

# Townsville and District Beekeepers Association (Inc.)

[www.beesnorth.com.au](http://www.beesnorth.com.au)



PO Box 1115, Aitkenvale QLD 4814

Newsletter No 8, August 2019

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**Next Meeting:**  
**Old Quarantine Station,**  
**Cape Pallarenda Conservation Park**  
**2:00 pm, Sunday 18 August**

Bring a chair – and a plate of arvo tea if you can  
Coffee, tea, milk, cups, conversation etc provided free

## JCU Veterinary Students get “the Buzz” to appreciate bees and honey!

Article and photos by John Carr, Frana and Jon McKinstry

For the past 2 years, final year veterinary students at James Cook University have been receiving practical instruction in the handling and care of our bees. This includes the European Honeybee (*Apis mellifera*), local Stingless (*Tetragonula hockingsi*) and our native solitary bees.



As these are veterinary students, they are fascinated by the normal behaviour and health of the bees. The students handle the honeybees and can identify the various parts of the lifecycle of the various bees.

Students clinically examining the frame of brood on the left.

Many of the students have not handled our native bees, and as these are becoming important pets, our vets need to appreciate their requirements.

The curriculum includes training these future veterinarians in the biosecurity and protection of our vital bee populations.

In particular, the students are expected to be able to recognise the difference between the European Honey Bee (*Apis mellifera*) and Asian Honey bee (*Apis cerana*) using the differences between wing structures, which can be seen down the microscope.

The students carry out a check for Varroa mites using icing sugar, as recommended by the Department of Agriculture, and in this Newsletter. In addition, the students are introduced to diagnostic kits, which can be used hive-side to recognise European Foul Brood and American Foul Brood. This has a particular relevance to Townsville, as AFB has been a particular problem to our local hives and needs to be eliminated.

The day ends with a tasting of a variety of excellent honey from our sugarbag and commercial bees.

The students are amazed by the great natural and varied tastes available.

It can be very difficult to draw the meeting to a close, so we have to limit the amounts of spoons available!

**The Ed:** This a great way for the Club to promote healthy beekeeping through the local community and beyond. Fantastic effort from Frana and Jon to tie in with John Carr and JCU. Next thing you know we will have specialist Bee Vets, just like dog and cat Vets, and lines of people queued up with a frame of bees seeking a diagnostic opinion.



“Hello in there – we all ok? Getting up close to Stingless bees!



JCU Veterinary Students admiring our bees and getting a taste of the local honeys after a hard days work with the hives – and of course a “selfie” with the hives!



## **Frame nails that do not let go**

From the workshop of the ever practical Jon McKinstry

When we started in beekeeping, we would occasionally experience the top bar of a honey frame coming away from the frame when it was in the super. This could end up being a really messy and time-consuming job to remove the damaged frame.



Over the years we have trialled many different fixings. Initially screws were the item of choice but having to pre-drill the frame took too much time when a lot of frames had to be made. Next plasterboard clouts were used as these were braided. They worked a treat but once again. The frames had to be pre drilled.

After conducting many tests and experiments, it was found that the ideal nail diameter was 1.6mm. This gave the required strength without having to predrill the frame. When Bunnings stocked a 1.6mm x 25mm braided clout nail, this was the nail of choice. Not one of these nails has pulled out of the frame, even when the frame is well and truly stuck in the box. It must be added that we also glue the frames before nailing them.

Then the club acquired 1.6mm x 30mm galvanised nails. These are much cheaper but would they be as good? Some tests were carried out and it appeared that they were as good at holding as the braided nails. We have been gluing the frames and then nailing them for some time now and we are very happy with the results. If I am using the 30mm long nails, these must be driven in at about a 5-degree angle or else the nail may block the top hole on the side bar and eyelets and wire can be blocked (if you are using wax foundation). If you are using plastic foundation it will not matter. I nail all our frames at about the 5 degree off vertical as I think this aids in securing the nail more firmly.

While my tests and experiments were enough to satisfy me that my choice of fixing was sound, it was really satisfying to find a web site that carried out the holding tests in a proper experimental way. I would recommend that the 13 minutes of this YouTube video is really worthwhile.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kAxGAlFbqu4>

Hope this is helpful. Jon McKinstry

## ***This is a LOW COST method to get rid of ANTS once and for all***

From Alan Ziegenfusz

Instructions:

~ONE Cup Sugar

~THREE Tablespoons Boric Acid or Borax Laundry Soap

~THREE Cups of Warm Water

Mix the Sugar and Boric Acid together and slowly add the warm water, stirring all the time so the mixture will not get lumpy. Store in a sealed jar and whenever you see ants simply take a used soda bottle or milk jug lid. Put a cotton ball in the lid and saturate the cotton ball with your sugar and boric acid mixture. It will not take much, just enough to fill the lid, if you spill any over the edge leave it, this will only attract the ants even more.

When you see the ants drinking the mixture, DO NOT kill them, let them drink and take the mixture back to the colony. This should kill the entire colony. In a day or two the entire colony should be gone.

\*\*\*If you have small children or pets make certain they cannot get to this mixture since Boric Acid is hazardous.

