exposure to their family members from their beekeeping clothing and other gear.

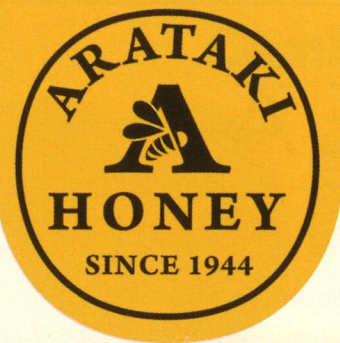
[Editor's note: please also refer to the article by OnFarmSafety New Zealand on page 39 about other aspects of developing a health and safety (H&S) plan, including questions to ask any potential H&S professional.]

Sources

Allergy New Zealand. Anaphylaxis. Retrieved September 17, 2016 from <http://www.allergy.org.nz/A-Z+Allergies/Anaphylaxis.html>.

Ward, J. (2013, October). Kintail Honey's procedure. *The New Zealand BeeKeeper*, 21(9), 23–25.

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NATIONAL MĀORI MĀNUKA HUI

CONFERENCE CREATES A BUZZ WITH MĀORI

Stuart Fraser, ApiNZ Board member

A conference aimed at helping Māori take mānuka honey to the world has ignited a real buzz in the industry. More than 350 Māori landowners, beekeepers and honey industry players attended the first National Māori Mānuka Hui in Rotorua, 4–5 August 2016.

The hui, organised by He Kai Kei Aku Ringa (The Crown–Māori Economic Growth Partnership), was called to inspire and ignite Māori growth and development in the Mānuka honey industry. Mānuka honey provides a significant opportunity for Māori landowners, whose mānuka resources make up over 14 percent of the total New Zealand resource.

The key issues discussed were science and regulations, DOC concessions, hive placement and boundary riding, plant genetics, brands and marketing, skills and training, value-added product, IP protection, supply chain and how to work best as an industry.

In opening the hui, Associate Minister of Economic Development and Minister for Māori Development, Te Ururoa Flavell, said its purpose was to provide information for landowners on both the risks and rewards of participation in the production and marketing of mānuka honey. Speakers included existing

Blanche Murray, Managing Director of Kairoa Honey.



The Hon Te Ururoa Flavell and Doug Poharama of Whanau Trust. Paul Villicky Clarke of Whanau Trust is at the far left.



continued...



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- Hand saw: ~~\$27.50~~ NOW \$14.50
- Hand scraper: ~~\$18.60~~ NOW \$9.50
- Red brush: ~~\$12.99~~ NOW \$6.99
- Smoker: ~~\$32.00~~ NOW \$13.50
- Hand scraper: ~~\$35.00~~ NOW \$19.99



Above: Participants at the hui.

Māori participants in the industry, participants in the wider industry such as the largest honey producer, Comvita, scientists, technical experts and public sector agencies.

There was a real hunger for the knowledge officials and experts in the industry brought to the hui. Te Ururoa Flavell commented,

"It's important for Māori to understand the whole value chain, from land to trees, bees, science, regulation and markets. We recognise both the value and challenges required to grow this major export industry sustainably."

He Kai Kei Aku Ringa (The Crown–Māori Economic Growth Partnership) will no doubt be kept very busy in the coming months with a range of ideas from the conference.

Further regional hui are being held in the regions where interest in the industry is highest. It has been recommended that a national Māori mānuka working group be set with key industry players.

Congratulations to the organising team and agencies on bringing together the opportunity for the development of greater regional growth through the Mānuka Māori hui. ApiNZ is confident there are great opportunities for Māori to enjoy successful business ventures within the industry and looks forward to working with everyone who wants to become involved.

ApiNZ was delighted to support this hui in conjunction with Te Puni Kōkiri, MBIE, MPI and Te Whare Wananga O Awanuiārangī.

The depth and breadth of understanding, questioning and desire to engage on a range

of issues around apiculture was matched equally by the variety of developmental approaches displayed over the two days.

"The preparedness to commit to apiculture, from such a diverse degree of established

entities as well as new players into the industry, was representative of the caliber and quality of the Iwi represented," said Stuart Fraser of ApiNZ.

Left to right: Tiaki Hunia, MC for the first day of the conference, with Hon Te Ururoa Flavell.
Photos: Gerhard Egger.



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– Seth Fisher, Managing Director

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AMERICAN FOULBROOD PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN

NEW ZEALAND BEEKEEPER, APIARY AND HIVE STATISTICS BY APIARY DISTRICT AS AT 7 SEPTEMBER 2016

APIARY REGISTER LOCATION	CATEGORY 0 - 5 HIVES		
	BEEKEEPERS	APIARIES	HIVES
Blenheim	339	389	641
Canterbury	653	748	1203
Hamilton	392	440	817
Otago/Southland	378	419	786
Palmerston North	959	1066	1921
Tauranga	345	405	710
Whangarei	1136	1242	2259
NEW ZEALAND	4202	4709	8337

APIARY REGISTER LOCATION	CATEGORY 6 - 10 HIVES		
	BEEKEEPERS	APIARIES	HIVES
Blenheim	44	75	355
Canterbury	92	180	689
Hamilton	62	107	529
Otago/Southland	58	104	480
Palmerston North	162	280	1286
Tauranga	90	141	686
Whangarei	188	263	1468
NEW ZEALAND	696	1150	5493

APIARY REGISTER LOCATION	CATEGORY 11 - 50 HIVES		
	BEEKEEPERS	APIARIES	HIVES
Blenheim	59	218	1511
Canterbury	58	208	1461
Hamilton	76	199	1930
Otago/Southland	65	188	1284
Palmerston North	191	499	4618
Tauranga	107	299	2888
Whangarei	220	644	5247
NEW ZEALAND	776	2255	18939

APIARY REGISTER LOCATION	CATEGORY 51 - 250 HIVES		
	BEEKEEPERS	APIARIES	HIVES
Blenheim	34	608	4479
Canterbury	50	840	6009
Hamilton	52	412	6408
Otago/Southland	36	479	4419
Palmerston North	107	877	12872
Tauranga	104	641	10940
Whangarei	124	1002	13727
NEW ZEALAND	507	4859	58854

APIARY REGISTER LOCATION	CATEGORY 251 - 500 HIVES		
	BEEKEEPERS	APIARIES	HIVES
Blenheim	14	393	5284
Canterbury	20	520	7465
Hamilton	14	445	7507
Otago/Southland	16	579	5603
Palmerston North	34	630	11136
Tauranga	45	768	13256
Whangarei	36	678	12627
NEW ZEALAND	179	4013	62878

APIARY REGISTER LOCATION	CATEGORY 501 - 1000 HIVES		
	BEEKEEPERS	APIARIES	HIVES
Blenheim	9	407	6086
Canterbury	16	693	11370
Hamilton	12	638	11932
Otago/Southland	18	798	12424
Palmerston North	23	816	18053
Tauranga	31	849	18731
Whangarei	29	928	18154
NEW ZEALAND	138	5129	96750

APIARY REGISTER LOCATION	CATEGORY 1000+ HIVES		
	BEEKEEPERS	APIARIES	HIVES
Blenheim	17	1696	31526
Canterbury	16	2108	40419
Hamilton	19	2486	63235
Otago/Southland	11	1186	25403
Palmerston North	32	7074	141149
Tauranga	37	3123	72510
Whangarei	28	3179	65661
NEW ZEALAND	160	20852	439903

APIARY REGISTER LOCATION	TOTAL		
	BEEKEEPERS	APIARIES	HIVES
Blenheim	516	3786	49882
Canterbury	905	5297	68616
Hamilton	627	4727	92358
Otago/Southland	582	3753	50399
Palmerston North	1507	11232	190535
Tauranga	759	6226	119721
Whangarei	1760	7935	118893
NEW ZEALAND	6656	42956	690404

REVOLUTIONARY Beekeeping

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This award-winning and patented mobile honey harvesting system makes beekeeping easy, enjoyable and profitable.

Convenient, Clean, Cost-Effective System

The best innovations solve a painful problem. In Grant Engel's case, the hard physical lifting, hours spent carting honey boxes and waiting in line for his honey to be extracted were the catalyst for inventing his mobile honey harvester. Now all suppliers to RevBee use Grant's harvester and say that not only is their workload reduced but their honey is cleaner, and their hives healthier than before.

So how does the honey harvester work?

The mobile honey harvester is a lightweight stainless steel box that allows you to harvest honey directly from the frames right next to the hives. As you push the frame through the harvester, the honey and wax is scraped off the frame and flows directly into a food-grade sealable pail that sits underneath. The harvester comes fully MPI certified with an RMP.

That sounds too easy!

Well, it gets better. RevBee collects the honey from their suppliers at RevBee's expense. The suppliers get paid (then more than a few like to go fishing).

8 Reasons the RevBee Honey Harvester is a Winner

- **Eliminates heavy lifting** – you carry only a lightweight honey harvester and pail. No need to remove and transport honey boxes.
- **Select frame harvesting** – hand-pick quality honey frames and bank it.
- **Healthier hives** – no honey boxes waiting to be processed and open to dirt and disease.
- **Remote locations are now accessible** – set up hives in places that were previously too hard to manage.
- **Cheaper outlay** – only one honey box is needed as it can be harvested multiple times. Run more hives at less cost.
- **Fast and convenient** – no more booking or waiting in line. Your honey is collected from your door at RevBee's expense.
- **Competitive honey prices and great cash flow** – you receive prompt payment for your honey.
- **MPI certified** – with RMP in place.



The 4 Step RevBee Supplier System

- 1 Sign up as a RevBee supplier and start harvesting your honey with the mobile honey harvester.
- 2 Phone the RevBee team to arrange collection of your honey.
- 3 RevBee will collect your honey right from your doorstep at their expense.
- 4 Receive your payment – they do the rest!

I can handpick frames to harvest so I control the quality of the honey – especially when Manuka is flowering. Stephen (Large Commercial)

Previously my boxes would sit for up to 2 weeks before getting spun out and that's time when dirt and disease gets in. There's none of that with this system – I harvest the honey directly into a food grade box, put the lid on and that's done. Luke (Commercial)

The machine is simple and lightweight. You can keep the hives to 2 boxes high so I'm working at an easy level. You're just taking honey, not transporting heavy boxes and frames. And by harvesting directly into a bucket, you can see exactly what volumes are being produced from that hive. Mark (Large Commercial)

This is my second year using it and I don't think you can beat it. It's quick, cost effective, and allows you to set up hives in locations that otherwise you wouldn't bother going. It's just too easy. Luke (Commercial)

Turn your honey into money! If you have 50 hives or more, please get in touch with Grant or Kim Engel to receive your free supplier information pack and join the RevBee revolution.

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Find out more and watch a demonstration of the mobile honey harvester in action at
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IMPORTANT MESSAGE

Levy Invoices

Under the Biosecurity (American Foulbrood – Apiary and Beekeeper Levy) Order 2003, a levy is imposed on all beekeepers in New Zealand and is payable to the AFB PMP Management Board in order to fund the above Pest Management Plan

The invoices are raised in early April of each year and are based on the apiary and hive numbers registered against individual beekeepers on the apiary database.

Beekeepers are advised it is AFB PMP Management Board policy to calculate the amount owing based on the apiary and hive holdings as at 31 March of each year as definitive for invoicing purposes.

To further clarify, this means the invoice total as calculated is what you will owe.

IMPORTANT

It is the responsibility of all beekeepers to ensure the apiary database correctly reflects his/her apiary and hive holdings especially as at 31 March of each year. Please note this includes any seasonal apiaries used during this honey season.

18 Seasonal apiaries

- (1) A place notified to the management agency as an apiary where the beehives are situated for specified months of the calendar year is a seasonal apiary.
- (2) Despite anything to the contrary in this order, a seasonal apiary continues to be an apiary as long as beehives owned by the beekeeper who notified the place to the management agency as an apiary are situated in that place for more than 30 consecutive days in any year beginning on 1 July.

For further information on this subject, please refer to the Management Board policy number AFB/22/0/11-027, which can be found on www.afb.org.nz.



ADVERTORIAL

THERMAFLO & DYNAFLOW COMPLETE MAJOR HONEY PROCESSING PROJECT

Provided by Thermaflo Limited

At the beginning of 2015 Thermaflo collaborated with Dynaflo to design, fabricate, automate, install and commission a new honey crystallisation process for Gisborne based Wildcape Honey. Due to the properties of honey, the projects initial stages required a lot of design work and R&D to ensure the process would not only work the way the client needed but would deal with such a viscous product. Thermaflo's end design was a skid mounted honey crystallisation process that would meet the clients' requirements.

After sitting down with Bill Savage, owner of Wildcape Honey, Thermaflo put forward a proposal for a skid mounted honey process system capable of processing 500kg of honey per hour. This unit was designed to heat the incoming honey by sending it through a 3 stage heat exchanger to liquefy the honey crystals. This is done to allow the honey to easily pass through the filtration process and remove any yeast spores to extend the available storage time. The continuous filtration unit was designed to filter the honey down to 200µs using a self-cleaning wedgewire stainless steel cartridge. Following this filtration, the product is transferred to a vacuum vessel where excess moisture (approx 1.5%) is evaporated. Removing this moisture will also assist in extending the product storage time while also aiding in the increase in the UMF of the manuka honey.

Once processed, the honey is then either stored to increase the UMF of the honey or sent to a 2000L crystallisation tank where honey starter is

added. Adding starter to the honey will begin the crystallisation process, taking up to 3 days to complete. Working closely with the engineering department at Massey University, Thermaflo designed a one off agitator that would be able to rotate through the viscous honey within the crystallisation tank. This was done to ensure that only very fine honey crystals are able to form creating a nice creamed honey with a great mouth feel. Once the crystallisation of the honey is complete it is then ready to be packed and exported overseas.

