

Townsville and District Beekeepers Association (Inc.)

www.beesnorth.com.au



PO Box 1115, Aitkenvale QLD 4814

Newsletter No 9 October 2018

In this Issue:

- President Alan Z to take a break
- News from our Members
- Fake honey in the shops again/still
- Stories from the hives
- Research topics
- Do the "Sugar Shake" and send in a report
- Club Shop price list - Members Only!

Next Meeting and AGM:
Hermit Park SS
2pm Sunday 21 October 2018
entrance off McKimmin Road, Hermit Park
Bring a chair - and a plate of food to share if you can
Tea, coffee, sugar and milk provided

President Alan Ziegenfusz is retiring

Another year has flown by and here we are at the AGM time of year again. I have completed 2 years as president now of the club and I am standing down as President to let another member inject new & fresh ideas into the Club to keep it running at it's best. The Club has grown in numbers to around 300 members/families in the Townsville district interested in keeping bee colonies. from where a new President and Committee members can come forward from.

In the last 2 years, the Committee has never had a permanent Secretary which is an essential role to run the club. In discussions with the existing Committee, I will nominate for the position of Secretary for a year, unless we have anyone else interested in that position.

Being on the Committee is not a large job when the club has 10 general meetings & only around 4 Committee meetings a year. Major events to prepare for are Honey Month & Eco Fest. We also have school and community talks that come in throughout the year. The Committee plans out 2 to 3 months of general meeting workshops ahead of time to help the Club members through their discovery of bees and the animal husbandry of keeping them healthy to provide the liquid gold they produce.

I had never been on a Committee before, but taking on the President's role has been a thoroughly rewarding experience. Standing in front of all of the members at my first few meetings was an experience of nerves and trepidation. I have got my way through it and now I am a lot more comfortable standing in front of people talking, so much that I took to the stage at Eco Fest and gave a talk about bees and the Club.

I would like to thank all of the Committee and members who have volunteered over this time for the help they have given me and especially Frana for being the Treasurer/Membership Co-ordinator of the Club. Without her passion for the Club, the bookkeeping, ordering of supplies for all of the members to take advantage of and mentoring of newbies we wouldn't be where we are.

So stand up and nominate yourself to be either a committee member , or one of the executive positions for this wonderful friendly Club as it is well worth while.

President Al



Looks like some customers have moved in to Al's insect motel already.

Alan transferred his natives into a new box at the last meeting, and these pics show the bees appear to be pretty happy with their new digs.



Alan has been making insect motels and donating them to schools and community groups, and here is one he set up at his home.

Honey? One *huge* lump, or two?

From Ray Berkelmans on the Gold Coast



I'm not sure what my bees were feeding on prior to my last honey harvest. All I know is that on the comb, the honey was liquid, reasonably light in colour but somewhat thick in consistency. In fact, some frames were quite difficult to spin the honey out of. Within 3 weeks, the honey had 'set' like concrete in the drum. Upon opening the honey gate, nothing came out! It was like a white wall in there! Scooping honey out with a ladle was barely possible and left globular depressions where the ladle had been. That is the thickest honey I've ever seen!

Interestingly, the honey didn't feel overly granular on the tongue – in fact it was quite smooth, just very stiff. All up, great for toast and crumpets, but not ideal for drizzling over the cereal in the morning.



So, in the double-boiler it went, thermometer in the honey, stirring continually and turning off the heat as soon as the temperature hit 50 degC. Three weeks later the honey is still a nice golden thick syrup. How's yours?

Home made inspection hive

From Alan Ziegenfusz

President Al was doing up pictures for his bee motels and came across this one on the internet. Alan says "Easier than the one I made and actually looks better. I go to the perspex shop on Ingham Rd between IGA & Mitre 10. They have a bunch of offcuts of different sizes/ colours & thickness I sort through to get the sizes I use. \$10 roughly per piece. I have a bandsaw, so easy to cut down, or use a renovator tool or hacksaw blade.



Botanical Bazaar, Gold Coast

From Ray Berkelmans on the Gold Coast

The Botanical Bazaar is now in its fourth year and was held on September 16th at Nerang on the Gold Coast. I'd never heard of it before and almost didn't make it again this year, baulking a bit at the \$15/head entry (probably too used to the FREE Townsville Eco-Fiesta!). I wondered if it was worth it for a tinpot local event. I could not have been more surprised. There were over 100 exhibitors which included specialty nurseries and plants

of every type imaginable, garden materials and tools, innovative composting ideas, beauty and health stalls and much more. Spending a whole day there was no trouble at all! There were three venues where concurrent talks were given on all things garden, some by well-known TV personalities, like Jerry Coleby-Williams (Gardening Australia). There were tours through the local community gardens, cooking classes, flower arranging classes, cheese-making displays, a brewery area and so on. I came out with an armful of greenery, enthusiasm and a good deal of new knowledge.