## ***The Honey Lab has a Facebook page with free honey testing submission form***

<https://www.facebook.com/USCHoneyLab/>

The Ed has received a few inquiries about an article in an earlier Newsletter this year regarding the free honey testing facility at USC down South, so I have included the info again. The Facebook site has instructions on how to sample, how much, where to send, about how to label.

The focus is on monofloral Leptospermum honeys ie honey sourced from blooms of native tea tree that make up the majority of the flowering source. There appears to be not much point analysing mixed eucalypt or other honeys, as they don't contain the precursor or final products of the "Manuka" honey (DHA or MGO). I think people need to be clear on what they are looking for in their honey, and why they think it might have activity, rather than flooding the lab with random honeys with no likely Manuka factor present.

Don't know if you have tea tree or what species of Leptospermum you have? – easy, just check out Simon Williams' guide to Ozzie Leptospermums here:

[https://payments.usc.edu.au/OneStopWeb/Leptospermum\\_Trees\\_Honey\\_Book](https://payments.usc.edu.au/OneStopWeb/Leptospermum_Trees_Honey_Book)

Cheers,  
The Ed

## Blooper of the Month... creating your own honey robbery

From Ray Berkelmans down on the Gold Coast.

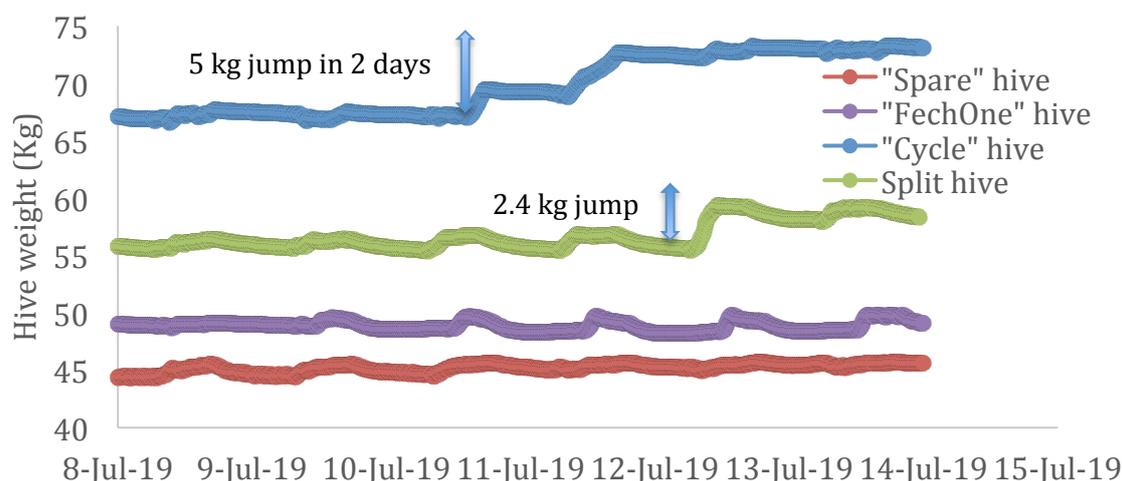
Years and years of experience, and yet it still doesn't help you avoid the dreaded blooper!

This one started innocently enough. I've been harvesting and freezing my full honey frames a few at a time. With 14 frames under the belt it was time for a spin. I took the frames out of the freezer the day before, but on spinning day, they weren't quite defrosted enough. So, I put them in the sun for a few hours just to finish them off. And I was right, they were perfectly thawed out by lunch. Well..., almost right! Our VIP visitors, Lindsay and Heidi arrived and we had a brief lunch break before getting stuck into the honey extraction. However, by the time we got back to the frames there was a dense cloud of bees buzzing around the frames. There was no point in fighting off bees while extracting, so we left them to it and moved the frames into sealed containers shortly after dark. A good recovery I'd call it. Except, the next morning we discovered three forgotten frames still outside with a new frenzy of bees happening around them. Ok, no problem, well wait till the evening again and move them inside. Mmm..., I didn't count on the fact that bees can move an awful lot of honey in a short time! By evening, the frames were 2/3rds eaten out, .... honey, wax, the lot! There wasn't much left to move inside so I let them finish the rest the next day. See the big hole in the previously honey filled frame on the right.



So, was there any harm done in "recycling" the honey this way? Actually, I think there was. During the frenzy, I noticed dozens of bees locked in one-on-one combat. Clearly there was a feud going on as to who had the right to this little bonanza. Afterwards there were literally hundreds of dead bees on the ground, ouch!

So, who were the beneficiaries of this bonanza? A look at my wifi hive weights clearly shows that my "Cycle" hive (blue line) was the unambiguous winner on the first afternoon and the following day. It put on 5.1kgs in two days! However, the next day something completely different happened. "Cycle" hive flat-lined and "Split" hive (green line) put on 2.4kg! What happened? Did "Cycle" hive have enough and hand over? Did "Split" hive wake up earlier and claim the robbing rights? Who knows... but this beekeeping caper can be pretty interesting sometimes!