Since Thermaflo completed the commissioning, the honey process skid has operated without fault. Wildcape Honey has managed to streamline their production and export a greater amount of manuka honey as they are now able to carry out process in house. Bill Savage was very pleased with the end result, stating, "Thermaflo & Dynaflo were very good in the fact that they took the time to go through the design with me and also collaborate with Massey University to develop a very efficient process". With more inquiries coming in each week, Thermaflo & Dynaflo have gained a better understanding of the unique properties of honey and are currently finishing off another two skid mounted processes for a yet to be disclosed Waikato based company, these are now in full operation and meeting all specifications.

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HEALTH AND SAFETY

GOOD HEALTH AND SAFETY PRACTICE: A SIMPLE CHANGE IN THINKING

OnFarmSafety New Zealand

April 2016 saw the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 (HSWA) come into effect. Everyone in the workplace now has a responsibility to ensure their place of work is safe and healthy for all who undertake some form of activity there, whether you are out in the field working with the hives, transporting hives or when extracting and packing honey.

Health and safety covers a wide range of possibilities from physical harm, chemical poisoning, stress and effects that may take years to become apparent, such as those caused by asbestos.

WorkSafe New Zealand is allowing businesses six months from April 2016 to get themselves organised within the HSWA space before taking a firmer line of enforcement.

Implementing health and safety measures is no longer a box-ticking exercise; rather, more of a journey that is travelled for the duration of the business's existence, encompassing owners, workers, casual staff, contractors, visitors and customers.

The biggest hurdle to leap over is a change of culture and thinking around how good practical and workable procedures can actually add value to any business, regardless of size or activity.

"There is a large amount of misinformation and just plain wrong commentary relating to how Health and Safety should be implemented," stated Bronwyn Muir from OnFarmSafety NZ. "This has created a confusing mindset with many small- to medium-size business owners feeling that they don't understand the process and requirements. They think that they simply do not have the time or that it is just another cost they can do without".

Whether you realise it or not, within your apiculture business you are likely to already have the basis of health and safety procedures and systems in place amongst your existing business systems. Working with what you already have in place to achieve compliance may just require good guidance and support to know where to start to formalise and strengthen your Health and Safety system.

Health and Safety providers, currently being in an unregulated space, have unfortunately attracted numerous so-called 'experts' who have no qualifications or credentials, yet hand over a folder and some signs or dispense advice, take the money and are never to be seen again. This then leaves the business owner with a false sense of compliance and still a lot of questions.

How do you know if a Health and Safety professional is the real deal?

Health and Safety Association New Zealand (HASANZ) has provided five quick questions you should ask any potential Health and Safety professional. These are:

1. Which professional association do you belong to—can you confirm this?
2. What qualifications and/or certification do you have?
3. What relevant skills and experience do you have for this job?
4. Can you give me examples of similar work you have done recently?
5. Are you happy for us to contact your clients about your work for them?

Bronwyn Muir commented,

"This is very serious business. The game has changed in the Health and Safety arena. Getting Health and Safety advice from a credible professional is just as important as financial or legal advice. A workplace accident or fatality and false compliance assumptions by you and your team may result in an investigation and prosecution. If this happens, everything that you, your family or workers enjoy and value about your entity and lifestyle would no longer be possible. Do your homework and choose a qualified Health and Safety specialist to support and guide your business to implement sustainable, workable processes and systems and achieve ongoing compliance and robust workplace health and safety solutions."



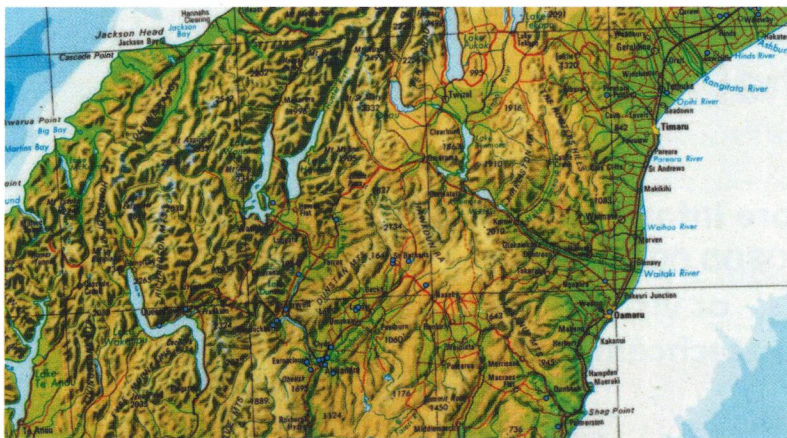
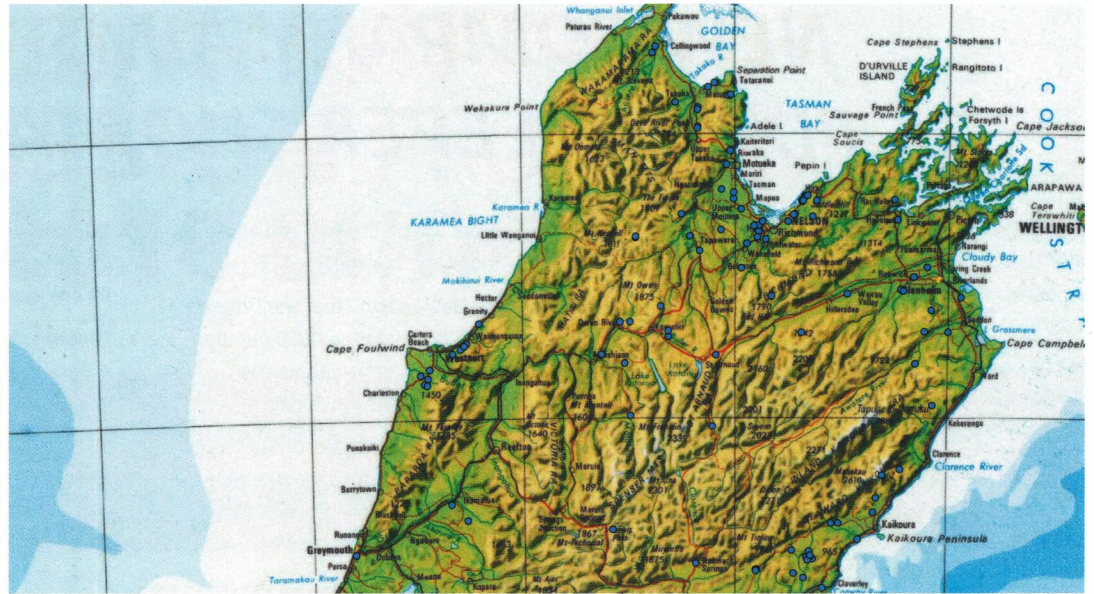
AFB REPORTED FROM...

1 JULY 2015 TO 30 JUNE 2016



Maps courtesy ofASUREQuality Limited.





Maps courtesy ofASUREQuality Limited.

ADVERTORIAL

NEW COMPANY AIMS TO FIX BEEKEEPER SHORTAGE

A new company is planning to tackle the shortage of beekeepers in New Zealand by bringing in qualified and experienced operators from China.

NZ Technology Centre Ltd (NZTC) is arranging for Chinese beekeepers with 10 years-plus experience to work in New Zealand on a one-year visa, which can be extended to two years if required.

All of the Chinese beekeepers will be carefully vetted for skills, experience and work ethic.

The shortage of good beekeepers in New Zealand makes the local market here an obvious next step, says managing director, Wei Guo Huang.

NZTC aims to bring in up to 10 beekeepers in early 2017 and will steadily increase that number.

The 'imported' beekeepers will mostly be males, aged around 35 years old. They will all have at least a decade's experience working professionally as an apiarist.

Their work visas will be finalised and approved by Immigration New Zealand.

Companies in New Zealand that want these beekeepers will simply call an 0800 number and appropriate information about the available importees will be provided.

The Kiwi operation then makes its choice and NZTC will be responsible for escorting the Chinese beekeeper to their new workplace and making sure they are properly settled in and acclimatised.

The Kiwi employer pays NZTC an agreed fee from which NZTC regularly pays the Chinese beekeeper's salary.

NZTC will also conduct regular quality assurance checks to ensure the beekeeper is performing satisfactorily, and that they are being treated appropriately by their Kiwi host, who will be responsible for providing accommodation and work-related transport for the Chinese staffer.

"The aim is to provide a thoroughly professional service with the minimum of fuss for the local market," Huang said.

"Beekeepers here need qualified and experienced support, and we can provide that in such a way that the Kiwi employer has very few compliance issues to deal with."

Huang said many Chinese apiarists want to work offshore in the Chinese off-season. Also, working conditions and salaries in New Zealand are usually better than what they used to at home.

A third reason for their willingness to travel is for the experience.

"They meet new people, enjoy new places and learn, all at the same time. It's a win-win for all parties."

Kiwi operations wishing to learn more should call 0800 005 338, or visit the website: www.nztechcentre.co.nz

Do you need experienced, trustworthy beekeepers who will work hard and deliver professional results for your team?

NZ Technology Centre Ltd (NZTC) is recruiting Chinese beekeepers to work in NZ on one and two year work visas.

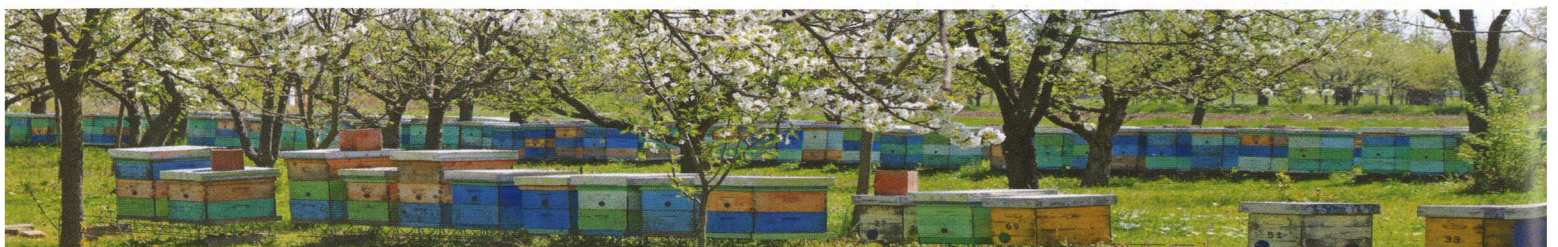
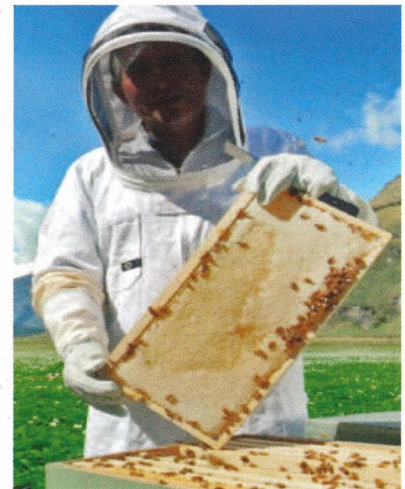
These beekeepers are males around 35 years old, and all have at least 10 years' experience as professional apiarists in China.

NZTC will bring these beekeepers to you on demand. All you have to do is provide work-related transport and accommodation for the period of their employment with you.

**For more information call
0800 005 338
or visit
www.nztechcentre.co.nz**



Providing Chinese beekeepers for the Kiwi apiculture industry



AMERICAN FOULBROOD NATIONAL PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN

CONSULTATION AND SUBMISSION PROGRAMME: 2017–2018 BUDGET

Rex Baynes, AFB PMP Manager

The input of beekeepers is sought on the proposed AFB PMP 2017/2018 Operational Budget.

The budget covers the period 1 June 2017 through 31 May 2018.

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:
 - (b) it must give every beekeeper an opportunity to make submissions to it on the proposed budget:
 - (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 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 \$15.17 per apiary.

How do I obtain a copy of the Budget 2017/2018?

1. From the AFB website: www.afb.org.nz/budgets from 1 January 2017.
2. By e-mail: if we have your email address, you will be sent a copy not later than 7 January 2017.
3. By post: if we don't have your email address, mail out will take place not later than 7 January 2017.

Making a submission

If you wish to make a submission on the proposed budget, then *please do so in writing no later than 28 February 2017* to:

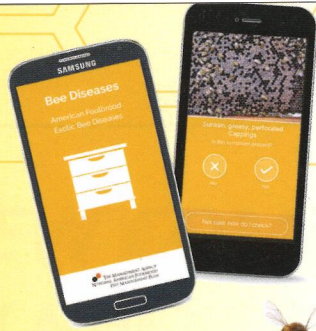
Rex Baynes - AFB PMP Manager
 PO Box 44282, Lower Hutt 5040 E-mail: rbaynes@ihug.co.nz

AFB PMP ANNUAL REPORT ON AFB WEBSITE

The report of the American Foulbrood Pest Management Plan (AFB PMP), presented at the inaugural AGM of Apiculture New Zealand in June 2016, can be found on the AFB website.

Visit <http://www.afb.org.nz/reports-to-industry> and click on Report to 2016 Apiculture Annual General Meeting.pdf

Do YOU have the AFB App?