An interesting aspect of this event was that the local bee club not only had a stall there (as you'd expect), but they had organised their own mini-bazaar within the main event. They had attracted around 15 exhibitors showing off their wares in bee products, hive equipment, native bees, box makers, Flow hives etc. They had also organised a series of bee talks throughout the day. They really stood out with a massive presence. Interest was great. I have no idea on attendance numbers but the event was hugely popular, chocka full of people, parking a nightmare etc, but well worth the effort!

Bee Bloopers of the Month

Sent in by Frana McKinstry
Posted on TDBA Inc Facebook page September 2018

Hopefully this was not one of our members! Always good to put the honey bucket in a large plastic tray before you transport it. Apparently the honey gate was not closed properly, or got bumped in the car during transport. This is one way to waste 30 kgs of hard earned liquid gold. And imagine what the head bee would react if she saw all her food storage wasted !ouch.



New research articles on bees

Mushrooms contain antiviral compounds

Sent in by Miles Furnas

Mushroom extract helps bees defend themselves and boosts their immune systems to 2 viruses. This was discovered after bees were observed removing leaf litter from fungi on the ground and a curious beekeeper decided to investigate what was attracting them to mushrooms. Turns out there are immune boosting chemicals that help fight off at least 2 virus infections.

<https://abcnews.go.com/Technology/save-bees-mushroom-extracts-fight-viruses-contribute-colony/story?id=58281087>

Bees are brainy

Sent in by Joan Ruddell
Article in October 2018 edition of ABC mag "Gardening Australia"

We have seen several references to how smart bees are, eg how they can find their hives after flying more than 5-8 km away, do the waggle dance to communicate where nectar and pollen sources are, organise who to forage, who to mind the hive or rear the young, when to swarm, protect the hive from marauders, heat or cool the hive, build wax comb etc etc. However, their recently demonstrated ability to learn how to receive a sweet reward when pushing a ball or pulling a string takes the cake, so to speak. Bumble bees were able to watch another bee receive a reward for pulling a string, and then go and do it themselves. But even better, when an experienced bee was placed in a group of inexperienced bees- the inexperienced bees mastered the self reward technique straight away, without training! In another experiment, bees taught themselves how to perform a task in a more efficient manner, by figuring out a shorter path to the reward, just like when they can calculate a shorter path to food in the wild when doing repeat flights to the food source.

Almost one in five Australian honey samples found to be fake

Sent in by Neal Elliman
ABC News

Testing of local honey has shown that even boutique brands have been adulterated. Almost one in five Australian honey samples, including some expensive boutique honey, are fake, according to a ground-breaking study that tested samples of local and international branded honey. The study, conducted by a team of scientists at Macquarie University, used 100 samples of honey sourced globally, including 38 Australian-branded honey samples. It found more than half the samples sourced from Asia, mainly [Read the full story](#)

And from the pen of grand master social commentator Michael Leunig.....



Greek honey - it's so expensive it is guarded by soldiers

The Ed has been travelling quite a lot lately, but always has his nose to the ground sniffing out bee stories. Some honey is so expensive they have an armed Greek soldier who was patrolling to keep hive robbing at bay (just joking).



We came across an ancient pottery hive (pictured on left) and sampled some interesting mountain herb floral honeys.

The Greeks value their honey very highly and have been beekeeping for thousands of years according to documents. Who could resist Greek honey balls (Loukoumades), or baklava, or honey and yogurt, or halva, or.....

Airports shops are chock a block with honey and bee products (bottom left and right,) just like in NZ, but the price on the Orange blossom honey with White Truffle must take the cake (or Loukoumades!!)



Yes folks, that's 41.37 Euros for 280 gm and by my calculation that's around 150 Euros or about \$240 AUS/kg.



And what is honeydew honey??

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/0005772X.1985.11098832>
<https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=en&sl=it&u=https://it.wikipedia.org/wiki/Melata&prev=search>

Just when you thought the definition of honey had been completed, have a read of the attached article . Honey can also include sap exudates, and scale insect ooze!!!! The comment about the honey "reappearing" from a sap sucking insect means it passes through them , and then out their rear ends. Try flogging that to the vegans.