## Bee Drift – and how to reduce it

Reduced density and visually complex apiaries reduce parasite load and promote honey production and overwintering survival in honey bees

Sent in By Frana McKinstry

<https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0216286>

Managed honey bee (*Apis mellifera*) colonies are kept at much greater densities than naturally occurring feral or wild colonies, which may have detrimental effects on colony health and survival, disease spread, and drifting behaviour (bee movement between natal and non-natal colonies). We assessed the effects of a straightforward apiary management intervention (altering the density and visual appearance of colonies) on colony health. Specifically, we established three "high density / high drift" ("HD") and three "low density / low drift" ("LD") apiary configurations, each consisting of eight bee colonies. Hives in the HD apiary configuration were of the same color and placed 1m apart in a single linear array, while hives in the LD apiary configuration were placed 10m apart at different heights, facing outwards in a circle, and made visually distinctive with colors and symbols to reduce accidental drift between colonies. We investigated disease transmission and dynamics between the apiary configurations by clearing all colonies of the parasitic mite *Varroa destructor*, and subsequently inoculating two randomly-chosen colonies per apiary with controlled mite doses. We monitored the colonies for two years and found that the LD apiary configuration had significantly greater honey production and reduced overwinter mortality. Inoculation and apiary management intervention interacted to affect brood mite levels, with the highest levels in the inoculated colonies in the HD configuration. Finally, foragers were more than three times more likely to drift in the HD apiary configurations. Our results suggest that a relatively straightforward management change—placing colonies in low-density visually complex circles rather than high-density visually similar linear arrays—can provide meaningful benefits to the health and productivity of managed honey bee colonies.

**Ed's comment:** This article indicates it's better to spread out your hives and paint them different colours for better pest reduction and honey production. But then along comes a different conclusion in "Catch The Buzz" – the electronic magazine of American Beekeeping. "The key is not whether they encounter a disease – it's whether they are fit and healthy enough to fight it off", referring to disease being dependent on the provision of good foraging as the key in intensive apiaries in very crowded conditions.

# Native bees, buzz pollination and looking after the environment

Sent in by Miles Furnas

[https://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/entry/bee-crisis-environment\\_uk\\_5d3ae34de4b0ef792e0b0ccc?guccounter=1&guce\\_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly9hcHBsZS5uZXdzL0E1SINIOTRNeVJ0aUd4MkZwSjdGRS13&guce\\_referrer\\_sig=AQAAAMzeZsWOYYkrGCPYOeJo4nGbZ1aiPi53krANb-5V5BH-zCXiBiFhie3Kh](https://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/entry/bee-crisis-environment_uk_5d3ae34de4b0ef792e0b0ccc?guccounter=1&guce_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly9hcHBsZS5uZXdzL0E1SINIOTRNeVJ0aUd4MkZwSjdGRS13&guce_referrer_sig=AQAAAMzeZsWOYYkrGCPYOeJo4nGbZ1aiPi53krANb-5V5BH-zCXiBiFhie3Kh)

## Anatomy of the worker native stingless bee

By Dr John Carr, James Cook University

At the meeting on stingless bees at Hermit Park School on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April Dr. John Carr from James Cook University presented an introduction to the anatomy of the Stingless bee – specifically our local native *Tetragonula hockingsi*.

Figure 1 Our own native stingless bee – note the queen cell



Figure 3. Drawing of the basic anatomy of Stingless bees

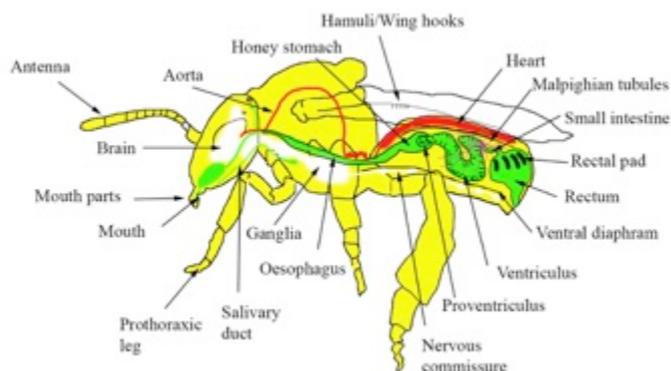


Figure 2 is a drawing of the surface anatomy of the stingless bee

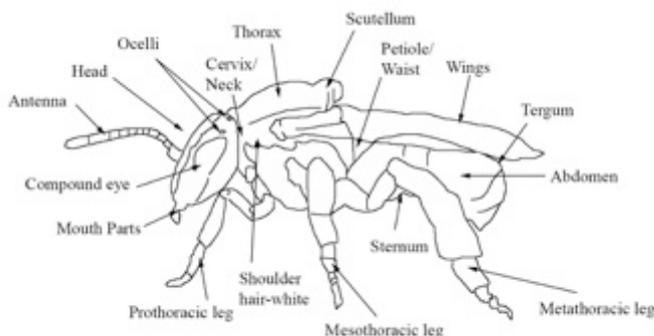


Figure 4. A thin longitudinal section of an actual Townsville stingless bee

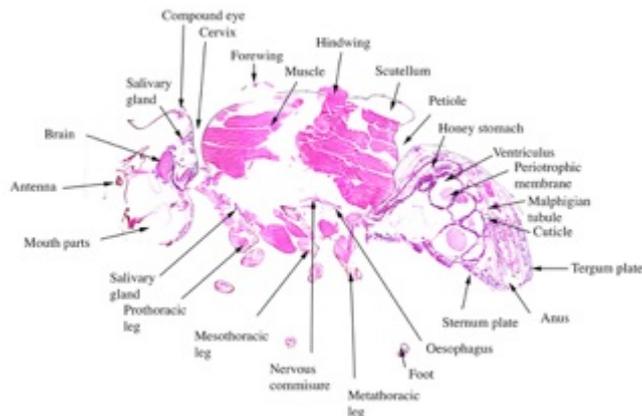


Figure 4 shows a photo looking down the microscope where we see the internal structure of the adult bee which has been stained pink to make it easier to visualise the various organs. One area which is absolutely fascinating is the similarity between even ourselves and our wonderful bees.

