

Townsville and District Beekeepers Association (Inc.)

www.beesnorth.com.au



PO Box 1115, Aitkenvale QLD 4814

Newsletter No 11, November 2019

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Next Meeting:

AGM and General Meeting Lindsay and Heidi's

2:00 pm, Sunday 17 November
5 McKinley St, North Ward

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

New beekeeping success

It's always great to report on some good news in the beekeeping world, so I was pleased to be a part of new Clubbie Peter Gurr's adventure into beekeeping recently.

I sold Peter a 10 frame brood hive only 6 months ago, and already he has harvested 14 frames of honey (approx. 30 kg) from his now double supered hive out at Tanette's place (one of Peter's carers) in Alligator Creek. Photo on right shows Peter pumping the smoker for me, and on the far right- Peter proudly displaying one of his first frames of delicious pumpkin honey.

Conditions must really suit bees out that way, maybe it's the fresh Mt Elliott mountain air, or maybe it's the 2 hectares of flowering pumpkins and several hectares of green vegies flowering within a km of his hive. Or, maybe it's the company they keep – like Mr Ed the talking horse, Miss Piggy the pet 350 kg sow (bottom right), the 2 maniac Jack Russells, an ex racing greyhound and a slightly deranged cattle dog who has been kicked in the head by the horse. This menagerie, who all live on site, are extremely pleased and excited to greet you at the front gate, and add to the interesting hive visits that Peter and I make.

Peter was taught woodworking and beekeeping when he was a spring chicken at a local school by none other than long term and Club founding member (now deceased) Graham Smith. Graham obviously instilled a long term love of bees into Peter, and it's rewarding to be able to help him realize his pent up dream of producing his own honey.

And do yourself a favour and get some delicious caramelly pumpkin honey some time – delicious.

From The Ed.



The 2nd Australian Native Bee Conference

Integrating beekeeping, crop pollination, hive products and research

- St Leo's College, University of Queensland, St Lucia, Brisbane
- Thu 5th Dec – Sat 7th Dec 2019
- Bee Identification Workshop on Sun 8th Dec 2019

Register on line

Field Trip

The field trip will take us to a farm on the Sunshine Coast on the afternoon of Thursday 5th December 2019. At the farm you will see hive shelters for communal housing of stingless bee hives. You will observe methods for hive propagation. We will discuss placement and management of hives on farms. The farmer will give his perspective on stingless bees for pollination. Lunch will be provided. Cost is \$60. Make your booking as an Extra on the registration form.

Our IT Manager Ray Berkelmans attended the 1st Conference last year, and he says it was fantastic.



The anatomy of the bee is fascinating

Compound Eyes

Honey bees possess two sets of eyes – two compound and three simple eyes. The large eyes are compound eyes and are located on either side of the bee's head. The three ocelli are located on top on the bee's head.

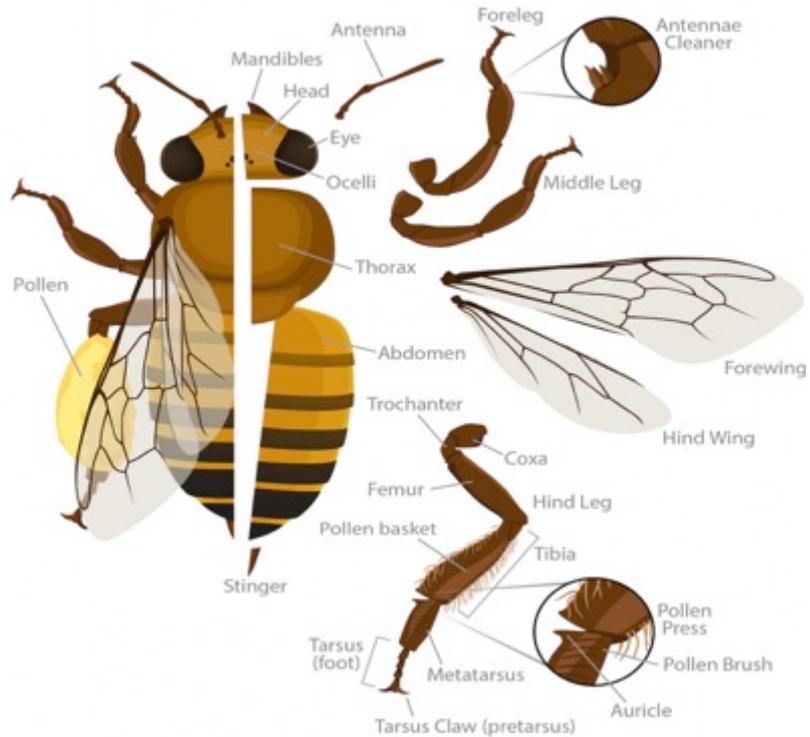
Each compound eye is made up of many eye units. These units take in a separate image and transfer the information to the brain where it is pieced together into a single image. This process also helps with the honey bees to see polarized light.