Follow these instructions to **download the app**



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Go to the Apps section of your device and select "App Store"

Select "search" and type in, "The AFB App"

Select the AFB App and press "Install"

When prompted, press "Open"



OR, simply scan this QR code with your Apple device



If you have an Android phone

Go to the Apps section of your device and select "Play Store"

Select "search" and type in, "The AFB App"

Select the AFB App and press "Install"

When prompted, press "Open"



OR, simply scan this QR code with your Android device

THE MANAGEMENT AGENCY
National American Foulbrood Pest Management Plan
PO Box 44 282, Lower Hutt 5040
04 566 0773 | (0274) 715 701
info@afb.org.nz | www.afb.org.nz

THE MANAGEMENT AGENCY
NATIONAL AMERICAN FOULBROOD
PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO CERTAIN BEEKEEPERS

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

Under Clause 32 of the Biosecurity (National American Foulbrood Pest Management Strategy) Order 1998, you are required to have your hives inspected by an approved beekeeper by on or before 30 November 2016.

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 at the beekeeper's cost.

Your details will be forwarded to MAF Biosecurity.

AFB WEBSITE CONTINUES TO PROVE POPULAR

It's clearly time we updated the '5 minute quiz' on the website, as so far since going live in April 2015 the quiz has been played 6,348 times. Not bad when you consider there are some 6,700 beekeepers currently registered.

In more general terms, there has been in excess of 30,000 page views since 1 June 2016. The most popular pages are:

- AFB Recognition Courses
- Homepage
- Take the 5 Minute Quiz
- Apiary Registrations
- Symptoms of AFB.

Finally, special thanks to those of you who responded to the recent AFB survey questionnaire; in particular to the question relating to the website. Some excellent feedback in the form of suggestions and observations has been offered for consideration and future site enhancement.

THE MANAGEMENT AGENCY
NATIONAL AMERICAN FOULBROOD
PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN

Beekeepers' Legal Responsibilities

- **AFB must be destroyed** by burning within 7 days of finding it
- **AFB must be reported** to the Management Agency within 7 days
- Arrange for suspect **samples to be tested**
- Your **Annual Disease Return** must be lodged by 1 June of each year
- **Inspect your hive/s** at least twice a year for AFB
- Only use **approved sterilisation** methods
- Clearly **mark your apiary** with your beekeeper registration number
- Keep apiary **clear of vegetation**

Important note:

Beekeepers are encouraged to attend an AFB recognition course and take the assessment as a step towards applying for their Disease Elimination Conformity Agreement (DECA).

THE MANAGEMENT AGENCY
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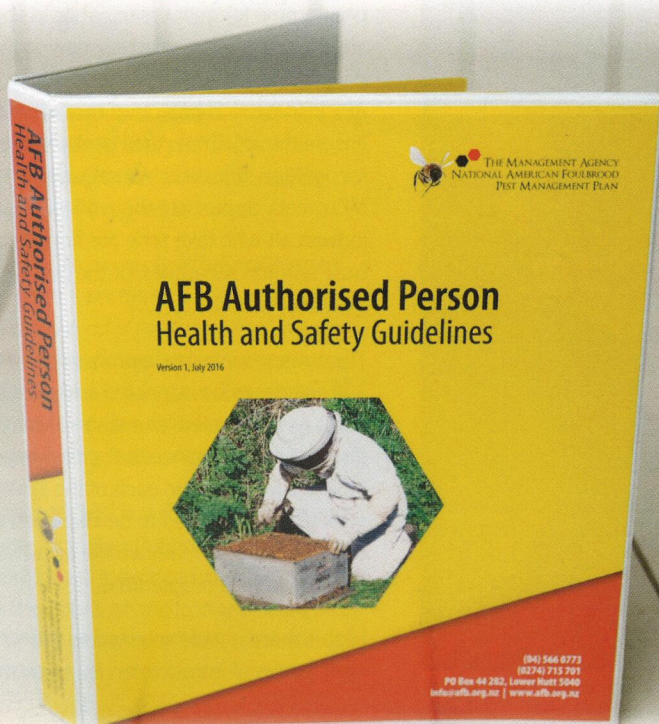
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AFB PMP MANAGEMENT BOARD RELEASES **HEALTH AND SAFETY GUIDELINES**



The American Foulbrood Pest Plan Management Board is committed to ensuring it provides a safe and healthy working environment for anyone carrying out work on its behalf.

All AFB Authorised Persons have received the Board's official Health and Safety Guidelines and as part of their commitment are required to sign an appropriate acknowledgement and agreement form.

The Guidelines set out what is expected by the AFB PMP Management Board and Manager as well as making certain demands of the contracting Authorised Person, procedures designed to ensure a safe working environment.

Rex Baynes, AFB PMP Manager

PEST AND DISEASE CONTROL

THE HONEY BEE EXOTIC DISEASE AND PEST SURVEILLANCE PROGRAMME SUMMARY, AUTUMN 2016

Marco Gonzalez, Apicultural Officer, AsureQuality Limited, Lincoln marco.gonzalez@asurequality.com

The annual honey bee exotic disease and pest surveillance programme is conducted by AsureQuality Limited on behalf of the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) for the benefit of the beekeeping industry. The goals of the programme are to provide assurances to our trading partners that our honey bee disease status is unchanged and to limit the time between introduction and detection of any exotic pest or disease of honey bees.

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 more 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 suspected exotic pest or disease. This is referred to as 'passive surveillance', which is a very important part of any surveillance system
3. sampling bees from stock provided to exporters of live bees.

An additional benefit to the beekeeping industry is that during the surveillance

hive inspections, any hives with American foulbrood (AFB) are also identified and can then be eliminated.

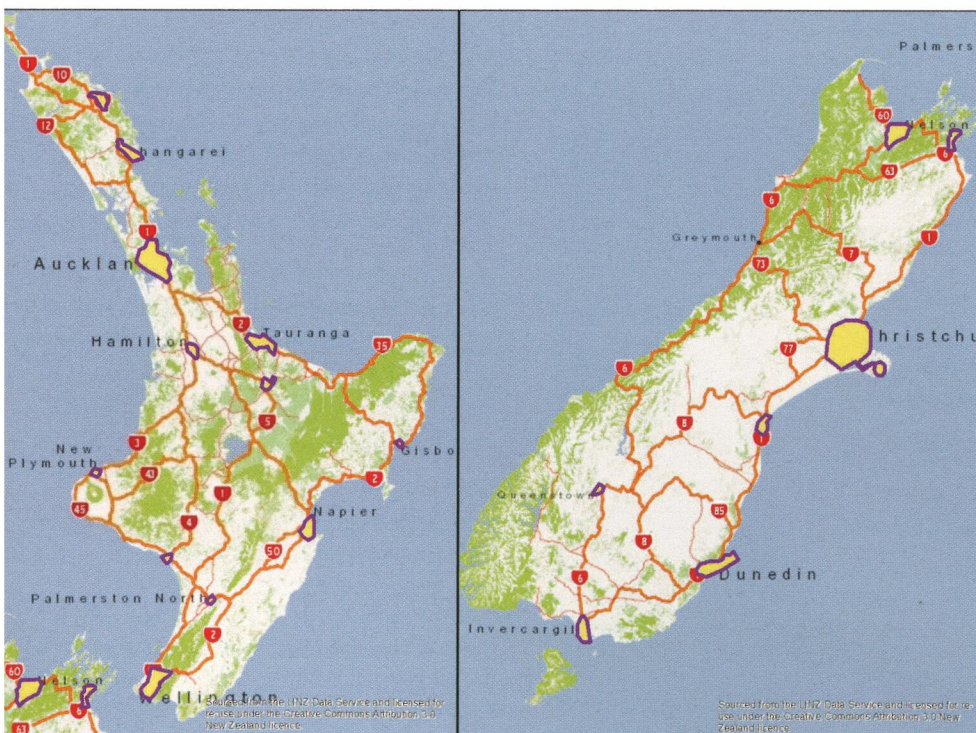
Targeted surveillance

High-risk area inspection and sampling

Partnering with industry to deliver field inspection is vitally important for a successful programme. Eighteen Authorised Persons – level 2 (AP2s) sourced from within the industry offered their services for this year's programme. As in previous years, most of these AP2s are experienced beekeepers who have been involved with the surveillance programme for many years, while in some areas inspectors are relatively new to the programme. Refresher training for the AP2 inspectors is organised every year to ensure they maintain their pest and disease recognition skills. Both AsureQuality and MPI greatly appreciate the work of these individuals who take time out from their busy autumn schedules for the good of the beekeeping industry.

The current 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 selected 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



New Zealand apiary high-risk areas (highlighted in yellow). Sourced from the LINZ Data Service.



The first National Authorised Person level 2 (AP2) training workshop took place in Hamilton in August 2016. The workshop was organised byASUREQuality Limited on behalf of the AFB Management Agency, the National Apiculture Surveillance Programme and the Bee Pathogen Project. Both MPI and the AFB Management Agency are committed to developing and maintaining a professional team of Authorized Persons that are used in Biosecurity roles within the beekeeping industry. Photo: MPI.

or disease and include: seaports, airports, transitional facilities, large population areas, tourist areas and other sites deemed to be at elevated risk, such as kiwifruit growing areas where there are large hive movements.

A total of 355 apiaries were inspected as part of the high-risk site surveillance against a target of 350 apiaries.

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 are assessing the behaviour of the bees; i.e., how aggressive they are (African or Cape honey bees), how active they are compared to other hives in the apiary (Asian honey bee) and whether there are significant amounts of dead bees in front of the hive (tracheal mite and possibly bees infected with viruses).

As they open the hive, the AP2s are looking particularly for evidence of adult small hive beetles in the extremities of the hive. These beetles move very quickly and will actively seek cover when exposed to light.

The AP2 will take a sample of approximately 300 older adult bees from honey frames. These bees will be tested for tracheal mites and possibly undesirable bee 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.

The Authorised Person will remove all boxes one by one, including the brood boxes. Once the bottom board is exposed, he/she will examine the debris on the bottom board, looking for the presence of both mature and immature stages of small hive beetle.

Additionally, the inspector will inspect the brood for symptoms of European foulbrood (EFB) and take samples as appropriate. It is worth noting that if the inspector discovers AFB in the hive during this inspection, the hive will be dealt with in accordance with the National American Foulbrood Pest Management Plan.

The AP2 will insert miticide strips into the brood nest before putting the hive back together. Lastly, he/she will insert 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 and sticky boards are sent to MPI's Plant Health and Environment Laboratory (PHEL) at Tamaki, Auckland, where they are tested for the range of exotic internal and external mites. Any cases of suspected exotic disease are sent to the MPI Investigation and Diagnostic Centre 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.

A special thanks to all of these Authorised Persons from Kaitiā to Bluff who, with their technical expertise and commitment, allowed the programme to meet its targets.

Low-risk samples

Samples from 323 low-risk apiaries that supply bees for export contributed to the programme this year. Some of the low-risk samples were still to be tested at the time this article went to press. There were no exotic pests or diseases found in the samples already tested.

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 and Response Centre in Wallaceville to screen these calls and determine whether sampling is justified.

Sixteen calls were received that resulted in further investigation and, in some cases, sampling. These included calls in relation to suspected European foulbrood, unexplained bee deaths, unusual insects found in hives, suspected small hive beetle, suspected bee poisoning and bees with dysentery, suspected Asian bees and illegal importation of Russian beeswax. In a number of other cases, on interviewing the caller it was determined that the observed symptoms could be explained by endemic bee diseases or beekeeper mismanagement. All tests were negative for exotic pests and diseases in the cases investigated.

Industry education

ASUREQuality Ltd maintains an apiary database that contains information on beekeeping enterprises in New Zealand. As of 8 June 2016 there were 6,735 beekeepers managing 684,046 hives on 42,175 apiaries. New beekeepers are still entering the industry at record levels, with 1,488 new registrations in the 12 months to 8 June, resulting in a net increase of 1,184 beekeepers. About a third of beekeepers have less than two seasons of experience. There is a real need to provide ongoing education about exotic

continued...



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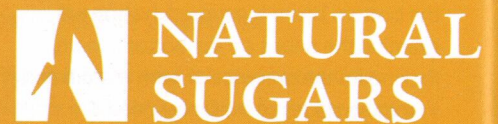
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disease identification, which is paramount to increasing the sensitivity of the passive surveillance programme. Educating the industry in the identification of exotic pests and diseases greatly increases the chances of finding an incursion sooner. This is because vastly more hives can be inspected by an educated industry than by targeted surveillance at high-risk sites.

Three articles are submitted for publication in *The New Zealand Beekeeper* journal every year. These are written by theASUREQuality Apiculture team and are generally a 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. This season, articles were written on biosecurity risk pathways, general bee health and the Cape honey bee (*Apis mellifera capensis*).

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., 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. It is encouraging that the use of APIWEB is increasing and a number of beekeepers are now completing their Annual Disease Return in APIWEB.

It is pleasing to note that more beekeepers are recognising the value of the surveillance programme now and are more supportive with having their hives inspected. We give special thanks to all of these beekeepers.



Inspecting a hive. Photo: Murray Reid.

The final key message to all beekeepers is to continue looking for anything unusual in their hives and if they suspect anything, ring the MPI Hotline (0800 809966) immediately.



APICULTURE
NEW ZEALAND

LAND USE AGREEMENTS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

Apiculture New Zealand has developed two Land Use Agreements that will be available to members at a significantly discounted price.

The two land use contracts now available for purchase from the ApiNZ website are:

- Apiary Land Use Agreement – Land Owner/Beekeeper Profit Share: For those beekeepers offering a crop share arrangement.
- Apiary Land Use Agreement – Site Rental: For those beekeepers paying a set apiary site rental or per hive rate to the land owner.

The agreements will be \$195 +GST for ApiNZ members and \$455 +GST for non-members.

**These can be found on the ApiNZ website here:
<http://apinz.org.nz/land-use-agreement/>**

The agreements will be personalised to the purchaser, so on application you will need to answer some questions which will be added to your document.