**Ed's comment:** If you squint and look at Fig 2 or Fig 3 at the same time as Fig 4 together, you can get a mental image of the internal and external structure of the bee overlaid– a kind of cheap 3D or artificial reality!.

## Upper Ross Men's Shed producing native bee hive boxes

Alan Ziegenfusz sent an email with attachment on how to purchase one of these boxes, 3 different styles available. To order one or enquire, email to [upperrossmensshed@outlook.com](mailto:upperrossmensshed@outlook.com)



## Bowen Bowls get together with Central Qld Bee Club 26-27 Oct

Planned for 26-27 October in Bowen. Cairns Bee Club also having some people attending. This event has produced some great photo ops for the Newsletter, and competition is pretty fierce out there on the barefoot bowls arena. Great way to meet some other beeks and hear what they are up to. Check with the Committee and nominate your team to compete, or just try out this relaxing sport.

## Invitation to the Woodstock Country Fair and Sustainable Living Expo on 10 August

Hi All,  
Next Saturday – 10<sup>th</sup> August, is the Woodstock Country Fair and Sustainable Living Expo. TCC – Environmental Services will be attending, along with the Biosecurity Team. This is a great opportunity to have meaningful conversations with our city's rural communities in regards to sustainability and resilience. I've been invited to extend the invitation to our products and services. Contact [woodstockp&c@gmail.com](mailto:woodstockp&c@gmail.com) if your group is interested in attending. Cheers,

Tyson Schmid

Technical Officer Sustainability - Environmental Services, Planning, Environmental and Cultural Services Division

P 44175870 M 0499771885 E [tyson.schmid@townsville.qld.gov.au](mailto:tyson.schmid@townsville.qld.gov.au)

# Massive Loss Of Thousands Of Hives Afflicts US Orchard Growers And Beekeepers

February 18, 2019 NPR.org

Sent in by Alan Ziegenfusz, altered and emphasised by The Ed.

Almond bloom comes nearly all at once in California — a flush of delicate pale blooms that unfold around Valentine's Day

Bret Adee is a third-generation beekeeper works night and day with a crew of more than 35. Adee has been busy staging more than **100 semi truckloads** of his honey bee hives in almond orchards over a 200 mile swath of the Central Valley. When temperatures rise and the blooms open, his bees wake up and go to work. It's his hives' first yearly stop on a 6,500-mile tour across the nation. But this almond bloom, Adee's scrambling more than usual. Adee lost more than half of his hives over the winter — **50,000 hives**. And he's not alone. "You know, in September, I thought we had the most awesome bees ever," Adee says. "The bees looked incredibly good." Like Adee, many beekeepers across the U.S. have lost half their hives — they call one with no live bees inside a "deadout." Some beekeepers lost as many as 80 percent. That's unusual. And many of the hives that did survive aren't strong in numbers. A healthy hive able to pollinate has at least eight frames mostly covered in bees on both sides. But the fear this year is that there will be many weaker hives put into California almond orchards for pollination because so many hives have died across the country.

A healthy hive able to pollinate has at least eight frames mostly covered in bees on both sides. But the fear this year is that there will be many weaker hives put into California almond orchards for pollination because so many hives have died across the country. For decades Adee says if he lost 5 percent he really got nervous. Now a 40 percent loss every few years is more common, he says. But this many lost hives across the country is concerning.

California almond orchards have grown so much over the past 10 years, the bloom requires nearly every commercial hive available in the United States. **Almonds have grown from 765,000 acres to 1.33 million acres in the last decade.** Bees travel from as far as Florida and New York to do the job. Without these hives, there is no harvest. Almond bloom is just as important to the beekeepers. It's a chance to make nearly half their yearly income, and a place for the bees to work and grow early in the spring while healing up from winter.

This year, many beekeepers have had to tell their orchardists that they won't have enough bees this year to cover their entire contracts. And some orchardists are desperately calling beekeepers. Some report pollination prices going up. Experts say honey bees are dealing with many stressors: chemicals, loss of wildflowers, climate change, nutrition and viruses and Varroa mite.

## New Club Meeting Location

Rooms in the Old Quarantine station at Pallarenda has been offered to the Club that has room for meetings, storage and having club bee hives on site. It is in a beautiful location at the end of the road at Pallarenda and in a bush setting. The next meeting on Sunday 18 August will be held there at 2 pm.

Check out the Google Maps pics below. Just drive right to the end of the Pallarenda Road where there are BBQs and keep going through the gate and speed bumps right in to the Old Quarantine Buildings. The left turn is before the road does a U turn to head back to town. Club signage will be visible.

Franá says

"Drive right to the end of the road at Pallarenda into the Cape Pallarenda Conservation Park. Follow the one way loop around to upper carpark - the old Quarantine Station buildings will be visible. Follow the path to the first and largest building."