Apparently, honeydew flows are the main source of honey in some parts of the world. They are predominantly from temperate zone forests. In Greece, the high honeydew flow from pine trees can reach 60% of their total honey production!! 500,000 hives are moved to forests in south west Turkey to work the honeydew flow from the Aleppo pine forests.

Honeydew honey (melata in Italian) tastes much less sweet than those produced from nectar, does not crystallise and is particularly dark, aromatic and dense and the taste can be reminiscent of caramel. It also is a good source of calcium, magnesium, sodium and potassium , and an excellent source of iron. It is also possible to find polyphenols and other antioxidants , as well as probiotic bacteria.

This honey is also antiseptic, antibacterial, anti-inflammatory. It is not widely known in Italy, precisely because it is not particularly sweet but in recent years it is increasingly in demand, even though most of the honey produced is destined for markets in central and northern Europe. Honeydew is produced by a variety of sap sucking insects, who pass it through their bodies and out the other end where bees collect the sweet liquid. Beekeepers in Turkey, Greece and Crete actually introduce the sap sucking insects to forests to improve the yield, but this is having detrimental effects on the forests.

The Ed has sampled honeydew honey from Italian chestnut trees and it tastes a lot like maple syrup, not surprising as it from sap, not flowers.



How's your Italian?, you can read all about it on the label.



Why doesn't the bee swarm blow away when it is windy??

https://www.beekeeping.com/catch-the-buzz-a-stiff-breeze-is-no-match-for-a-honey-bee-swarm/?utm_source=Catch+The+Buzz&utm_campaign=5d75a1293d-Catch+The+Buzz+4+29+2015&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_0272f190ab-5d75a1293d-332070937

A stiff breeze is no match for a clump of honey bees, and now scientists are beginning to understand why.

When scouting out a new home, the bees tend to cluster together on tree branches or other surfaces, forming large, hanging clumps which help keep the insects safe from the elements. To keep the clump together, individual honey bees change their positions, fine-tuning the cluster's shape based on external forces, a new study finds. That could help bees deal with such disturbances as wind shaking the branches.

A team of scientists built a movable platform with a caged queen in the centre, around which honey bees clustered in a hanging bunch. When the researchers shook the platform back and forth, bees moved upward, flattening out the clump and lessening its swaying, the team reports in *Nature Physics*.

The insects, the scientists hypothesised, might be moving based on the strain — how much each bee is pulled apart from its neighbours as the cluster swings. So the researchers made a computer simulation of a bee cluster to determine how the bees decided where to move.

When the simulated bees were programmed to move to areas of higher strain, the simulation reproduced the observed flattening of the cluster, the researchers found. As a bee moves to a higher-strain region, the insect must bear more of the burden. So by taking one for the team, the bees ensure the clump stays intact.

Ed: The next story should challenge the bees ability to hang on in a strong wind - jet engines, - now that is windy.



Bees in South African plane's engine delay flights

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-4565450126> September 2018
Sent in by Miles Furnas

A swarm of bees flew into the engine of a Mango Airlines plane, forcing a delay in flights at the main airport in South Africa's coastal city of Durban.

Bee experts were called in and they safely removed the estimated 20,000 bees from the engine, the low-budget airline said.

The incident was extremely unusual, and the bees were probably resting before planning to fly on, one expert said.

It was unlikely they intended to make a "smelly" engine their home, he added.

The bees populated the engine in less than 25 minutes, and delayed three passenger flights at King Shaka International Airport, Mango Airlines spokesman Sergio dos Santos said.

"I have certainly never seen anything like this in my eight years in the aviation industry," he told South Africa's News24 website.

The airline has tweeted a photo about the incident:

It took a while for the removal team, from the privately owned A Bee C company, to get approval from the airport authorities to get on to the runway. It was a "quick job" to remove the swarm once permission was granted, A Bee C's Melvyn Dawson said.

"We have encountered some unusual bee removals, but this was a first for me," he told News24.

The bees were now at the home of his brother, a beekeeper, and would be taken to farms, Mr Dawson said.

Mike Miles, the chairman of the South African Bee Industry Association, said the bees were probably taking a break in the engine.

"Normally those places are greasy, smelly and hot and not at all ideal as a permanent home for bees. Bees prefer secluded wood cavities. This is very unusual," he was quoted as saying.