Once payment is received this document will be sent to you via e-mail.

If you have any questions, please contact the ApiNZ Management Team on 04 471 6254 (Monday to Friday 8.30–5.30) or e-mail info@apinz.org.nz.

PEST AND DISEASE CONTROL

WASP BIOCONTROL UPDATES: *SPHECOPHAGA* AGAIN

Dr Ronny Groenteman, Biocontrol Scientist Landcare Research/Manaaki Whenua, Lincoln
E-mail: groentemanr@landcareresearch.co.nz

In the last update (Groenteman, 2016) we told you that the wasp biocontrol project is at a turning point. Well, we have just heard from the Sustainable Farming Fund that our request for variation has been approved, so it is time to tell you what happens next, and why.

In the one year of funding left in the grant, we plan to refocus efforts mostly away from the mite *Pneumolaelaps niutirani*, because it is looking less likely that the mite will make for a classical biocontrol agent i.e., one that works in perpetuity on a landscape scale. The mite might work better if humans load it with wasp-specific pathogens and distribute the 'combo' similar to how we would distribute bait and poison, for example.

We will continue to support efforts by the BioHeritage National Science Challenge to develop the mite in that direction, but we want to put more emphasis on the remaining gap: long-term self-sustaining biocontrol solutions. In the first instance, we are going to pursue the introduction of new genetic stock of the parasitoid *Sphecophaga*.

Why *Sphecophaga* again? Have we not tried them before?

Sphecophaga are parasitic wasps that attack *Vespula* wasps. Their potential to provide biocontrol for *Vespula* in New Zealand was previously identified, and they were introduced in the 1980s. Many thousands of them were released, but these efforts resulted in poor establishment, and *Sphecophaga* distribution in New Zealand is since limited to one site in Marlborough and one in Canterbury:

Why do we think it is good use of resources to chase *Sphecophaga* again if they failed so miserably? **What do we know now that we didn't know then, and that could make a difference?**

There are two reasons for our renewed interest in *Sphecophaga*:

1. We now know that due to technical rearing issues during the 1980s introductions, the surviving *Sphecophaga* in the wild in New Zealand are all descendants of one or, at best two founder females. This **genetic bottleneck** probably contributed to their difficulties to adjust to different environments, and new genetic stock could open up new possibilities for adaptation.
2. Recent work at Victoria University discovered that **the source of New Zealand's common wasp is from the UK**. This was not known at the time *Sphecophaga* were introduced originally, and this piece of information is extremely important! If you think about the 'language' wasps use to communicate within the colony and between colonies, it is the language of chemicals (think for example about ants on a trail tapping their antennae over each other to tell if the other ant is their colony member or not). *Sphecophaga* must 'speak' the correct language in order for the wasps to fail to detect it. Now think about *Sphecophaga* coming from a different region, 'speaking' another dialect. *Vespula* are so hygienic, that they were most likely going to remove the foreign intruders from the colony in no-time. The *Sphecophaga* we brought in the 1980s were from nowhere near the UK, so they would have been detected and thrown out of the nest.

Armed with these new understandings, we consider the next prudent step in the wasp biocontrol progression is to go to the UK

Adult *Sphecophaga*. Photo: Bob Brown, Landcare Research.





Volucella inanis, taken in Leicester, England by HA Peacock. Photo courtesy of HA Peacock and www.naturespot.org.uk. NatureSpot is a website dedicated to recording the wildlife of Leicestershire and Rutland.

and bring *Sphecophaga* from the correct geographic range. This will follow best-practice, and will not entail introduction of a new organism, because *Sphecophaga* is already here. Bob [Brown] is planning a collecting trip to the UK during their autumn, in a couple of months.

Will this be enough to provide biocontrol for wasps in New Zealand?

The answer to that is—probably not. More often than not, we need multiple agents to gain sufficient suppression of a pest.

We have a couple of options to explore, including the parasitic hoverfly *Volucella inanis*, and the fly *Leopoldius coronatus* in the family Conopidae, that also parasitises *Vespula* wasps.

These flies are not present in New Zealand, and very little is known about them; well, not a lot of people study in detail all things waspy... Therefore, in order to explore their potential as biocontrol agents we plan to embark on a 'next phase' for the wasp biocontrol programme, which requires new funding.

We have been talking to the Sustainable Farming Fund about it, and have been encouraged to apply for another grant. These days we are busy preparing the new application, which will be submitted in early September. Preparations include writing the proposal, as well as looking for sources of co-funding—an obligatory component of any Sustainable Farming Fund grant. If successful,

the funding will become available in July 2017, just when the current project is due to finish. Wish us luck!

Update as of 8 September 2016

Last week, following several weeks of intensive preparation and armed with all the necessary paperwork (and wasp suits), Bob travelled to the UK on quest for new genetic stock of the parasitoid *Sphecophaga*. Soon upon arrival, Bob has already been able to locate a good number of wasp nests, and excavation is scheduled to begin next week, when a trained assistant will be joining him. You do want someone you can trust by your side when you are busy disturbing wasps. It shouldn't be terribly long before we find out if *Sphecophaga* is found inside those nests.

Bob notes that some nests have been partially excavated by badgers. Brave beasties, I reckon, but then, mustelids are... And no, we will most definitely NOT be considering badgers as biocontrol for wasps!

In the meantime here in New Zealand, the Sustainable Farming Fund funding round has just closed, and the application to explore new agents for wasps has been submitted. The proposal makes a good case for the need to develop new agents, and enjoys a remarkably broad and generous support: from regional and district councils placed north to south, from primary industry bodies as well as from individual primary production entities, through the Department of Conservation,

co-funding contributions amounted to an outstanding \$194,500, spread over the three years of research. Such an amazing support sets this application in a favourable position, which I am confident will impress the panel members! It is also an opportunity to thank Janine from MPI, our project adviser, who diligently read through multiple drafts and provided excellent advice on how to focus the proposal to best appeal to the Fund.

It will be a few months before we find out the outcomes of this funding round, and rest assured you will be notified of the result one way or the other.

Here's hoping!

Special thanks to ApiNZ and a number of individual apiarists who contributed to the proposal.

Sources

Wasp biocontrol update no.7, e-mailed 18 July 2016.

Wasp biocontrol update no.7, e-mailed 8 September 2016.

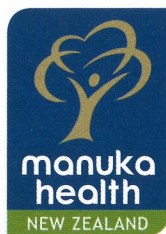
Reference

Groenteman, R. (2016, July). Wasp biocontrol update 6. *The New Zealand BeeKeeper* 24(6): 19–21.

Registration of apiaries

Under the AFB PMP, hives going into pollination for less than 30 days and hives in apiaries do not have to be registered.

Hives in pollination that collect honey and hives in apiaries that are there for honey production must be registered.



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PEST AND DISEASE CONTROL

MAKE IT COUNT: THE NEW ZEALAND COLONY LOSS AND SURVIVAL SURVEY

Landcare Research

All New Zealand beekeepers have been invited to join the New Zealand Colony Loss and Survival (NZ COLOSS) survey. At the time the journal went to print, over 1292 beekeepers had already completed the survey.

To ensure your hives are counted and your voice is heard, you need to do the survey. Check your e-mail inbox for a message with a link to the online survey. If you are a beekeeper and do not have the e-mail, please get in touch with Christine Harper (harperc@landcareresearch.co.nz) to have a link sent to you.

The survey focuses on winter hive losses and should be completed when you have done your first hive inspections this spring. The survey will ask you to answer these questions:

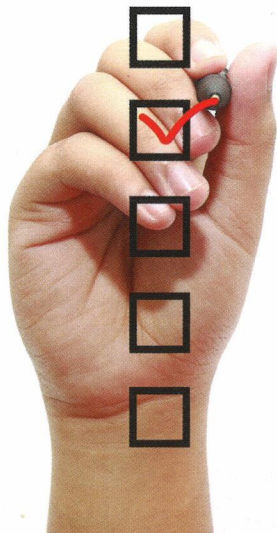
- How many hives have been lost?
- What is the likely cause of the loss? The survey will ask about:
 - Queen problems (including drone-laying queens, no queen, etc.)
 - Colony death (including starvation and hives reduced to a few hundred bees)
 - American foulbrood (AFB)
 - Varroa
 - Natural disasters (gale force winds, flooding, etc.)
 - Theft or vandalism
 - Wasps
 - Argentine ants

As you sit down to do the survey, it will be useful to have your ADR details from June 2016 as well as records of hive inspections

and treatments over the last year. For most beekeepers, the online survey is very straightforward and takes 15–20 minutes to complete, a little longer for bigger operations.

The survey remains open until the end of October. If your spring inspections are complete, please do it now!

The survey is confidential and your information will not be identifiable. Unlike many surveys, the anonymous survey summaries will be shared online with the survey participants so you can compare your own experience with national averages. You can see the 2015 COLOSS results here: www.landcareresearch.co.nz/bee-health



An added incentive to complete the survey is a prize draw for one of 10 'smoko break' / morning tea vouchers to the value of \$100.00.

THE INTERNATIONAL CODE FOR MARKING QUEENS

A quick way to remember the code:

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Requeen	Red	3/8
Get the	Green	4/9
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SEND US YOUR HIGH RESOLUTION PHOTOS!

Readers will have noticed that we are publishing more photos. As the old saying goes, a photo is worth a thousand words.

We are having to use some stock photos, as we don't have a lot of high-resolution photos in New Zealand settings that are suitable for publication in an A4 format.

Please take a camera out with you and take pictures of those beautiful places where we put our hives. Spring, summer and autumn scenes are required, as well as unusual things that happen to or are in our hives. You never know, you could end up with a competition winner.

FOCUS GROUP REPORTS: RESEARCH

VARROA CONTROL RESEARCH

Claire Hall, Mark Goodwin, David Pattemore, ApiNZ Research Focus Group

This article focuses on targeting an Integrated Pest Management approach to varroa control. After 16 years of varroa in New Zealand, sustainable hive management for this pest is under pressure as varroa become resistant to the main treatments. Ninety-five percent of varroa control relies on spring and autumn calendar treatments with three proprietary formulations of synthetic chemicals. However, varroa has now developed resistance to two of these treatments and new options are needed.

At the Apiculture New Zealand National Conference in June 2016, a varroa control workshop was held to discuss the concept and tools needed for successful Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and to gain feedback from beekeepers. The goal was to develop and implement a varroa IPM that gained wide support from over 120 participants.

Feedback was sought on the overall goal for varroa management, how important it is compared with other bee health issues, the value of the different approaches, and new ideas. Participants were asked to prioritise the four research goals outlined in Table 1.

The development and validation of new tools was ranked as the top priority, followed by understanding hive health thresholds. Many comments stressed that new tools were needed now—and that these needed to come first before the rest of the toolbox. Many would like a focus on mechanical control tools (less risk of resistance) and about 5% asked if we were using current tools optimally. Feedback also included asking whether we are sharing information effectively about experiences with current tools.

In response to this feedback, Plant and Food Research (PFR), with guidance from Apiculture New Zealand (ApiNZ), is seeking funding from the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) Sustainable Farming Fund (SFF) to develop the priority components of a varroa IPM programme.

The aim of this programme is to stop the increase in hive loss rates, which were 10.7% in 2015 (New Zealand COLOSS Survey) and prevent the industry experiencing the 30% average losses experienced overseas.

Theme	Title	Activity	% Ranked Top Priority
One	Varroa sensors	The development, testing, and validation of multiple monitoring technologies.	9.5%
Two	Hive health thresholds	Establishing the varroa susceptibility of hives from various hive health factors to determine specific thresholds for treatment.	32.0%
Three	Control tool pipeline	The development, testing and validation of new and existing varroa control tools.	40.0%
Four	Integrated control	Identifying the efficacy of complimentary treatments.	18.5%

Table 1: Potential research themes to develop a varroa IPM programme





In addition, effective varroa control will:

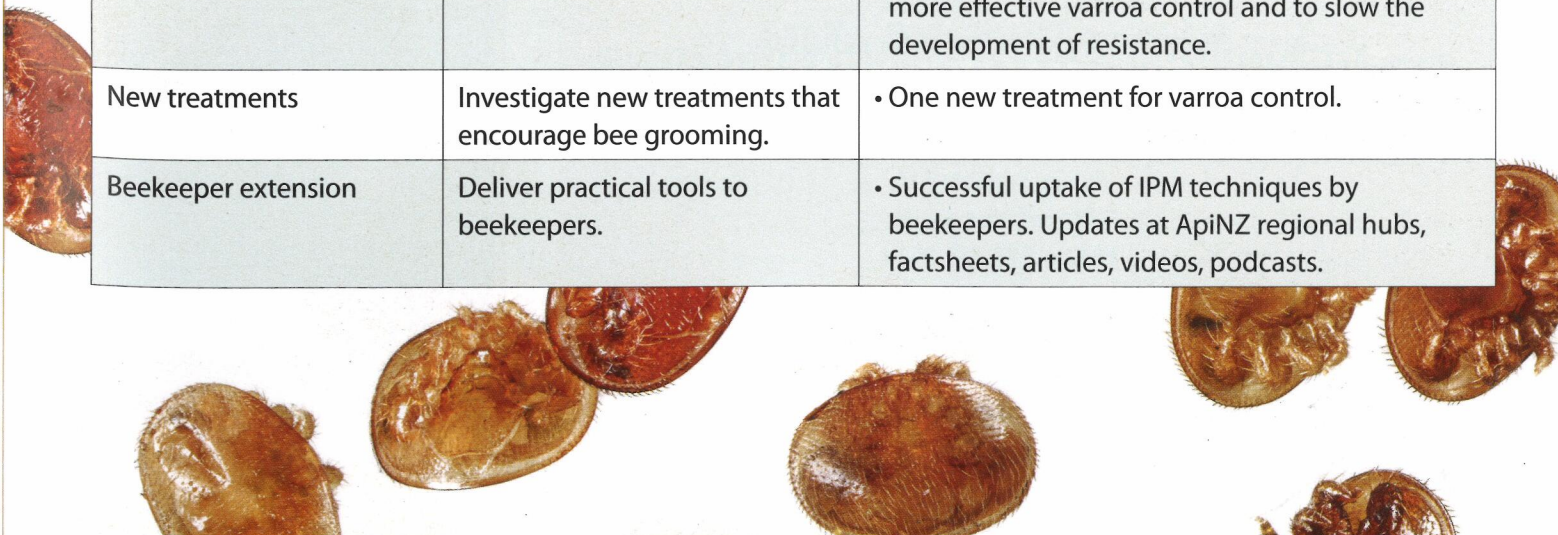
- increase productivity (boost honey yield)
- enable continued growth of beekeeping business by keeping hive loss rates below 10%
- prevent increased labour costs from extra work to manage resistant varroa.