## No further Varroa mites found at Townsville Port since May 2019

Edited version of Biosecurity Alert 6 August 2019

Response activities are continuing following the detection of varroa mites on an Asian honey bee nest at the Port of Townsville in May 2019. The Asian honey bee nest was located and destroyed on 16 May 2019 and found as a result of bee lining activities where foraging bees are tracked. The mites were sent to the CSIRO's laboratory in Canberra for identification to species level, with results confirming *Varroa jacobsoni*. Biosecurity Queensland is continuing its heightened surveillance activities at the Townsville Port area, and further out in the Townsville local government area.

Genetic testing indicates this Asian honey bee detection is not related to any previous incidents in Australia, including those present in Cairns, or subject to the current national eradication program underway in Townsville.

In relation to the 2016 Townsville varroa mite detection, the national eradication program is on track for declaring this infestation eradicated in August 2019, providing no further Varroa mites relating to this detection are found.

Port and transport workers are encouraged to be on the look-out and report suspect bees that may have come in on cargo via the *See. Secure. Report* hotline on **1800 798 636**.

The general public can report suspect Asian honey bee detections to the national Exotic Plant Pest Hotline on **1800 084 881**. Townsville bee keepers are asked to be especially vigilant in reporting any suspect Asian honey bee sightings and/or varroa mite detections.

Information about bee biosecurity and photos that will help identify varroa mite and Asian honey bee are available on the Bee Aware website at [beeaware.org.au](http://beeaware.org.au) or the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries [website](http://www.daf.qld.gov.au).

# **Townsville & District Beekeepers Association Incorporated Committee Meeting Minutes**

Meeting held 14th July 2019, Location West End Hotel

Meeting opened 12:15pm

Chair: President Mick Olsen

Minutes: Michelle Hasted

Present: Carla, Mick, Frana, Walt, Sonia, Ian, Beryl, John, Michelle

Business arising from previous meeting: Shop – \_Rendle Street Aitkenvale going well. Roster TBA

Meeting locations - Sharon Marks, DEH Quarantine Station Pallarenda has offered free storage and use of the meeting room. Is free for the interim however may charge. Possibility of having club hives onsite. The meeting room is shared with other groups. Currently pay rent for shop in Aitkenvale however is a more central location to all. Discussed if took up offer at Pallarenda that the shed could be cleaned out providing more space with bulk items and some stock stored at Pallarenda. Workshops could also be run at Pallarenda.

Suggested that the Shop open days could incorporate a sausage sizzle/bbq – \_possibly also a roster, Mick stated he was happy to run the bbq.

Previous Minutes: Accepted and Moved by Ian, 2nd by Frana

General Business:

Further to monthly meeting locations, Frana & John attended a function at the CWA Elliott Springs, Nome. The Community Hall is free to hire, has all technology & is workshop friendly. Lendlease are prepared to build a storeroom and we could explore if they are prepared to build a secure fenced area for bee hives. Jenny Hill was present at the CWA meeting and Frana asked about the Riverway club house. Jenny Hill said she would follow up.

Sonia (shared her lime butter – \_delightful). Sonia will give a publicity talk at the next general meeting regarding events.

Ian would like to see workshops on how to make wax wraps – \_mentioned members only as well as Native Bees and various hive types = good to get feedback on what works.

Beryl asked if there was more news on the book stand display. Beryl to research prices etc and bring to the committee.

John suggested for Committee Members to have their name on club shirts. Discussed committee positions could be a badge due to changes of committee positions. Explored topic of name badges upon membership payment. Current members in retrospect. Include Association emblem / run a competition.

John to research. Frana advised John Carr offered to give a talk. And Bruce Wallace is happy to attend a meeting if it aligns with his return trip from Nth Queensland. Bruce Wallace makes the Beetle Buster Base Board. Bruce left a few base boards with Frana if anyone wanted to purchase one to get them freight free.

Carla – \_more sugar shakes and reporting. Rob will be at the next General Meetings re DAF program and there is a few more staff with the project work.

Mick discussed the Association flag to be displayed at the next meeting.

Discussion regarding Association insurance and hives at locations. Mick to check with Allan. QBA membership for the Association also changes if club owns the hives. Question of who/what specifically (eg hives) is covered under insurance. NQ Insurance Brokers is the current insurer. Frana to look at Elders Insurance before next insurance renewal.

**Meeting closed: 12:55 pm followed by open discussion and inspection of the Beetle Buster Base Board made by Bruce Wallace that Frana & John purchased to try**

## **TDBAI General Meeting 21 July 2019 – Minutes Annandale Community Centre, 2pm**

President Mick welcomed all the members & visitors to the meeting.

Visitors – Wayne Donlan - Rasmussen, Steven Ziegler - Warrina, Glen Campbell, Blake Steward – Kelso, Bob Vigor – Calcium, Kyla Graf – Kirwan,

**1/ Minutes** of last general meeting were read through by the president.

Sonya Verburgt accepted as true & correct, seconded by Alan Ziegenfusz

**2/ Committee meeting** on 7/7/19 points of interest

a/ Club house – We have now been offered a building at the Old Quarantine station at Pallarenda with room for meetings, storage and having club bee hives on site.