Ommatidia is the small structure of the compound eye. It contains groups of photoreceptors support and pigment cells. This polarized vision allows bees to navigate and process information faster and protects their eyes from the harshness of daylight. Viewing the world through polarization aids the bees in navigation as well as inside the hive.

Simple Eyes

The three simple eyes of the honeybee have a single lens, which collects UV light. The UV light allows the bee to see the location of pollen as a dark spot, so they know where to land. In conjunction with their compound eyes, the bee's UV polarized vision is the perfect tool for location of food sources.

Jon McKinstry



First fungicide to be applied to crops using bees as the carrier

Source: Farmer's Guardian News 30 Sep 2019 [Alice Dyer](#)

Groundbreaking 'bee vectoring' technology, where plant protection products (PPP) are applied directly to crops using live bees, could be on its way to Europe. Recently approved by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the product "Vectorite" contains the organic fungicide *clonostachys rosea* CR-7 that can be used on commercial food crops to protect them against diseases.

"Bee vectoring is a very efficient way to deliver a plant protection product, or PPP, to help manage diseases and pests that affect a crop in or around the flower. Application is very targeted, and you need a lot less of the PPP compared to a traditional spray application when only a small percentage of the product actually gets to the flower" says the company.

"Vectorite" is applied in powder form when the bees leave the hive. It is currently registered for berry crops, tomatoes, sunflowers and almonds, and the company plans to look into its use for sclerotinia control in canola (oilseed rape). Bee vectoring is where managed beehives are used to deliver plant protection products to crops. Bees walk across a dispenser that contains the plant protection product in powder form. The powder sticks to the lower bodies of the bees as they leave the hive and fly to the flower. Bee vectoring can be used on any flowering crops that are susceptible to attack from a necrotrophic pathogen (*diseases that live off dead plant tissue).

Treated honeybee hives are rented by growers from beekeepers for the flowering period of the crop for pollination purposes. At the end of flowering, the beekeeper collects the hives and moves onto the next crop or houses them overwinter. For bumblebees, growers buy the hives that typically last eight-10 weeks "The bees forage every day during the bloom period, and so the PPP is delivered in small amounts every day, as opposed to a spray application when a PPP would be delivered only on the day of the spray, so you have 'spikes' as opposed to a steadier delivery."

Vectorite has proven harmless to bees (**Ed's comment:** at least as far as they know), animals and humans; uses no water or harmful chemicals; and helps to manage fungicide resistance, says the company.

"Being a biopesticide, CR7 has a complex and physical mode of action that makes it hard for a pathogen to build resistance against it. So CR7 is a useful tool to extend the life of other modes of action when used in rotation or in combination with other classes of fungicides."

Strawberry and blueberry growers in the Southeastern US have been using "Vectorite" on a test basis for several years. It has been tested on strawberry and tomato crops in Europe and BVT expects approval in Switzerland within the next year. The company says the system is priced to be competitive with a conventional season-long spray programme.

From the Ed:

For those interested in microbiology and wine: The product being used here is the spore form of *Clonostachys rosea f. rosea*, also known as *Gliocladium roseum*. It is a species of fungus that colonizes living plants, it also breaks down plant material in soil and is also known as a parasite of other fungi and of nematodes. It produces a wide range of volatile organic compounds that are toxic to organisms including other fungi, bacteria, and insects.

C. rosea protects plants against *Botrytis cinerea* ("grey mold" or "noble rot" of grapes that either causes spoilage or very sweet sticky wines – depends on your taste buds!) by suppressing spore production. Nematodes are infected by *C. rosea* when the fungus attach to their cuticle and germinate, going on to produce germ tubes which penetrate the host's body and kill it. The movie "Alien" comes to mind.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clonostachys_rosea_f._rosea

Regardless of the supposed safety of this activity, using bees to carry a "payload" of benign fungi spores, or possibly an active biological chemical, raises the question of how much we are pushing our buzzy little friends in to performing work for us and the agricultural industry.

Homemade beetle traps

Alan Ziegenfusz sent this in. Check out this video on making traps for inside your hive, or do you dangle them 10m away from the hive so you don't poison your hive? <https://www.facebook.com/HoneyBeeHivesBuzz/videos/198301907714685/>

In the video clip, Scott shows how to make a trap for African Hive Beetle. Simple and effective. A rolled chux in the hive will catch those nasty little critters that this misses.

Ed's comment: If you are selling honey or hive products for human consumption, please re-consider before using any home made insecticide traps that are not APVMA approved. My advice is to only use APVMA approved products in your hive.