We are targeting practical solutions in three research and development (R&D) objectives with a fourth beekeeper extension objective to ensure fit-for-purpose and uptake, as shown in the table below.

As you may have seen in the September 2016 edition of *The New Zealand BeeKeeper*, we have also been running a SurveyMonkey questionnaire to gather more detailed feedback and ideas; we will update you on this in the November journal. For more information on this and the planned research, contact Mark, Claire and the team at varroa@plantandfood.co.nz.

Table 2: Objectives for research and development and beekeeper extension.

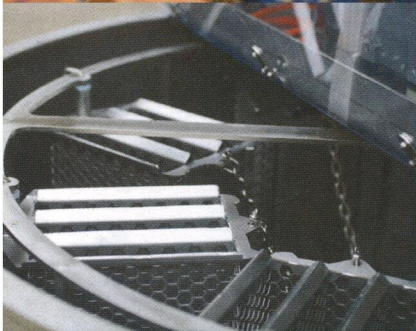
Research	Objectives	Deliverables
Thresholds	Establish spring and autumn thresholds for re-treatment where treatment has failed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A model for varroa population growth that can be used to schedule treatments. • Methods to increase treatment thresholds by manipulating colonies to withstand higher varroa populations.
Combined treatments	Determine the effect of a multi-chemical treatment on both varroa and bee health.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beekeeper innovations captured. • Recommendations to combine treatments for more effective varroa control and to slow the development of resistance.
New treatments	Investigate new treatments that encourage bee grooming.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One new treatment for varroa control.
Beekeeper extension	Deliver practical tools to beekeepers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Successful uptake of IPM techniques by beekeepers. Updates at ApiNZ regional hubs, factsheets, articles, videos, podcasts.





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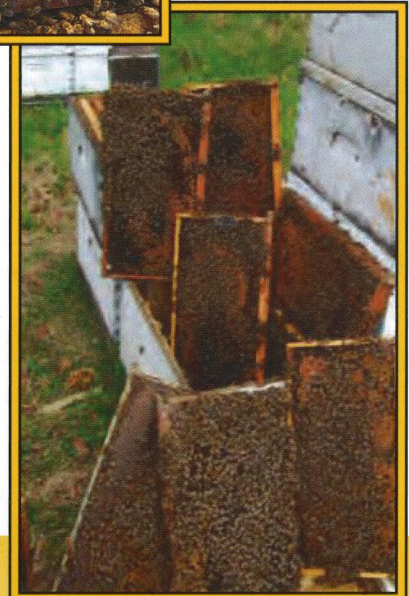
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INTERNATIONAL BEE RESEARCH

NEW INSIGHTS ON HOW BEES BATTLE DEADLY VARROA MITE BY GROOMING

Media release by Taylor & Francis Group, 14 June 2016

In a new study published in the *Journal of Apicultural Research*, scientists have compared the ability of two strains of honey bees to defend themselves against the parasitic mite varroa by grooming the mites from their bodies.

The mite *Varroa destructor* is generally considered to be the greatest threat to honey bees worldwide because it transmits virus diseases which lead to colony death. Treatments by various chemicals have become less effective in recent years because the mites have become resistant to them. This has led to attempts to breed strains of bee that are resistant to the mite. One of the possible mechanisms of resistance is "grooming" behaviour, where bees brush bees from themselves (autogrooming) or brush bees from their nestmates (allogrooming). It has long been known that different strains of bee differ in their resistance to varroa. In particular, so-called Africanized bees (hybrids of *Apis mellifera scutellata*) bees appear to have more resistance than European strains.

Ciro Invernizzi and colleagues from the Facultad de Ciencias, Montevideo, Uruguay, compared grooming behaviour in Italian (*Apis mellifera ligustica*) and Africanized bees. They found that at the individual level, Africanized bees showed a higher total number of reaction behaviours to *V. destructor* than did Italian bees, and colonies of Africanized bees showed a higher proportion of injured mites than colonies of Italian bees did.



The authors state: "Africanized bees are characterized by presenting higher resistance to *V. destructor* than European bees. This study shows that such difference can be, partly due to grooming behaviour."

International Bee Research Association (IBRA) Science Director Norman Carreck commented: "This interesting study adds to our knowledge about resistance mechanisms, and may aid the search for bees resistant to varroa."

Reference

Invernizzi, C., Zefferino, I., Santos, E., Sánchez, L., & Mendoza, Y. (2015). Multilevel assessment of grooming behavior against *Varroa destructor* in Italian and Africanized honey bees. *Journal of Apicultural Research*, 54(4), 321–327. Published by Taylor & Francis.

* Read the full article online: <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/00218839.2016.1159055>



Report varroa treatment issues!

If you are having trouble with your varroa mite treatments—whether you think it's a efficacy or resistance problem—and have followed the label instructions, please call the customer service number on the label and report the problem.

It's very important that these reports go in promptly so there is time to research the problem.

RESEARCH

INTERNATIONAL EXPERTS SHOWCASE RESEARCH AND CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

UMF Honey Association

The UMF Honey Association recently showcased its world-leading science programme and Manuka Classification System to a packed auditorium at the Auckland War Memorial Museum. An impressive international line-up of top experts took to the stage to share their findings and research efforts focused on mānuka honey.

With its unique properties, mānuka honey (*Leptospermum scoparium*) has become one of the most researched honeys in the world.

The 'This is Manuka Honey' symposium was the culmination of over four years of industry commitment to supporting an international research effort that utilised the latest technology. The outcome has been the development of a classification system that conclusively identifies whether or not a product is genuine mānuka honey. The classification method identifies the unique properties of mānuka through signature markers. The test can be applied to any honey to verify it is true to label.

The primary focus of the research has been on identifying the unique signature compounds found in genuine mānuka honey and ultimately protecting this important New Zealand product for future generations.

The new Manuka Classification System will now provide the benchmark testing procedures for UMF® mānuka honey products.

Led from New Zealand, the research programme is internationally recognised. Leading scientific figures from Australia, the United Kingdom and Japan spoke at the event, which attracted a delegation from China's government inspection and quarantine bureau, the JSCIQ. Keynote speakers included: Professor Yoji Kato, Principal Investigator, University of Hyogo, Japan, RINZ Japan; Dr Adrian Charlton, Principal Scientist, FERA, UK; Professor Stephan Schwarzinger, University of Bayreuth, CEO ALNuMED Germany; Dr Peter Brooks, Chemistry Senior Lecturer, University of



*Dr Terry Braggins,
Analytica
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the Sunshine Coast, Australia; Tony Wright, General Manager Technical, Comvita New Zealand Limited; Dr Terry Braggins, Executive Director, Analytica Laboratories; Jonathan Stephens, Senior Research Manager, Comvita Innovation; Professor Kerry Loomes, Senior Lecturer, The University of Auckland; Dr Marilyn Manley-Harris, Associate Professor, School of Science University of Waikato; and Dr Kiri McComb, Director for Innovation, Research and Development, Oritain Group Limited.

Each presenter gave an overview of their research area with topics ranging from the discovery of leptosperin through to the

development of a new chemical method for authenticating mānuka honey.

To celebrate the milestone that was achieved following a four years' research programme into mānuka honey, a celebratory function was held at the Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki. Leading researchers, international partners and VIPs attended the event which included a pōwhiri (Māori welcome) and presentations.

The research and classification system were also presented to the Primary Production Committee at Parliament.

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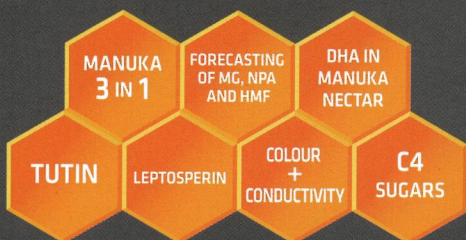
Above: Keynote speakers and members of the JSCIQ in front of the Auckland War Memorial Museum.

Dr Adrian Charlton, FERA, UK, during the pōwhiri. Photos supplied by the UMF Honey Association.



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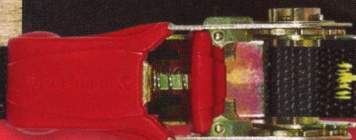
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REGIONAL REPORTS

FROM THE COLONIES

AUCKLAND

Even though it is now warming up to be the busy time for beekeeping, an evening meeting has been planned for ApiNZ Hub members and non-members. This is an opportunity to meet over a cuppa and some supper and listen to some interesting and informative speakers. Everyone is welcome.

Open invitation to an evening meeting of ApiNZ Auckland Hub

Date: Thursday, 3 November 2016

Venue: Waitemata Honey, 8 Te Kea Place, Rosedale, North Shore

Time: 7:00 pm onwards

Speakers:

John McLean: Giant willow aphid, colony losses (if time)

Stuart Fraser: ApiNZ Board Member

Discussion of future for Auckland Hub

Tea/coffee provided. **PLEASE** bring a plate of supper goodies to share.

Gold coin donation.

Inquiries or apologies to the Hub Secretary: Clare McCallum
email: clarem_66@hotmail.com

Agenda will be sent to the ApiNZ members Auckland Hub area.

I hope your queens are laying well, there are great patterns of healthy brood appearing and bee numbers are building for a great harvest ahead.

- Kim Kneijber



WAIKATO

I am writing this on the official last day of winter, a perfect day and bees are working well. However, there are some signs of trouble, with the odd dopey bee walking on the ground in circles. Reports from various parts of our region are of some hives booming while others are showing resistant mites, attacks from wasps that have over-wintered, deformed wing virus and other inexplicable ailments. It is certainly a time to be vigilant and ensure that the colonies are well nourished.

The importance of monitoring varroa cannot be emphasised enough. We should be setting up a varroa plan, starting by testing to establish what your mite levels are at. We must use miticides according to label conditions. The word from one beekeeper is, "do not create problems for yourself or other beekeepers".

In a rare moment of television viewing recently, we enjoyed watching the film *More than Honey*, produced in Germany in 2012, featuring Switzerland, USA, China and Australia. It was a non-judgmental account of traditional beekeeping in Switzerland, and a large family business in the USA focusing on almond pollination as well as honey production. The Australian and China segments showed another side to the consequences of bee losses. We found it sobering and thought-provoking and hope that others have made time to watch it.

Another highlight in August was the 'This is Mānuka Honey' symposium, held in Auckland on 9 August. The symposium brought together scientists from New Zealand and around the world, about 12 speakers in all. Each speaker presented their work on mānuka, and in some cases other honeys. It was very good to hear about this independent research and yet see the collaboration between scientists, beekeepers and marketers worldwide that will surely be beneficial to us all. [Editor's note: see report on page 58.]

- Pauline Bassett, Life Member

continued...



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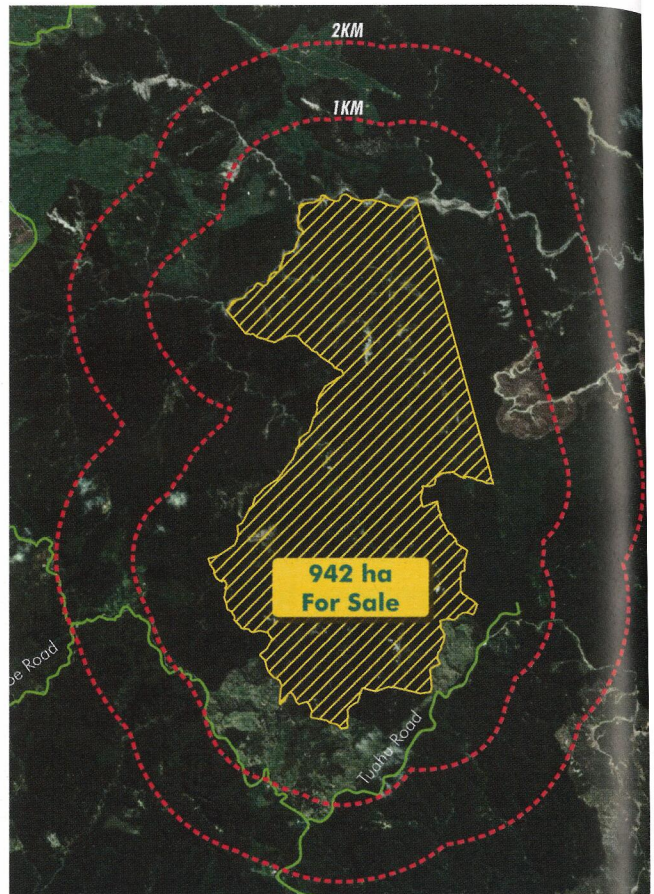
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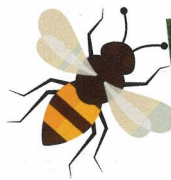
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HAWKE'S BAY

The reports I have received suggest that hives have wintered very well with minimal losses. Breeding is slightly behind, which is not surprising as flowers are very late this year, with stonefruit being two weeks later than average.