A bee expert says the swarm was probably resting before moving on

Roundup connected to upset tummies in bees - can be fatal

https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2018/sep/24/monsanto-weedkiller-harms-bees-research-finds?CMP=share_btn_link
Sent in by Miles Furnas

The world's most used weedkiller damages the beneficial bacteria in the guts of honeybees and makes them more prone to deadly infections, new research has found. Previous studies have shown that pesticides such as **neonicotinoids** cause harm to bees, whose pollination is vital to about three-quarters of all food crops. Glyphosate, manufactured by Monsanto, targets an enzyme only found in plants and bacteria.

However, the new study shows that glyphosate damages the microbiota that honeybees need to grow and to fight off pathogens. The findings show glyphosate, the **most used agricultural chemical ever**, may be contributing to the global decline in bees, along with the loss of habitat.

University of Texas at Austin research found that young worker bees exposed to glyphosate exposure died more often when later exposed to a common bacterium. Other research, from China and published in July, showed that **honeybee larvae grew more slowly and died more often** when exposed to glyphosate. An **earlier study, in 2015**, showed the exposure of adult bees to the herbicide at levels found in fields "impairs the cognitive capacities needed for a successful return to the hive".

"The biggest impact of glyphosate on bees is the destruction of the wildflowers on which they depend," said Matt Sharlow, at conservation group Buglife. "Evidence to date suggests direct toxicity to bees is fairly low, however the new study clearly demonstrates that pesticide use can have significant unintended consequences." Prof Dave Goulson, at the University of Sussex, said: "It now seems that we have to add glyphosate to the list of problems that bees face. This study is also further evidence that the landscape-scale application of large quantities of pesticides has negative consequences that are often hard to predict." Assumed safety of pesticide use is false, says top government scientist

A spokesman for **Monsanto** said: "Claims that glyphosate has a negative impact on honey bees are simply not true. No large-scale study has found any link between glyphosate and the decline of the honeybee population. More than 40 years of robust, independent scientific evidence shows that it poses no unreasonable risk for humans, animal, and the environment generally."

Wacky honey idea - Repositioning Australia's Honey Industry

Reported by Ray Berkelmans on the Gold Coast

We all know how well the Kiwi's have done with their manuka honey. They have created this market from nothing and, after years of work, are now commanding fantastic price premiums for their product. Good on our cousins from over the ditch, they deserve it! So, what do we do? Follow or trump them? Well, I think I might have found the answer at a local bazaar the other day.... Canna Honey! Also known in some circles as "Fly-high Honey"!

Think about it! The floral resources required can be planted and producing nectar within the same season. No waiting years and years for *Leptospermum* to grow up before you can get some manuka honey! No sir! We can have this industry up 'high' in no time!

Being 'herbal' and having huge 'medicinal benefits' would surely tick some important boxes with our discerning new-aged honey buyers! Moreover, it has a 'feel-good' factor that even manuka can't match! Think of the honey-snap biscuits it could make! Honey and apple tart? Cooking will never be the same again!

Honey growers of Australia – unite! Let's make honey great again!

You Canna-handa-man-a-betta-honey!

Ed: does this mean the honey from these bees is stored in a "high-ve"?



Counting your chickens before they hatch? or weighing your harvest before spinning

Did you hear how some certain well travelled beeks who returned from overseas recently to find 2 full supers (18 frames) of beautifully capped honey from just one their managed hives. Very excitedly they proceeded to harvest and spin the frames - but ALAS! they couldn't spin any honey out of them as they were all jelly. Now they will have to give the uncapped honey frames back to the bees with the gelled honey still inside.

Apparently *Tabebuia* trees (Pink trumpet) can produce this effect, and they were in flower recently.

Anyone else get this gelled honey this year??

<https://www.burkesbackyard.com.au/fact-sheets/in-the-garden/trees-and-palms/tabebuia/>



Tabebuia palmieri

AGM is the October meeting on 21/10/2018.

All positions are vacant and we are looking for volunteers to keep the club moving

Make sure you contribute to helping keep the Club active, relevant and serving your needs and interests - the best way is to be part of the Committee and help to make decisions, volunteer and learn while you are at it.