Also Frana attended the Alligator creek CWA AGM at Elliot springs in a new community building.

Lend Lease has offered us the use of this building for free of charge and if we wanted to use it continually they would consider building anything we require on site.

b/ Name tags – for committee members & cost of name tags for club members is being sourced

c/ Workshop on making beeswax wraps and other items will be organised as an upcoming event

d/ DAF request more sugar shake tests to be completed, the form is attached to the newsletter.

Easy to fill out and send in via email

**3/ Treasurer** - Frana gave an in depth treasurers report for the meeting.

\$6205 has been deposited into the account for sales. \$10,390 has been spent purchasing new stock for the shop. Some of the companies we purchase from had end of financial year sales on stock that we sell a lot of. \$11,563.09 in the bank + \$900 cash from sales in the last fortnight to be banked.

Sonya Verburgt accepted the treasurer's report and Graham Dalby seconded.

**4/ Secretary** – outgoing mail Letter to JCU proposing that we work together in getting disease testing done here in Townsville and what needs to happen to have it registered as a testing lab. Also research into Beekeeping and the pests and diseases that we have to contend with.

Incoming mail from John Carr from JCU Veterinary sciences regarding the delay of notification to the club members of the latest Asian Honey bee colony found at the port.

Upcoming event is the Bee Cause Day at Kalynda Chase in partnership with Townsville city council and the Kalynda Chase community garden on the 11<sup>th</sup> of August 8am to 2pm. We will have our 2 Gazebos set up with our large display. Volunteers required on the day to help out. Volunteers are also to bring Honey, bees wax wraps and other Bee related merchandise for sale.

**5/ Library** – Beryl has requested all books, magazines / DVD's to be returned as there is quite a number of these out amongst the members for a long time, other members would like the opportunity to read these as well.

**6/ Shop** – new 240v ac to 12 v dc embedder for melting wax onto wired frames \$30. Queen capturing and marking device \$10,

Beetle Buster boards have been left with the club to sell from the manufacturer in QLD \$100. A member bought 5 of these when he was travelling through and in a week has caught lots of SHB. Had photos to show of the results.

**7/ General Business** – Frana will be placing another order for Queen Bees, contact Frana with numbers you require.

Meeting closed 2:20pm

Rob Stephens from Department of Agriculture & Fisheries gave a talk on the Asian honey bee (AHB), Varroa mite and then went on to talk about other pests and diseases us beekeepers have to contend with in the Townsville District.

May 2007 AHB was discovered in Cairns, they spread through the Cairns district and could not be contained. This strain of AHB is from Tully to Cooktown and up to the Atherton Tableland. These bees seem to be contained in the tropical area and has not gone into the arid dry areas west of the tablelands or south of Tully. Being monitored and any AHB nests found are being destroyed.

Jan 2012 AHB was found in the Townsville port with no mites

Jan 2013 AHB was found in the Townsville port with no mites

March 2014 AHB was found in the Townsville port with no mites

April 2016 AHB was found on Horn Island in the Torres Strait, same strain as in Cairns

27th June 2016 AHB was found in the Townsville port with 5 mites. Completely different strain to the variety in the Cairns area.

17<sup>th</sup> July 2016 AHB found in Annandale with 1 mite

Another 8 colonies were found up to 11<sup>th</sup> Nov 2016 in the Hermit Park / North Ward areas with no mites.

The Budget for this incursion ends on the 31<sup>st</sup> of August 2019.

The latest find of AHB at the Port in May has been destroyed and now DAF and the Government are in meetings to decide what to do next, Budget and the new timeline as this is being looked at separate to the 2016 AHB management plan.

## **Sell/Swap/Buy**

Club Member Glen Campbell is looking get a nuc soon, so when the next one comes up for sale, please get in contact.

President Mick has metal stands that can be made to order for \$75, mob 0415215595.

## **Subscribe to the Bee Aware e-newsletter**

The BeeAware newsletter is an e-newsletter for beekeepers and growers of pollinator-reliant crops, or anyone else simply interested in beekeeping or the pollination of crops. Each newsletter contains the latest in news, research and development, as well as upcoming events relating to honey bee biosecurity and the pollination of horticultural and agricultural crops.

<https://beeaware.org.au/subscribe-to-newsletter/>

## **Swarm Contact List:**

Please advise [editor@beesnorth.com.au](mailto:editor@beesnorth.com.au) if you wish to be removed from this list. Contact me with your name, phone number and suburb if you want to be added to the list.

Sonya Verburgt - Gulliver - 04 0853 0991

Steve and Carla Kersnovske - Kelso 0417 344 419

Ben Taylor, Douglas/ Riverside Gardens - 4728 4992/ 0428 186 000

Dave Turnbull Annandale - 0458 645 677

Doug McBride, Mysterton - 4775 7465

Sharene Dougall, Bluewater - 0415426903

Tito Parigi - Magnetic Island - 0418 796 951

John Pavetto - 0488414017, and Ian Goulevitch - Hinchinbrook Area.

Michael O'Connell, Rasmussen, - 0402 088 080

Graeme Dalby, Kelso - 0402 951 929

Swarm List Please contact Biosecurity : 13 25 23 for any swarm or strange bee activity in the Townsville region. For all swarm collections, please collect 300 bees or roughly 10% of brood comb and submit to Biosecurity Queensland for pest and disease monitoring.