I have talked to beekeepers from many parts of the country who have been telling me that both unregistered hives and under-reporting or non-reporting of AFB has become a huge problem. If this is true, it undermines everything that we have worked for. I have always preferred education to prosecution, and will be running an AFB refresher course (not DECA) on 13 October. Even I am starting to agree with the groundswell of opinion that we need some harsher penalties in place for those that deliberately and continuously flout the law.

Hive thefts seem to be increasing all the time. It still seems to be difficult to get police to take action even when stolen hives have been located. Just because someone chisels out recognition brands and fills them with bog does not give them ownership. Hopefully this will be sorted before you read this. I certainly hope so.

- John Berry, Hub President



SOUTHERN NORTH ISLAND

Spring is here as I write: the willows are budding and our hives are starting to crank. By the time you read this we are likely well into dealing with swarms.

Something very important has happened in our area recently with regard to hive thefts around the Manawatu–Palmerston North area. With good teamwork from a number of beekeepers, the person responsible was identified and hives checked.

The procedure adopted by the thief was to take a small number of hives from an apiary, transfer the bees and frames into recently painted boxes and then burn the stolen boxes. However, on inspection with police present, we were able to confirm that frames within the hives had come from at least three commercial beekeepers in the area. One beekeeper got six of his nine hives back, and another had some of his bases returned. Police have charged the person with theft; now it is a matter for the Court.

It is great to be able to report that something has happened. We still have to sort out the problem in the Wanganui area. It is important that everyone notes any hive movements, and if possible, record the registration numbers of vehicles you do not know and report them to the police. One Feilding beekeeper was reported moving hives in the evening to the police and they rang him to say his trailer had been recorded going through Feilding. This was excellent and although all was right, it showed the police how easy it is to check on hive movements with a registration number and sort out illegal hive movements from genuine beekeeper activities.

- Neil Farrer, Life Member



Photo supplied by New Zealand Police.

NELSON/UPPER SOUTH ISLAND

Looking around the district, there is a lovely lot of bloom from tree lucerne, plums and other stonefruit, in addition to the willow and other early-flowering species. All this activity has been good for the bees. Most beekeepers have indicated that the hives have come out of winter in a relatively good to strong state. Many are feeding and those targeting pollination services in the month are busy ensuring hives have plenty of numbers. At this stage, things are shaping up well for the coming season.

ApiNZ Life Member Frank Lindsay attended the 6 September meeting of the Nelson Beekeepers Club: more about that next month. With spring well and truly upon us, I need to keep going with those early beekeeping activities, and making sure those varroa strips are doing their job.

- Jason Smith

continued...

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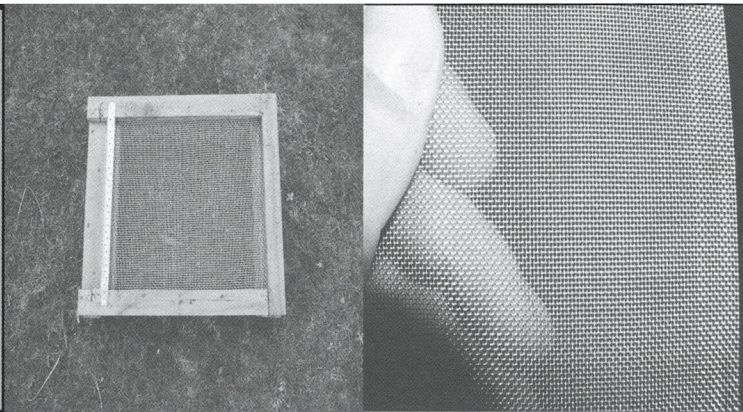
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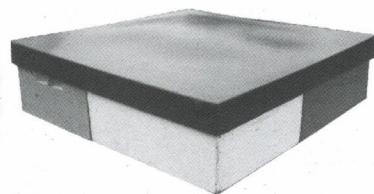
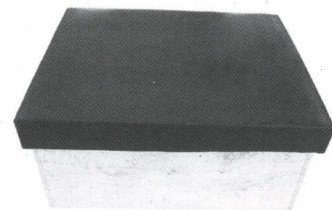
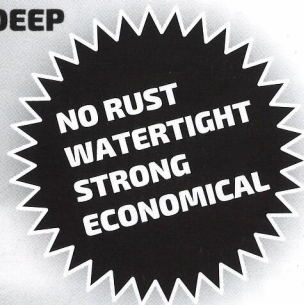
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CANTERBURY

The first two weeks of August were very cold, amongst the coldest fortnight on record in Canterbury and snowfall on 6 August. The rest of the month has been a return to mild dry weather. The trend of previous months has continued with warmer than normal temperatures and lower than normal rainfall. More north-westerly airflows are expected in October. Most of Canterbury may see near normal rainfall. Inland parts of Mid-Canterbury and South Canterbury may be dry.

There has been some good publicity about for Bee Aware Month in local papers. There was an interactive programme in the *New Zealand Gardener* magazine encouraging gardeners and young and older people interested in gardening to plant nectar- and pollen-bearing plants.

The Canterbury Hub has had its second meeting and seems to be coming together quite well. It's always good to see more beekeepers attending: contact the Hub Secretary for venue and time of meeting if unsure.

As of early September, some beekeepers have completed their first inspection round. Bees are more evident now as spring pollen sources are becoming available. Supplement feeding of pollen substitute is becoming more necessary now. Mineral supplements are available also, which are proving beneficial.

I am having reports of wasps feeding on giant willow aphid (GWA) honeydew in my area of South Canterbury. It will be interesting to observe the extent of the GWA this spring.

A beekeepers' field day was held recently at Lincoln University that was very well attended by North and South Island beekeepers. The main subjects covered were small hive beetle, biological control of varroa, giant willow aphid and the new wasp bait Vespex®. A good presence of sponsors with their bee-related goods provided atmosphere and interest.

All the best for a good spring season.

- Noel Trezise

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

EMPHASISE COOPERATION OVER FINANCE

I was concerned to see a notice in the September edition about Land Use Agreements giving the impression that we should use the ideas relating to them as the norm.

The emphasis on mānuka honey has obviously upset traditional relationships between beekeepers and landowners. Landowners still need to recognise that bees provide valuable pollination for crops and pastures. In the past, beekeepers would give the landowners some honey in appreciation for the apiary site provided, as neighbours would also benefit from the proximity of apiaries on adjacent land.

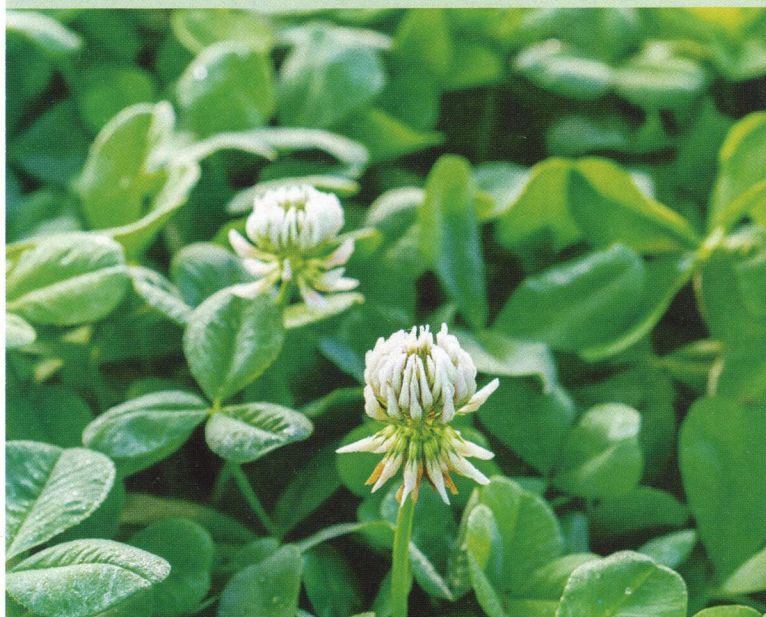
I have been told that some farmers are charging beekeepers up to \$150 a hive for clover sites. Good clover seed sites will return beekeepers good income, but in the case of a clover seed crop the seed income will be far greater than any honey gained. Paying the beekeeper for pollinating clover is perhaps worthwhile for the farmer, but at least work on cooperation rather than finance wherever possible.

With the downturn in milk prices, it could soon be far more economical to use clover for nitrogen fixation than urea. Ten hives for 250 hectares will give over 90% pollination of clover, going by previous research I was involved in, so more than 10 hives every kilometre or so in each direction will result in reduced crops. With modern-day intensive farming, clover is often grazed heavily through much of the year and hive densities need to be even lower than stated previously.

Let us not be fixated on money and enjoy our beekeeping first and foremost.

- Gary Jeffery

See also letter and response on page 67.





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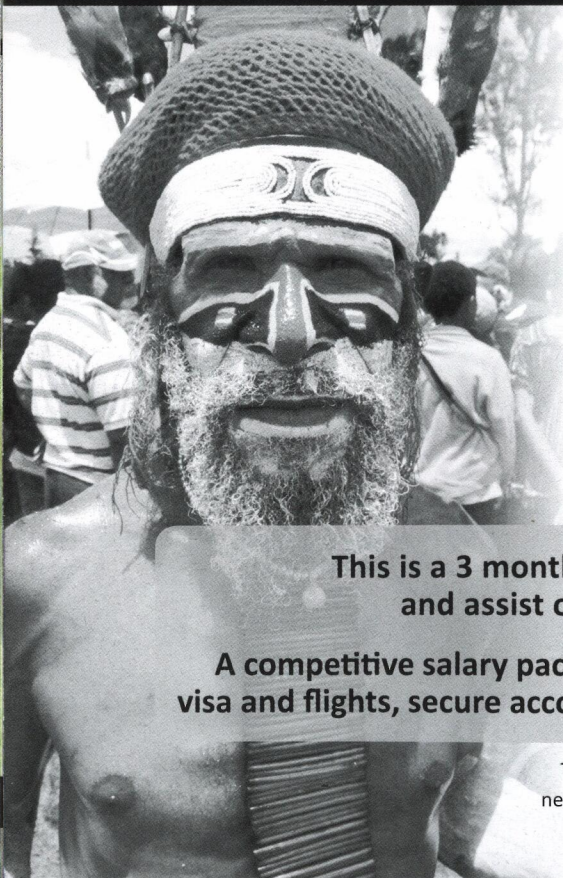
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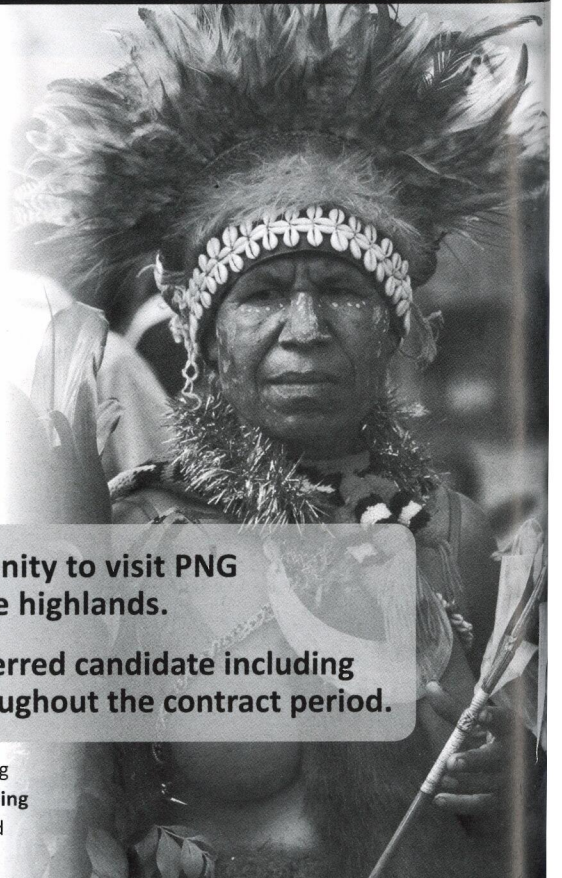
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The terms of reference can be obtained by emailing newguineafruits@gmail.com Please quote 'Beekeeping Expert Trainer' in the subject line. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for an interview.

If you would like to know more about us please visit our Facebook page Highlands Honey.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WHY NO CONFERENCE IN THE SOUTH ISLAND?

Many South Island beekeepers feel abandoned by the Executive Board in the last couple of years. We find it astonishing that even though it had been decided at this year's conference that the 2017 event would be held in the South Island, that the Executive has backtracked on that decision, and is having the conference in Rotorua again in 2017.

This event for many years was shared evenly between the South Island and the North Island. We could possibly understand two years in the North Island and one year in the South Island, because there are obviously more beekeepers in the North Island than in the South Island. The last event in the South Island was Ashburton 2013. With the latest decision being made by the Executive—but only just filtering down to the beekeepers—this will be five conferences in a row in the North Island. This does not give an opportunity for South Island beekeepers, particularly small beekeepers to attend. It also shuts a number of South Island beekeeping supply companies of a small-to-medium size from marketing their goods out to the wider industry. This is because it is not feasible or economical to attend a North Island conference.

We know that the reply will come that we couldn't find anywhere suitable in the South Island—there were many of us at the Otago/Southland Branch field days in Lawrence last year that made it extremely clear to John

Hartnell our views on this feeble excuse, and yet the same feeble excuses are being used yet again: "There is nowhere available in the South Island to hold it with the Christchurch rebuild still on".

