

HO
DIRECTOR TO SUPERINTENDENT, BEEKEEPING.

6.3.72.

6003

ATTENTION : MR SMAELLIE.



IMPORT OF DRONE BEE SEMEN.

- (1) A BEEKEEPER AFTER READING ARTICLES IN THE "N.Z. BEEKEEPER" REGARDING THE BAN ON IMPORTING BEES INTO NEW ZEALAND HAS NOW ASKED WHY NOT IMPORT THE "SEMEN" FROM DRONES TO LIFT THE QUALITY OF OUR BEE.
- (2) THIS BEEKEEPER (MR G. NICHOLS) IS CONTACTING THE ARTIFICIAL BREEDING CENTRE AT RUAKURA, HAMILTON, TO SEE IF THIS IS AT ALL POSSIBLE. PERHAPS YOU CAN ADVISE ME ON THE FOLLOWING:-
- (3) IF THIS WAS ALLOWED, IT WOULD MEAN ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION OF QUEENS. WOULD A QUEEN BREEDER HAVE TO UNDERTAKE THIS OR WOULD THE DEPARTMENT BE PREPARED TO UNDERTAKE THE RESPONSIBILITY, SUPPLYING QUEENS ONLY TO RECOGNISED QUEEN BREEDERS.
- (4) IF ALLOWED, WOULD A RESTRICTION BE PLACED ON OTHER THAN ITALIAN STRAIN OF SEMEN, TO PREVENT UNDESIRABLE GENETIC CHARACTERISTICS SHOWING UP IN FUTURE GENERATIONS.
- (5) IF AN ADVANTAGE WAS OBTAINED FROM THIS SEMEN, HOW LONG WOULD THIS ADVANTAGE LAST IN FUTURE MATINGS OF THE OFFSPRING WITH OUR DRONES, OR WOULD WE HAVE TO USE AN A.I. QUEEN AT EACH REQUEENING.

83 HN

Telegraphic	FILE BRING UP 2/17/72 [Signature]
Drafted by	
Approved by	