

30 August 1991

Mr Leo Mangos
Moffat Road
R.D. 4
Tauranga

Dear Leo

Thank you once again for the expression of fruitgrower's support to the beekeeping industry in its efforts to secure an effective disease control programme.

I am enclosing for your information some of the relevant papers, including our current Industry Plan (which refers to the current process of working through one last attempt at securing Government funding for the programme). Enclosed also is a relatively recent letter I wrote to branches, summarising my own feelings on the matter. Finally, I enclose a copy of our draft Commodity Levies application.

Our recent activities have been as follows:

September 1990 - Knew that the time was drawing near that we would be able to apply...

December 1990 - Set up sub-committee to draft levy application

January 1991 - Met and drafted application, basically as you see it now.

March 1991 - Annual Industry Planning meeting. Agreed to make one last approach to Minister to secure funding from that source rather than Commodities Levy.

May 1991 - Exec members met with Denis Marshall to present proposal. Considered, but would not give answer. One of our members suggested meeting with Agriculture Caucus Committee and he readily agreed.

30 May 1991 - Presentation to Agriculture Caucus Committee. Considered a 'favourable' hearing by those present, but no answers...

6 June 1991 - Ballot was scheduled to go out. Cancelled pending reply from Caucus Committee.

1 July 1991 - MAF funding ran out. Service effectively stops...

July 1991 - Industry Annual Conference. Doug Kidd gave us a resounding 'yes and no', leaving all sides happy. The ones who wanted to hear it that way thought he was saying 'Yes, we recognise the importance of beekeeping and will find some way to provide this funding'. The rest of us felt he wasn't quite sure of all of the issues, but was certainly not saying yes to us!

Middle August - No reply from Ag Caucus, so we asked again. Assurance that we would have answer in week to 10 days in the form of a letter.

Late August - 10 days past, contacted Minister's office again. Very apologetic, said they thought we had it all sorted out, and an answer had been given by MAF. Minister would provide personal answer by the next Tuesday.

Which was last Tuesday, 27 August. And as far as I know now, late Friday afternoon, we still do not have any answer, much less a favourable one...

Sincerely yours

Nick Wallingford
Executive Member