Both Dunedin and Invercargill host a number of large conferences each year, Dunedin often hosts the biannual Masters Games with several thousand competitors, Southland hosts several national and international sports events and conferences each year. Just for our peace of mind, a few phone calls were made earlier this week [early September], and venues were easily found still available in both Dunedin and Queenstown, and also two in Invercargill in a matter of five phone calls. Invercargill's Stadium Southland is easily able to host events for several thousand people, and still have acres of indoor room for trade exhibitors in both their stadium and attached velodrome.

A lot of South Island beekeepers feel abandoned and let down by these decisions that seem to be purely based on attracting

more numbers, and making more money out of a North Island event. Many of us have had enough and have decided to vote with our feet. Maybe we should organise our own event for next year?

Concerned South Island Beekeepers

Response from the ApiNZ Board and the Conference Committee

ApiNZ and the Conference Committee are very aware of the need to ensure appropriate consideration is given to all beekeepers, marketers and supply companies who operate in both the North and South Island.

It is the clear intention of ApiNZ to deliver conferences in both the North and South Islands; however, this is tempered with the knowledge that appropriate venues must be able to support a number of key elements:

- a plenary room which seats a minimum of 1100 delegates
- trade exhibition space to cater for 100-plus stands

continued...



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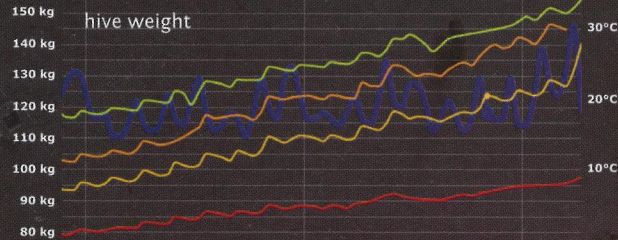
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- and if possible, to facilitate a gala dinner that seats up to 500 people.

In addition to these elements, further supporting requirements include:

- accommodation and its proximity to the venue
- a range of accommodation cost options from the backpacker upwards
- ease of transportation to and around venue (including flight options and costs)
- campervan parking, and places to eat and socialise at night.

This overview of factors that contribute to the decision making is all taken extremely seriously, as altogether they influence the cost of attendance.

The Conference Events Partner completed a thorough scoping of a number of South Island venues for 2017, including Queenstown, Dunedin and Nelson. These venues were unable to deliver the required specifications, in particular the plenary room, appropriate trade exhibition space and, in some instances, accommodation, travel and transport.

Further venue scoping work is now being undertaken with a focus on Conference 2018, as venues large enough to accommodate delegates at appropriate dates need to be pencilled in at least two years in advance. Should conference attendance numbers decrease at some future point, then the above venue options can be revisited. Christchurch has been pencil booked for 2020, subject to completion of their new conference facility.



APICULTURE NEW ZEALAND

WHY DID WE CHOOSE ROTORUA FOR 2017?

After due consideration and a committee site visit early June, Blenheim was pencil booked for 2017 and initially seemed optimal, as a new conference centre sits alongside their trade exhibition facility. The restrictions with this venue, however, were delegate numbers and the auditorium (plenary) layout. Approximately 850 seated delegates would be possible, though cramped.

Accommodation in the Blenheim region was always going to be a challenge as there are no large hotels, but this could be overcome by using shuttle buses. Accommodation requirements also clashed with bookings for the Lions Rugby Tour, which applies across New Zealand in June and July, but were not insurmountable. The gala dinner was to be held in a large vineyard complex, and numbers would have been capped at around 300 people.

It was a good plan, but reality took over, as during the last two weeks leading up to Conference 2016 delegate, registrations began to accelerate. Two days out from conference, 100 registrations a night were received, with total registrations topping 1250 delegates, plus trade and exhibition attendees.

Subsequently, on day one at Conference 2016, after much debate and discussion between the Conference Committee, ApiNZ Board Members, and key trade exhibitors, a decision was made late in the afternoon to release the Blenheim booking. The potential numbers for 2017 will far exceed the maximum possible at that venue and its seating format.

Was this decision easy? No. Was it the appropriate and right decision given all the circumstances? Yes.

To be clear, it is not ApiNZ's intention to restrict numbers; rather, it wishes to encourage participation in the most cost-effective manner possible. With many new entrants to our industry, it is vital that this important forum for education and knowledge transfer delivers a cost-effective environment where stakeholders who want to attend can participate at all levels. With the assistance of our sponsors and trade exhibitors, we believe this is exactly what is delivered.



For 2016, the Rotorua Energy Events Centre was certainly outstanding and a very cost-effective option that delivered on all counts. Those trade exhibitors who made the decision to be part of the Trade Buzz

continued...



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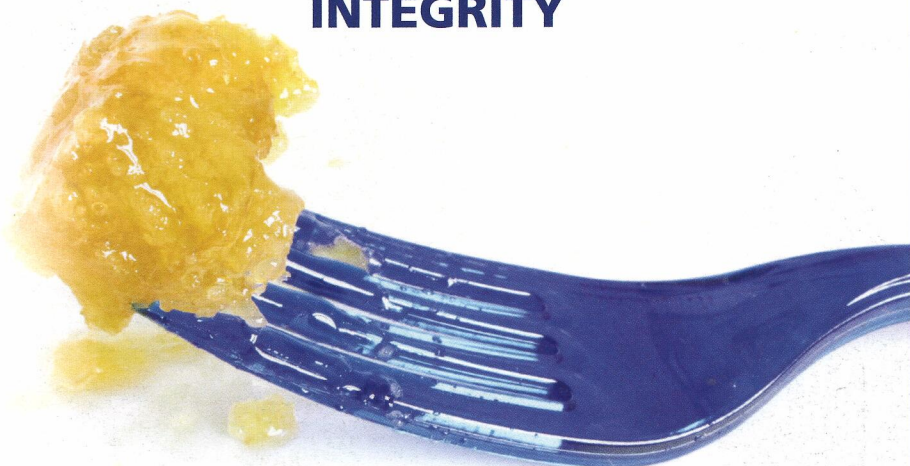
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In recognition of the fact that not everyone can take four or five days out of their work schedule to attend conference, the Conference Committee videoed all plenary sessions. A portable hard drive copy is being made available to every ApiNZ Hub so that every member of the industry can benefit from the presentations and knowledge shared. This recognises that not all people who wish to attend are able to, and ensures that the knowledge transfer opportunity is presented regionally.

Conference 2017 will return to the Rotorua Energy Events Centre on 8–11 July, because it can deliver the best conference outcome for ApiNZ for 2017. The dates are later than for 2016 because of prior venue bookings and accommodation commitments allocated to the Lions Tour. There is the capacity to seat 1100 delegates, the exhibition area has been increased by a third to meet signalled demand, and Rotorua will deliver another outstanding conference.

Planning for 2017 began before Conference 2016 started, this being the requirement for confirming availability for overseas speakers, putting together a comprehensive programme, determining and booking a suitable venue and setting the foundations for success. Ultimately the decision to return to Rotorua is a commonsense one and has ensured that ApiNZ has a suitable venue to deliver its second National Apiculture Conference and meet the expectations of all attendees.

The ApiNZ conference provides the opportunity to work together, build on our successes and showcase the world-leading products we sell on a day-by-day-basis. We encourage all stakeholders to participate, whether you are a delegate, trade exhibitor or potential sponsor.

John Hartnell

Chairman—ApiNZ Conference Steering
 Committee 2017



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ABOUT THE APIARY

MAKING ROOM FOR THE BEES

Frank Lindsay, Life Member

As I write this in September, a storm in the Wellington area produced hail and a few flurries of snow around our house. Now that the storm is clearing, I had better get out and check for hives blown over. It was quite some blow and very cold. Fragile new growth on the potatoes was cut by the hail and we have lost a few blossoms, but luckily this storm occurred before most of the peach and apple blossoms are to appear.

No doubt the weather will set back some of the smaller colonies that were expanding quite nicely. Spring is very unpredictable, so we have to make sure our hives have plenty of feed in reserve for the bees to call on when the weather prevents them from gathering nectar and pollen for themselves.

Boosting weaker colonies

Some of my colonies are boiling over with bees ready to split (if I had queens), while others had a harder time with mite re-invasion and are quite small, filling only eight frames in a full-depth super. And some have just a handful of bees. I added a frame of brood and bees to these but I'm now not sure that these will survive in the snow as some of my apiary sites are in higher elevations.

You can add a shake of nurse bees or a frame of nurse bees and emerging brood to boost a small colony's population without causing too much disruption to the hive. Any more and the new bees could kill the queen unless the hive scent is disguised with a spray of air freshener. Remember: we can only interchange brood frames after we have completed a brood inspection for AFB of both hives.

You can boost hives showing deformed wing virus but I wouldn't put the frames from the infested hive back into a good healthy hive, as this could spread the virus to the good hive.

Perhaps fixing up these poor-wintering hives is a waste of time and energy. Remember the 80/20 rule; in this case, where you spend 80% of your time on 20% of your hives. This really is a waste of your resources. Concentrate on the really good hives and breed from these. I say this realising that it's hard to let one hive go when you could bring it back into production. Then again if these dinky little hives produce drones and mate with my good queens, I will be reproducing from inferior stock. You have to decide on what your ultimate goal is: honey production from good stock or just honey production at any cost. I think I'll build



Spanish heath (*Erica lusitanica*) with gorse in the background. Both of these are weed species but from a beekeeper's point of view, a recipe for brood production.

them up and then requeen them before they get into major drone production.

Recognising signs of swarming

Colonies are expanding like mad and will continue to do so right up to the honey flow. Beekeeping is about timing—hives hitting a peak population right on the main honey flow. Reach it earlier and the hive will swarm; later and the hive is still growing on the honey flow.

Hives swarm for a number of reasons but the main one is overcrowding. The queen will continue to move the brood nest up until it hits a wall of honey. We can keep the queen moving up by reversing the bottom two brood supers, but you have to be careful not to split the colony.

The brood area is normally in the shape of an ellipse. It could be that you have brood in

the bottom half of the top super and brood in top half of the bottom super. By reversing the supers at this stage, you will be splitting the brood nest. In this situation, rather than reverse the super, put some of the young brood down into the bottom super (in the middle) and create space in the second by taking empty frames from the first and putting them on the outside of the brood for the queen to expand into.

Those who only have a single brood nest could lift a couple of frames of emerging brood above the queen excluder to encourage bees into the second super. If you haven't spotted the queen, shake all the bees of these frames so you don't inadvertently move the queen up above the queen excluder. If you move open brood up, the bees might draw out a queen cell and you don't want this as it could cause the hive to swarm. If you have no choice, check in five

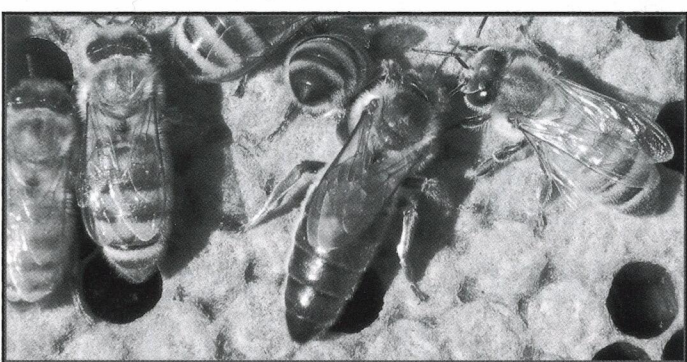
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days and rub out any queen cells produced above the queen excluder.

Healthy colonies will start to draw out queen cell buds in preparation for swarming. Generally the bees will make them on the outside of the comb and along the bottom of the comb in the space above the bottom bar. I squash out those buds that I can't easily see when looking from the bottom bars up into the super and leave those along the bottom bar. From now on we are starting to inspect hives every nine to 10 days.

It doesn't have to be hard—just a quick inspection to see how the hive is going. Remove the roof and place it in front of the hive. Observe where the bees are in the second super, covering all frames, can you see capped honey? If you can, tilt the hive back on the bottom board and look under the frames of the bottom super.

Are there bees hanging down below the frames covering half the bottom bars? If so, the hive is ready for the next super. If you have three to five full-depth frames of sealed brood (or the equivalent in three-quarter-depth frames), in the next eight days the hive will need another super. Put the supers back down on the bottom board and this time, split the hive between the first and second super. Look along the bottom bar for eggs in those queen cell buds you left. If you don't see any eggs, just add your third super and close up. (Feed thick sugar syrup if the bees need it.)

Swarming generally occurs at the first bush nectar flow or on pasture when the barberry, cabbage tree and/or hawthorns flower. When you see these flowering, be very diligent with your inspections. Sometimes the bees will hide a queen cell away so you don't see it. Sometimes if there isn't enough room to hang the cell down under the comb, they will build the cell horizontally along the bottom bar.

Hives in a paddock in Raetihi in spring.



Bee working tree lucerne (*Cytisus proliferus*), also known as tagasaste. Photos: Frank Lindsay.

Making splits

An egg in a queen cell indicates the hive is going to swarm, but not always. Up to this point the queen has been laying flat out and some will start to fail, so the bees will use the cell buds to create supersedure cells. Put the frame with the first queen cell aside in front of the hive and continue to look through the other brood frames. Are there eggs in the brood frames? If not, then leave the queen cells as these are supersedure cells. If eggs are present in the brood frames, then these are swarm cells. Either split the hive in half or take off a nuc.