Good Evening Members,

## **Club Activities – can you help?**

We have several events on this the weekend 10th & 11th August. Is anyone able to help us out for these events.

**1. Country music and Lifestyle festival, @ Toombys Wonderland, 1486 Hervey Range Road, Alice River, Saturday 10th August commencing 9am-3pm**  
Country music, bush poetry, Times: 08:30 – 10:30 (help set up) 10:30- 12:30 (chat to people) 12:30-15:30 (chat to people, help pack up)

**2. Woodstock Country Fair & Sustainability Expo Saturday 10th August commencing 2pm to 9pm**  
Times: 2pm-4:30pm (chat to people) 4:30pm -6:30pm (chat to people), 6pm-9:30pm (chat to people, help pack up)

We have to be set by 1pm. If anyone would like to come out earlier that would be lovely, the fair does not start until 2pm. There will be whip cracking, dance classes, toad races, poo lotto???, licensed bar :)

**3. Bee Cause Day, Kalynda Chase Community Garden, Periwinkle Way, Bohle Plains. Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> August, 8am- 2:30pm**  
Times: 7am-9:30am (help set up) 9:30am-12pm (chat to people) 12pm-2:30pm (chat to people, help pack up)

Raising awareness about the importance of Bees. Great Raffle prize on offer - includes Native B-Shed, local honey, Bee Merchandise and more.

Kids entertainment and face-painting Coffee Van and Sausage Sizzle available Comprehensive displays and information on honeybees and Australian native bees. Water-saving and garden tips.

**4. Schools talks coming up at Belgian Gardens and Kirwan State Primary Schools.**

Can anyone help for a few hours? Dates to be confirmed.

If any members could help out we would love it. Please let me know if you can help out for any events.

**Contact:** Sonya VERBURGT <[sonyaverb@optusnet.com.au](mailto:sonyaverb@optusnet.com.au)>

## Welcome to our New Members

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 newbies experience hive openings to become more confident, and you will learn more yourself by trying to explain what's going on in there.

Peter ZERBE, Bob VIGER, Wayne DONLAN, Steven ZIEGLER, Glen and Kim CAMPBELL

## Annual Membership Fees are due in July/August each year - currently \$25/p.a. Membership fees can be made electronically to

Name:- Townsville and District Beekeepers

Association BSB:- 633000

Account:- 141466078

Refer :- Please make sure you add your Surname so that your membership can be signed off.

## New email contacts for the Office Holders 2018/19

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](mailto:president@beesnorth.com.au), [treasurer@beesnorth.com.au](mailto:treasurer@beesnorth.com.au), [editor@beesnorth.com.au](mailto:editor@beesnorth.com.au) , [shop@beesnorth.com.au](mailto:shop@beesnorth.com.au),

[publicityofficer@beesnorth.com.au](mailto:publicityofficer@beesnorth.com.au) And for all web and membership enquiries : [info@beesnorth.com.au](mailto:info@beesnorth.com.au).

## TDBA Inc Office Holders for 2018/2019

President:	Mick Olsen	<a href="mailto:president@beesnorth.com.au">president@beesnorth.com.au</a> or <a href="mailto:mick_naomi@bigpond.com">mick_naomi@bigpond.com</a>
Vice President:	<a href="mailto:Paul Payne">Paul Payne</a>	<a href="mailto:trapper4812@gmail.com">trapper4812@gmail.com</a>
Secretary:	Alan Ziegenfusz	<a href="mailto:secretary@beesnorth.com.au">secretary@beesnorth.com.au</a>
Treasurer:	Frana McKinstry	<a href="mailto:franajon@gmail.com">franajon@gmail.com</a> , or: <a href="mailto:treasurer@beesnorth.com.au">treasurer@beesnorth.com.au</a>
Membership	Frana McKinstry	<a href="mailto:franajon@gmail.com">franajon@gmail.com</a> or <a href="mailto:info@beesnorth.com.au">info@beesnorth.com.au</a>
Newsletter Editor:	Lindsay Trott	<a href="mailto:trottindsay@gmail.com">trottindsay@gmail.com</a> or: <a href="mailto:editor@beesnorth.com.au">editor@beesnorth.com.au</a>
Librarian:	Beryl Smart	<a href="mailto:smartberyl@gmail.com">smartberyl@gmail.com</a>
Equipment Stewards:...	Alan Ziegenfusz and Frana McKinstry	<a href="mailto:shop@beesnorth.com.au">shop@beesnorth.com.au</a>
Webmaster: _____	Ray Berkelmans	<a href="mailto:rberkelm@gmail.com">rberkelm@gmail.com</a>
Publicity Officer:	Sonya Verburgt	<a href="mailto:sonyaverb@optusnet.com.au">sonyaverb@optusnet.com.au</a> Or <a href="mailto:publicityofficer@beesnorth.com.au">publicityofficer@beesnorth.com.au</a>
Committee Members:	Ian Gordon	<a href="mailto:iain.gordon59@gmail.com">iain.gordon59@gmail.com</a>
	Ian Goulevitch	<a href="mailto:goulevitchi@gmail.com">goulevitchi@gmail.com</a>
	Michell Hasted	<a href="mailto:pexperts@bigpond.com">pexperts@bigpond.com</a>
	Waldon Edwards	<a href="mailto:waldon.edwards@iinet.net.au">waldon.edwards@iinet.net.au</a>
	Tom and Joan Ruddell	
	Carla Kersnovske	<a href="mailto:cke00786@bigpond.net.au">cke00786@bigpond.net.au</a>

## 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

Biosecurity would like beekeepers to fill out this form below when they do self assessments, such as sugar shaker, drone uncapping or alcohol wash. The form can be filled out manually and sent into us reply paid or it can be email edit to anyone who wants it and they can fill it out on line and email it back. Carla K will also be visiting everyone who would like to practise with the different self assessment types.