Get involved - become a mentor to "newbees", answer bee questions, volunteer

Next Meeting is at HPSS

2pm Sunday 21 October 2018

HPSS in Hermit Park
(entrance off McKimmin Rd)

AGM will also be held where all positions declared vacant,

Put your hand up to help organise some of our events or workshops, or host a meeting in your backyard

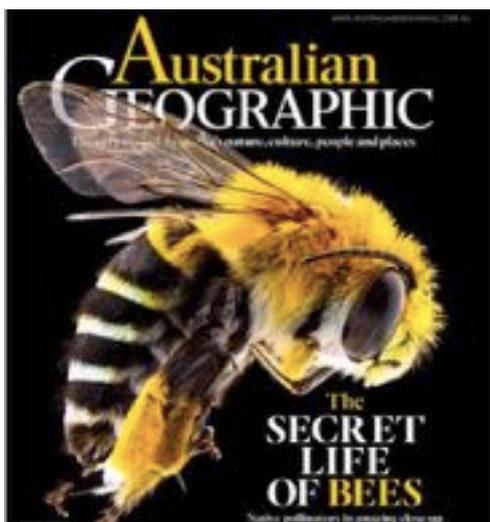
Bring a chair - and a plate of food to share if you can

Tea, coffee, sugar and milk provided

Bee photos to give you a buzz

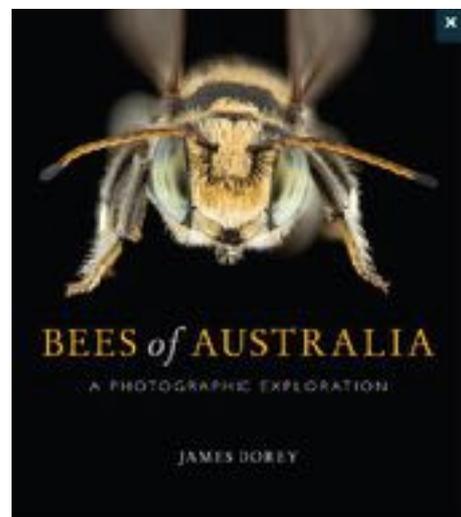
President AI is excited to have received a copy of the recent book by James Dorey that contains some of the best bee photography we have seen of our Ozzie bees.

<https://www.publish.csiro.au/book/7786/>



Young James has also been busy getting his photos out in a recent Australian Geographic article, as well as some great photos it has a good story line too.

<https://news.flinders.edu.au/blog/2017/07/25/james-a-busy-bee-behind-the-lens/>



Club Shop is running hot

Many thanks to Alan Ziegenfusz and Frana and Jon McKinstry for running our Club Shop, and for keeping it stocked up with supplies for TDBA Inc Members. The Shop stocks a wide variety of bee gear, at extremely competitive prices too, and any proceeds go to help running workshops, purchase of our trailer, manufacture of our AFB sterilisation unit, purchase of books and any worthwhile Club activities. If you haven't volunteered to help out, it's worthwhile just to see what stock we have available. Alan and Frana and Jon have been doing their best in making sure all the popular stock is available, but transport to Townsville sometimes slows things down. Make yourself available for 1st Saturday in the month to check out Club wares and lend a hand to the frantic trading.

The Club Shop Price List is included in this Newsletter



Alan Z took this pic during a break in the busy Saturday morning trading recently

Roundup herbicide found in US honey samples -

- that should deal with Ray's wacky "weed" honey story on a previous page

https://www.beeeculture.com/catch-the-buzz-fda-finds-glyphosate-in-honey-what-now/?utm_source=Catch+The+Buzz&utm_campaign=032df973a0-Catch_The_Buzz_4_29_2015&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_0272f190ab-032df973a0-332070937

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has found residues of the weed killer glyphosate in samples of U.S. honey, according to documents obtained by the consumer advocacy group U.S. Right to Know through a Freedom of Information Act request. Some samples showed residue levels double the legally allowed limit in the European Union.

There is no legal tolerance level for glyphosate in honey in the U.S., so any amount of detectable glyphosate in honey could technically be considered illegal. Some of the honey tested by the FDA had glyphosate residues at 107 parts per billion, well more than the 50 parts per billion set as a maximum allowed in the European Union, the documents state.

Records obtained from the FDA, as well as the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, by U.S. Right to Know detail a range of revelations about the federal government's efforts to get a handle on rising concerns about glyphosate. In addition to honey, the records show government residue experts discussing the prevalence of glyphosate found in soybean samples and the belief that there could be a lot of "violation for glyphosate" residue levels in U.S. crops.

Glyphosate, the key ingredient in Monsanto's Roundup herbicide, is the most widely used herbicide in the world and concerns about glyphosate residues in food increased after the World Health Organization in 2015 said its cancer experts determined glyphosate is a probable human carcinogen. Other international scientists have raised concerns about how heavy use of glyphosate is impacting human health and the environment.