I prefer to split the hive in half, moving the queen and most of the sealed brood and half the honey to another position in the yard. Leave a couple of queen cells of different ages and open brood on the original site. Because this queenless split is still on the old site, all of the field bees will return to this hive. The old queen's split will be relieved of congestion and she will continue laying. In the new split, a queen will develop, hopefully mate and keep the hive going, so you will need to check in 21 days.

If you don't want to increase your hive numbers, bring the old queen hive back to the original site at the beginning of the main honey flow. Place the new queen hive on top of the old queen hive, separated by a couple of sheets of newsprint. Add another two honey supers and it's ready to bring in honey.

The bees going down into the old hive will kill the old queen most of the time.

This sort of operation requires an additional base and roof. If you don't have these, use/make a split board. This is just a crown board with an entrance notch (about 25 millimetres) cut out of the top side at one end. When making the split to stop swarming, place the old queen section on top of the split board with the entrance upwards and to the back and you have two separate colonies on top of each other. Generally because the bottom hive will have more bees, it's best to add another super to give the bees room.

For those with top bar or bench hives, with each inspection move the brood frames back from the entrance one or two bars/frames. The colony will expand towards the entrance. (Entrances should be at the ends, not in the centre.) If you see queen cells, split the colony just as you would for a Langstroth hive.

Feeding and using a smoker

A strong hive needs at least three frames of honey in reserve (a week's food) all the time. Honey will be used at a great rate now as the bees turn it into food for the growing larvae. Some hives may need feeding from now on. You don't want them to starve, as this delays brood rearing and you will have less bees for the honey flow.

For those starting with nuc hives, continue to feed your bees, maybe twice a week if a

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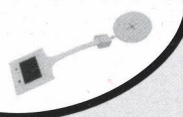
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two-litre jar feeder is used. Keep feeding until all the bottom super's frames are drawn out. If this occurs mid-December, you can stop feeding as the bees should then start working natural nectar sources and will build out a second super by themselves.

The most important thing a new beekeeper can learn is how to light a smoker and have it keep going for half an hour or more. Store pine needles or use sacking in a dry place until it's completely dry. Place some pine needles in the bottom third of the smoker and take a handful of needles. Light the end and, while puffing the bellows, gently put the lit needles into the smoker and keep puffing the bellows. Lots of smoke will come out: that's good. Now gently add another handful of needles and slowly compact these into the smoker while still puffing. Then add more until the smoker is full. Close the lid and puff again. The smoke should be cool on your hand. This is the distance you work the hive with.

Before opening a hive, put four puffs into the entrance. If you have hives on a pallet and intend to work the lot, smoke them all. Wait two minutes and do it again. Then wait for another two minutes and you are ready to

open the hive. As you raise the crown board, waft a gentle puff over the top of the bars. You now have the hive under control. When the bees start raising their heads and looking at you from between the bars, waft just a little smoke over their heads and they will go back down again. If you have a line of bee hives, smoke the next hive as you open the first.

When you take a super off a hive to work on the lower one, cover the first with the crown board or a cotton cloth. You can keep the hive open a little longer without it losing too much heat.

Quite often beekeepers smoke hives and get straight into them, then wonder why they get stung. You have to give time for the smoke to work, to overwhelm the bees' sense of smell and mask any alarm pheromone so they are calm and easy to handle. Some hives will sting anyway. Replace their queen with a mated queen from a queen producer at the first opportunity.

Then learn how to handle and use a hive tool. Keep it in the palm of your hand even when lifting out frames. Attend local field days and buddy up with another beekeeper.



An alcohol wash container made by Dr Medhat Nasr in Canada. Photo: Frank Lindsay.

Things to do this month

Check feed and pollen levels. Feed if short. Do an AFB check, and get your Certificate of Inspection (COI) in the post before the end of November.

Cull old frames, or at least move them to the outside of the super so they can be removed next inspection. Replace any with broken lugs, as well as those that you can't see light through when held up to the sun. Replace a minimum of three frames in brood supers each year.

Check varroa mite levels. Treat any that have more than two mites per 100 bees on an alcohol wash or five mites dropping in 24 hours through a mesh bottom board. We learnt at conference in 2014 that hives with a 5% varroa level don't produce much honey. Hives kept at or below a 1% varroa level, produce 100% more honey than those with a 5% mite load.

Miticide strips have to be out before the honey flow. Apivar® has to be out two weeks before the flow starts. Check that your treatment has been successful two weeks after the strips have been removed.

Add foundation frames into and above the brood nest to keep the bees busy. Fit foundation into comb honey frames. Super hives before the flow starts. Inter-space foundation with drawn frames to encourage the bees up into the next super.

Wash your bee suits and gloves after any stinging incident. Take all your gear off before entering your house to protect your family from the effects of

YOU GET WHAT YOU PAY FOR

Frank Lindsay, Life Member

Recently the metal work on one of my smokers died, so I looked around for a replacement. You can get a stainless copy or you can purchase the genuine thing produced by Dadant in the USA.

I bought a copy to carry me over for the season rather than purchase one locally, as I was heading to the USA later in the year where I could buy one myself.

I found that the copy burnt through the fuel in half the time of my original, so reduced the spout hole to half by flattening it slightly. This reduced the air flow to some extent. However, after getting the genuine article. I put both smokers side by side, and lit them using dried pine needles. I left the copy going on the truck and proceeded to use the new Dadant smoker while working hives.



Two smokers. The copy is in the background with the slightly reduced spout hole. The Dadant smoker is in the foreground. Photo: Frank Lindsay.

APICULTURE NZ CLUB CONTACTS AND SPECIALTY GROUPS

AUCKLAND BEEKEEPERS CLUB

www.aucklandbeekeepersclub.org.nz
Meets second Saturday monthly at Unitec, Pt Chevalier, Auckland

Martin Garside, President

P: +64 9 410 7445
M: +64 21 0889 8210 (TEXT ONLY)
E: fgarside@xtra.co.nz

Please send all correspondence to:
PO Box 44-427, Pt Chevalier 124, Auckland 1022 or
e-mail admin@aucklandbeekeepersclub.org.nz

FRANKLIN BEEKEEPERS CLUB

www.franklinbees.co.nz
Meets second Sunday each month at 733 Paerata Rd, near Pukekohe. 10am start, for cuppa and discussion, and open the hives at 11:30. Visitors welcome.

Graham Dyche, President

P: +64 9 238 9854
E: president@franklinbees.co.nz

Joan Leitch, Secretary

M: +64 21 226 2135
E: secretary@franklinbees.co.nz
Correspondence to PO Box 1082 Pukekohe 2340

WAIKATO DOMESTIC BEEKEEPERS CLUB

www.waikatobeekeepers.org.nz
Meets every third Tuesday (except January) at 7:30 pm, Chartwell Cooperating Church Hall, 124 Comries Road, Hamilton.

Cameron Blackburn, President

P: +64 7 846 7864
E: president@waikatobeekeepers.org.nz

Arthur Plumpton, Secretary

P: +64 7 889 1014
E: secretary@waikatobeekeepers.org.nz

ROTORUA HONEY BEE CLUB

http://www.rotoruahoneybeeclub.co.nz
https://www.facebook.com/RotoruaHoneyBeeClub
Meets monthly

Kim Poynter, President

P: +64 21 926 937
E: birchwoodfarm@xtra.co.nz

Jude Thomas, Secretary

P: +64 27 349 1622
E: rotoruahoneybeeclub@gmail.com
Correspondence to: 374B Hamurana Rd, RD7, Rotorua 3907

WANGANUI BEEKEEPERS CLUB

Meets every second Wednesday each month (except Jan), at 7:30pm, at Canaan Apiaries, Mosston Road, Wanganui.

Neil Farrer

P: +64 6 343 6248
E: nfarrer@xtra.co.nz

MANAWATU BEEKEEPERS CLUB

Meets every fourth Thursday in the month at 7:30 pm Newbury Hall, SH3, Palmerston North

President: Pat Lawrence

P: +64 6 322 8214

Fran Wolber, Chair & Media Liaison

M: +64 6 329 1929
E: chair@manawatubeeclub.org.nz

Georgina Morrison, Secretary

E: secretary@manawatubeeclub.org.nz
(NB: Preferred address for email correspondence)
Mailing address: PO Box 4103, Manawatu Mail Centre, Palmerston North 4442

THE BUZZ CLUB OTAKI

Meets every third Wednesday of the month at 7pm at the Waitohu School Hall, Te Manuao Road, Otaki.

Sarah Bayliss, Chairperson

P: +64 6 364 0555

Ken Wells, Secretary

P: +64 6 364 5966
E: thebuzzclubotaki@gmail.com

WELLINGTON BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

www.beehive.org.nz
Meets first Wednesday of the month (except Jan) in the Johnsonville Community Centre, Main Hall, Moorefield Road, Johnsonville. 7 pm Beginners' session, 7.30 pm main meeting.

Frank Lindsay, President

26 Cunliffe St, Johnsonville, Wellington 6037
P: +64 4 478 3367
E: lindsays.apiaries@clear.net.nz

Jane Harding, Secretary

M: +64 27 421 2417
P: +64 4 499 4123
E: janeh@xtra.co.nz

WAIRARAPA HOBBY BEEKEEPERS CLUB

https://www.facebook.com/Wairarapa.Beekeepers
Meets every second Sunday of each month (except January) at 14:00 (2 pm)

Mr. Bernard Watt, the Swarm Man and Club Coordinator

P: +64 27 256 2026
E: b.watt@xtra.co.nz
or email the secretary at: aewrootbeer@gmail.com

MARLBOROUGH BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

www.marlboroughbeekeepers.co.nz
Meets the first Saturday of the month at 10 am at the Blenheim community gardens off Budge Street.

Dion Mundy, Chairperson

M: +64 21 226 8327
E: dion.mundy@plantandfood.co.nz

Silke Powell, Secretary

M: +64 21 268 4149
E: pestpowell@farmside.co.nz

NELSON BEEKEEPERS CLUB

www.nelsonbeekeepers.org.nz
Meets first Tuesday Feb–Dec inclusive, 7–9 pm Waimea Lounge, Richmond A&P Showgrounds Lower Queen Street, Richmond.

Jason Smith, President

M: +64 27 249 9370

Ian Henbrey, Secretary

P: +64 3 548 6220
M: +64 27 546 8283
E: tasmanbees@gmail.com

CHRISTCHURCH HOBBYIST BEEKEEPERS' CLUB

www.chchbeekeepers.org.nz
Meets on the first Saturday of each month, August to May, (except January for which it is the second Saturday), at 681 Cashmere Road, commencing at 1.30pm.

Myrtle Davey, Secretary

E: chch.beekeepers@gmail.com

WEST COAST HOBBY BEEKEEPERS CLUB

Meets at Kumara Junction Cafe/Honey House from 10am till 12pm.
2016 club dates: 18 Jun, 20 Aug, 15 Oct and 19 Nov.

President: Sue Roper

M: +64 21 251 1861
E: sue@pinkpossum.co.nz

SOUTHLAND BEE SOCIETY INC

www.southlandbeesociety.nz/
Meets every third Wednesday of the month. For meeting details, go to <http://www.southlandbeesociety.nz/>

Murray Christensen, Chair

M: +64 27 721 1448

Sonya Crook, Secretary

P: +64 3 235 8371
Postal correspondence C/o Secretary, PO Box 5031, Invercargill 9843.

APINZ REGIONAL HUBS

Refer to page 75 to request details of these meetings.

UMF® HONEY ASSOCIATION (INC)

www.umf.org.nz

John Rawcliffe, Administrator

P: +64 9 575 3127
M: +64 27 441 8508
E: enquiry@umf.org.nz

NZ HONEY BEE POLLINATION ASSOCIATION NZ QUEEN PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

Russell Berry
P: +64 7 366 6111

NZ COMB PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

John Wright
P: +64 9 236 0628

NZ HONEY PACKERS AND EXPORTERS ASSOCIATION INC

Contact: Allen McCaw
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E: amccaw@clear.net.nz

Mary-Anne Thomason

P: +64 6 855 8038
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BEE PRODUCTS STANDARDS COUNCIL

www.bpsc.org.nz

Dr Jim Edwards, Chairman

P: +64 6 362 6301
E: jim@worldveterinaryconsultants.com

IS YOUR CLUB OR GROUP MISSING FROM HERE?
OR HAVE YOUR DETAILS CHANGED?

Contact info@apinz.org.nz. Please also send any changes or additions to:
editor@apinz.org.nz

NB: listings on this page are limited to clubs and groups that are financial members of Apiculture New Zealand.



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APINZ REGIONAL CONTACTS: First named is President/Chairperson. The second named is Secretary.

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Interested parties wishing to start a regional hub, please contact the ApiNZ secretary:
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IF YOUR DETAILS HAVE CHANGED...

...please email info@apinz.org.nz so that we can update your details in the journal and the NZ Beekeeping Directory.



500g Tall Round Jar



500g Round Jar



340g Round Jar



250g Round Jar



2KG Hex Jar



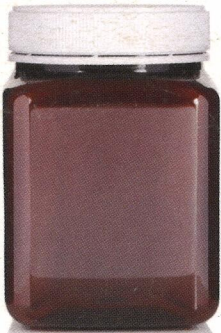
1KG Hex Jar



500g Hex Jar



250g Hex Jar



2KG Square Jar



1KG Square Jar



500g Square Jar



250g Square Jar

New Zealand's most extensive range of honey packaging

Pharmapac's range of export quality packaging for honey contains square, hex & round jars. Sizes range from 250g - 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.

We are continually developing new products & services based on the feedback and requests from our customers.

Our stock jar colours are amber & clear. Stock closure colours are white, blue, gold, green & black. Custom coloured closures are available (minimum orders of 5000 units will apply). No supply contracts are required.

For more information or product samples please contact us at:

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