# 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

## Hive details

Number of hives

Comments


HIN

## Surveillance details

Alcohol wash

Sugar shake

Drone uncapping

Approximate number of bees

tested Less than 300

~ 300

More than 300

Results/Detection

Positive

Sample submitted to DAF

Yes

No

## 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](mailto:varroa@daf.qld.gov.au)

# Club Shop Items - 2019 Price List

These prices are only available to current financial members

Item	Price	Item	Price
Veil - Native Bee (camo)	\$5.00	Queen Catcher	\$3.00
Veil - Native Bee (mesh)	\$3.00	Frame Gripper	\$10.00
Veil - cotton	\$20.0	Frame Hanger	\$20.00
Veil - ventilated	\$25.0	Bee Feeders	\$2.00
Jacket - Cotton	\$60.0	Spring clips	\$2.00
Jacket - Ventilated	\$90.0	Frame Nails per packet	\$6.00
Full Suit - Cotton	\$85.0	Mesh (for base construction)	\$15.00
Full Suit - ventilated	\$115.	Gate valve - Yellow	\$10.00
Gloves - pair	\$22.0	Gate valve - Nuplas	\$12.00
Replacement veil for vented suit	\$20.0	Gate Valve – Parker	\$30.00
Cowboy hat-veil	\$12.0	Cappings knife, serrated	\$15.00
Super - 8 frame	\$25.0	Cappings knife, electric	\$30.00
Super - 10 Frame	\$28.0	Comb scratcher	\$8.00
Super - Ideal	\$25.00	Bucket bracket	\$10.00
Super - WSP	\$25.00	Strainer	\$25.00
Super - Nuplas Plastic	\$40.00	Queen Excluder scraper	\$10.00
Nuplas Base	\$45.00	Hive handle (metal)	\$12.00
Nuplas Lid	\$38.00	Wax Embedding tool	\$45.00
Nuplas set – 1x super & lid & base	\$120	Extractor - Plastic	\$140.00
Nuplas oil tray & frame	\$28.00	Extractor - S/S	PO
Nuplas Cleats - pair	\$10.00	Honey jars 250gm	\$0.70
Lids (8 or 10 Frame)	\$27.00	Honey jars 500gm - square	\$0.80
Base - Ply (8 or 10 frame)	\$22.00	Honey jars 550gm - squeeze	\$0.80
Base - Mesh	\$30.00	Honey jars 1kg round	\$1.00
Lifting Cleats (Handles, pr)	\$5.00	Honey Pails - 1 kg	\$1.20
Emlok - hive clamp set	\$14.00	Honey Pails - 1.5kg	\$1.30
Corflute Nuc box	\$20.00	Warning Sign	\$10.00
Corflute - Queen excluder	\$4.00	Bee Poster	\$20.00
Hive tool (S/S)	\$15.00	<b>Traps</b>	
Smoker	\$35.00	Apithor trap	\$8.00
Smoker – Beeco	\$85.00	Silver Bullet trap	\$8.00
Bee Brush - Natural bristle	\$10.00	Apis sticky trap	\$4.50
Queen Excluder - Wire (8 or 10	\$22.00	<b>Books</b>	
Queen Excluder - Plastic	\$10.00	Managing AFB	\$0.00
Frames - Full depth	\$2.00	Australian Beekeeping Manual	\$35.00
Frames - Ideal	\$1.50	Australian Native Bee Book	\$25.00
Frames - WSP	\$1.50		
Foundation - Plastic	\$2.10	AFB test kits	\$0.00
Foundation - Wax	\$2.40	Club Polo Shirts short sleeve	\$40.00
Beeswax block per kg	\$18.00	Club Polo Shirts long sleeve	\$45.00
Eyelets pkt 500/40gm - packet	\$10.00	Club Hat	\$15.00
Awl (for finding eyelets)	\$5.00	Honey labels (\$5.00 for 50) or	\$25.00
S/S Wire x 500gm	\$20.00	Gate valve O rings - Parker	\$6.00
S/S Wire x 80gm	\$6.00	POSCA queen marking pen	\$5.00
Wire crimping tool	\$12.00		

## **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@beesnorth.com.au](mailto:shop@beesnorth.com.au)



**TDBA is proudly supported by:**

**Fairway Group Townsville**

**Graeme Kent**  
Senior Accountant,  
Business Consultant

Member of CA  
Annandale QLD-1014

**M:0400 607 868**      [graeme@fwgs.com.au](mailto:graeme@fwgs.com.au)

Coaching - Taxation - Accounting - Bookkeeping

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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 BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION**

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