How to make your bee smoker more fragrant

<http://beekeepinglikeagirl.com/sweet-practical-smoker-fuel/>

After all that smoke from our smoker competition it seemed a good idea to suggest some ways to sweeten up the smell of coconut fibre and kitty litter that was suggested by someone (unused I hope).

Oil or Resinous	Herby & Sweet	Special
Citrus Peds	Yoni Teafl	Cit. flowers (in the same fruit), and sunflower family Flowers from pressing/deadheading
Rostrary	Oregano	Dill flowers and stems
Pho/Vealier	Sage	Peard flowers and stems
Encalyptus	Kiwi	Citrus flowers and stems
Exonster		

Welcome to our New Member

Existing Club Members are encouraged to assist/mentor our Newbees. They have joined the club to learn about bees, so even if you only have limited experience, give them a hand if you can. Invite a Newbee to your hive opening and discuss what's inside the box, let newbees experience hive openings to become more confident, and you will learn more yourself by trying to explain what's going on in there.

Makayla Sawyer, Home Hill.

Apparently we have more new members, but our hard working Membership Team have only recently returned from O/S and not had a chance to process the other newbies, so stay tuned, more to come soon.

Annual Membership Fees for 2018/2019 are due in July - still only \$25/year

Membership fees can be made electronically to:

Name:- Townsville and District Beekeepers Association

BSB:- 633000

Account:- 141466078

Put your name and some details in the subject line

New email contacts for the Office Holders

You can use these email contacts for the Office Holders, and hopefully they will have figured out how to access them and will respond ASAP.

president@beesnorth.com.au, treasurer@beesnorth.com.au, editor@beesnorth.com.au, shop@beesnorth.com.au

And for all web and membership enquiries : info@beesnorth.com.au.

TDBA Inc Office Holders for 2016/2017

President:	Alan Ziegenfusz	alan.G.Ziegenfusz@team.telstra.com , or : president@beesnorth.com.au
Vice President:	Paul Payne	trapper4812@gmail.com
Secretary:	Vacant	shop@beesnorth.com.au
Treasurer:	Frana McKinstry	franajon@gmail.com , or: treasurer@bigpond.com.au
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Newsletter Editor:	Lindsay Trott	trottlindsay@gmail.com or: editor@beesnorth.com.au
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	Carla Kersnovske	cke00786@bigpond.net.au

Life Members of the TDBA Inc

In recognition of their long term service and support of our Association.

Dennis ANGER

Graeme & Adele ARMSTRONG

Ken & Marcia CALEO

Dave HOEY

Mike & Jill JAMES

Doug & Sonya MCBRIDE

Honorary Members of the TDBA Inc: Graham Smith (deceased)

TDBA Inc General Meeting - Sunday 16/09/18, hosted by Geoff and Michelle Hasted

Open: 14:00 **Welcome:** President Alan Z opened the meeting with Welcomes and Apologies. Before the meeting proper commenced, Alan got Frana McKinstry to demonstrate how to transfer a *Tetragonula hockingsi* native bee hive into a new box setup. The old hive had put on more than 1.1 kg in 12 months and needed some more space. We saw queen cells, honey pots, pollen cells and many inquisitive bees that ended up in various body places of those close by (PS don't wear shorts when working on native bee hives).

Previous Meeting and Minutes:TDBA thanked Dr Jennifer Elliman from JCU who gave a talk on bee diseases at the previous meeting. Previous Minutes approved: Moved by Sonya V and Seconded by Joan B.

Treasurer's Report and Club Shop: Club in excellent financial state thanks mainly to Frana and Al who are keeping the Club Shop stocked up and available for Club members to get bee equipment at discount prices here in Townsville. We have \$11,000 in the bank, and \$2,000 outstanding. The Club account books have been sent to the Club's accountant by Frana M, and the results will be available for the AGM meeting in October, or contact the Treasurer for any information regarding the Club.

Al reported that the Club Shop had been pretty busy and chaotic recently with some stock sold out and large sales still coming, and all done while Frana was away. Good clean wax foundation is now at a premium due to shortages overseas. Club shirts are still available. We open the shop on the first Saturday of the month unless notified of other dates. Payment –cash, phone banking when on site or internet banking before pick up. Does anyone wish the club to hold any other item?

Library: Beryl Smart will be the new Librarian for all loans of mags, books pertaining to bees and handling. We have a list of all of the books, DVD's and magazines to choose from. We welcome all ideas on what workshops the members want at every meeting. Many thanks to Kirsty Sugden for being the previous Librarian - lugging all of those books around does get a bit hard.

October Meeting: will be the AGM at HPSS, we would like more volunteers to come on the committee, to help run meetings, plus new ideas for the club. Alan will not be accepting the President's role this time as he has held the position for 2 years, and to keep the club fresh we need a new President. Alan will be staying on the committee to help with his experience from the last 2 years.

November is the last meeting of the year and that will be at Steve & Carla's property at Kelso.

December is a Christmas lunch. Then the next meeting is **February 2019**

Future meetings need new places to visit & to hold meetings. Invite us to your place for a meeting sometime. Only 10 meetings /year

DAF: AFB – Neil Elliman reported there had been one case recently from Currajong, otherwise it seems to be quietening down, but be vigilant, as untreated hives are a potential source of infection for nearby hives.

Club Member Carla Kersnovske, who also works on the Varroa eradication program, reported that we have only 12 months to go with continued negative reporting to be declared officially Varroa free. This would be a fantastic outcome for us, for Townsville and for Australia to have achieved this milestone. Many factors involved, but not the least has been our Club Member's involvement in monitoring and reporting - so please keep up the sampling of your hives by sugar shake and alcohol wash. Reporting form in this Newsletter. Please let DAF know of any rainbow bee eater roosts that you see around the place - they need their poops for DNA Asian Honey Bee wing detection and DNA tests.

Other Business:

Mackay Club wants a rematch of Barefoot Lawn Bowls comp in 1st or 2nd week in November at Bowen, we had 10 members interested.

Kalynda Chase: Alan has arranged for a meeting with TCC Councillor Margie Ryder and Sustainability Officers, and Kalynda Chase operators to discuss a public day centred on gardens and bees and all things conducive to neighbourly resilience and communication. Al has a "secret" mission to try to get some support from these people for a permanent home for the Club in a nicely located building, go for it Al.

Open Day will be held next year in the August 2019 meeting instead of during the busy month of May.

Honey Month will still be in May 2019

Open Forum:

*Ian Gordon queried about **Asian Honey Bee/ Varroa** in Townsville and Queensland. Carla K reported that the last sighting of AHB in Townsville was 11 Nov 2016, and the last report of Varroa was in July 2016. AHB from the Cairns incursion from several years ago did not have Varroa associated with it, but it has now spread South to El Arish. The Cairns AHB is not expected to get to Townsville due to the dry climate slowing its progress. It has a very small hive of around 5,00 bees and interbreeding with European honey bees produces sterile offspring.

•**Video** of bees is currently in editing phase

•**Rare Fruit book** available again, contact John Pavetto

•**Raw Honey and nucs:** Sonia Verburgt has created a spreadsheet for new members who are wanting to buy hives where you can put your details on and when the nuc's become available they will be contacted. Nucs can sell at around \$25/frame of brood/pollen/honey and the box is extra. Contact Sonya and sellers will be put onto a buyer. If you want to be put on a list of raw honey providers let Sonya know. Please Contact Sonya VERBURGT sonyaverb@optusnet.com.au if interested.

•**Bee Motel workshop** received significant interest - will be planned for next year.

General Meeting closed around 15:00

Smoker Competition

Won by Jon McKinstry. His secret is that he makes huge amounts of smoke to keep Frana at bay. Many different combinations of flammable material and lighting procedures were demonstrated with President Al checking on progress with his portable heat sensor to standardise the results. Pine cones, coconut fibre, burlap, pine needles, egg cartons (unused) paper kitty litter and timber shavings from Dubbeld Furniture factory were in use. Some people also throw in some slum gum from wax melters to keep things smokey and burning for longer. Ron Rapson reminded people to properly plug or extinguish their smokers before placing them in the boot of the car near the fuel line or gas bottles - not from personal experience he says!!!!

Many thanks for hosting the last meeting Geoff and Michelle. Michelle was suffering from some tummy wobbles and feeling a bit delicate but pressed on with hosting our meeting. The location under the Leopard trees was cool, shady and very picturesque.



Managed hive sample collection form

Details of person completing the form

Inspector/Person(s) attending

BQ Officer
Contractor
Other

Date

	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Attach sample no.(s) or barcode

Attach LIMS number

Location details

Address

Nearest road

Locality

GPS Location

Latitude

Longitude

(WGS 84, decimal degrees)

°S

°E

Contact on site

Phone

Hive details

Number of hives

HIN

Comments

Surveillance details

	Alcohol wash	Sugar shake	Drone uncapping
Approximate number of bees tested			
Less than 300	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
~ 300	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
More than 300	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Results/Detection			
Positive	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Negative	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unconfirmed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sample submitted to DAF			
Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Office use only

Sample receipt and dispatch

Date sample received by BQ

Comments

Sample dispatched to DAF BSL for analysis

No If no, provide reason

Yes If yes, provide date of dispatch and connote number

Sample entered into BORIS by

Date

Laboratory results

Date results received

Results and action taken

Result entered into BORIS by

Date

Privacy statement

The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries is collecting the information on this form as a record of surveillance activities conducted on managed bee hives under the National Varroa Mite Eradication Program. Summaries of managed hive surveillance may be provided to the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests, formed by the Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources for the purpose of reporting against the National Response Plan for the Eradication of *Varroa jacobsoni* from Queensland. Your personal information will not be disclosed to any other parties unless authorised or required by law.

Please return this form to Biosecurity Queensland at PO Box 1085 Townsville 4810 or by email to varroa@daf.qld.gov.au

Club Shop Items - 2018 Price List

These prices are only available to current financial members

Item	Price \$\$
Veil - Native Bee (camo)	5.00
Veil - Native Bee (mesh)	3.00
Veil - cotton	20.00
Veil - ventilated	25.00
Jacket - Cotton	60.00
Jacket - Ventilated	80.00
Full Suit - Cotton	85.00
Full Suit - ventilated	105.00
Gloves	22.00
Replacement veil for ventilated suit	20.00
Super - 8 frame	25.00
Super - 10 Frame	28.00
Super - Ideal	25.00
Super - WSP	25.00
Super - Parker/Nuplas Plastic	65.00
Lids (8 or 10 Frame)	27.00
Base - Ply (8 or 10 frame)	22.00
Base - Mesh	30.00
Base 'Bluebees'	35.00
Lifting Cleats (Handles, pr)	5.00 pr
Emlok - hive clamp	12.00
Corflute Nuc box	28.00
Corflute - Queen excluder	4.00
Hive tool (S/S)	15.00
Smoker	38.00
Bee Brush - Natural bristle	10.00
Queen Excluder - Wire (8 or 10 frame)	22.00
Queen Excluder - Plastic	7.00
Frames - Full depth	2.00
Frames - Ideal	1.50
Frames - WSP	1.50
Foundation - Plastic	2.10
Foundation - Wax	2.00
Beeswax block	15.00 per kg
Eyelets pkt 500/40gm	10.00
Awl (for fitting eyelets)	5.00
S/S Wire x 500gm	20.00
S/S Wire x 80gm	6.00
Wire crimping tool	12.00
Queen Catcher	3.00
Frame Gripper	10.00
Frame Hanger	20.00
Bee Feeders	2.00
Spring clips	2.00 ea
Frame Nails	6.00
Mesh (for base construction)	15.00
Gate valve	10.00
Gate valve - Parker	26.00
Gate valve O rings - Parker	6.00
Cappings knife, serrated	15.00
Cappings knife, electric	30.00
Comb scratcher	8.00
Comb Roller	22.00
Strainer	25.00
Extractor - Plastic	150.00
Extractor - S/S	120.00
Honey jars 250gm	0.70
Honey jars 500gm - square	0.80
Honey jars 550gm - squeeze	0.80
Honey jars 1kg round	1.00
Honey Pails - 1 kg	1.20
Honey Pails - 1.5kg	1.30
TRAPS	
Apithor trap	7.00
Silver Bullet trap	7.00
Apis sticky trap	4.50
BOOKS	
Managing AFB	0.00
Australian Beekeeping Manual	35.00
Australian Native Bee Book	25.00
AFB test kits	0.00
Club Polo Shirts	40.00

TDBA Bee Starter Kit - \$110

The Perfect Gift for a budding Beekeeper

Available in Townsville from the Club Shop:

Club Members Price Only!

\$110

Hive tool, brush, cotton jacket/veil, gloves, and smoker

Contact: Club Shop Stewards - Frana M or Alan Z

shop@beesnorthcom.au



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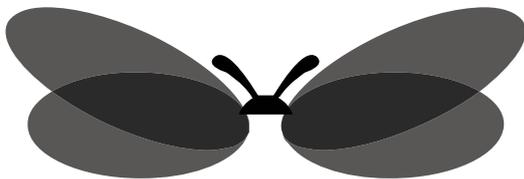
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Raw honey, and pollination services.

Will help new members get started with bees

Dan Donovan: Ph 0428 218 816



Townsville & District

B=EEKEEPERS

ASSOCIATION