<https://beeaware.org.au/code-of-practice/managing-pests-and-diseases/>

Adriana's Adventure – and maybe playing ukulele to her bees was a mistake

Recent Clubbie, Adriana Uzqueda relates her story about her very unappreciative, non-musical bees.

Coming into spring I had been feeling quite proud of my beehive, having finally grown into a strong colony with the promise of a honey harvest not too far on the horizon. The hive started in August last year as a four frame nuc, with few bees and a failing queen. However I was really excited to have my very own beehive and see it grow from scratch. It didn't take too long for the nuc to pick up once I put in a new queen. It was only a couple of months later that I was sitting in front of my bees, practicing my ukulele, that they started to stream out of the nuc forming a big cloud above me. They were swarming! And perhaps it was my bad playing skills that prompted this reaction! I lost half my bees and had to start again with the few loyal workers left behind.

Since then, the hive has been growing steadily and I've been getting ready to add a second super on to it. But the bees once again beat me to it. I arrived home one evening and my mum says to me, 'Did you get my message?'. I hadn't checked my phone at work. 'You better sit down' she said. I checked my phone and sure enough it was a video of my bees swarming! I was very surprised as I had replaced the queen only three days ago and it was so soon following the replacement. It seemed to me the colony had made its mind up before the new queen went in, and she had no choice but to go with it.

Two days later as I was still coming to terms with the loss, I hear this loud buzzing noise approaching. I looked at my hive and it looked quiet. I looked next door and I couldn't believe my eyes. My swarm (surely it had to be my bees!) was flying back towards my yard! Soon the yard was covered with thousands of bees from ground to sky. My bees were back, but before I knew it they kept moving towards the rear neighbour's house. What ensued was half an hour of me trying to track down the bees through the neighbourhood. One friendly neighbour popped his head over the fence and pointed me towards the direction the swarm. I followed his finger and quizzed everyone I crossed paths with if they had seen my bees. Unfortunately I didn't manage to track them down.

So here I go again with growing my hive back into a strong colony. The journey is so fascinating and I can't wait to see what will be next.

Adriana

First "Flow" in 2 years for Cristi

Club member Cristi Morf has been struggling to convince her Flow Hive bees to lay up honey in the Flow frames for 2 years, but has recently been rewarded with a significant "flow". Maybe the bees were too distracted by the best bee motel view in town and forgot to get back to work.

No jokes will be tolerated about the view from the Air Bee'n 'Bee.



Honey flowing for the first time on the left.

Check the view from the hive on the right.



September AHBIC Monthly Newsletter acknowledges our Club

TDBAI got a mention in the article about Asian honeybee and Varroa incursions in Townsville

<https://honeybee.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/AHBIC-September-2019-Newsletter-17-10-19.pdf>

An extract from the "NOTE FROM CHAIR, PETER McDONALD"

"We are the only country in the world who has successfully eradicated *Varroa* that had become established away from the border. This happened with the 2016 *Varroa jacobsoni* incursion in Townsville. A large amount of credit must go to the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (QDAF) for their response and our ultimate success, ably assisted by **the fantastic local Townsville beekeepers*** and general community and beekeepers from across Australia who volunteered to assist. Of course, QDAF and the Townsville community are again on the front line, with the response to the separate 2019 *Varroa Jacobsoni* detection currently underway. The preparedness of QDAF has been due to their diligent work and underpinned by a long history of co-operation and knowledge sharing between industry groups in AHBIC and the Queensland Beekeeper Association (QBA) and the other federal and state Agriculture departments."

* my emphasis.

Check out the all new, improved "Sugar Shakers"

Checking hives for imported pests including varroa mite will be that bit easier with free sampling kits again available to Townsville beekeepers through Biosecurity Queensland.

An initiative of the National Varroa Mite Eradication Program, the kits include a plastic jar with mesh lid, instructions, icing sugar, white spirit and sample jars. Training in how to use the kit is funded by the Queensland Government and will be provided by experienced beekeeper and TDBAI club member Carla Kersnovske. Club President Mick Olsen said local beekeepers had a vital role to play in maintaining a healthy bee population. "Having varroa mite on our doorstep should really bring home the message of the importance of hive surveillance and reporting to ensure any pest can be swiftly eradicated," Mick said.

National Varroa Mite Eradication Program Acting Manager Rob Stephens said regular inspections of hives as well as tests such as drone brood uncapping, sugar shaking and alcohol wash should form part of a comprehensive health and surveillance program for honey bees.

"We distributed some 200 kits during the last varroa incursion as the data we get from beekeepers is a key factor in the success of the program."

"There are 305 registered beekeepers in the Townsville Local Government area. If every one of them completed a test with the reusable kit and returned the results to us, we'd be one step closer to declaring Townsville free of the Varroa mite once again.

"The kits contain everything you need to check your hives and report the findings back to us. It couldn't be easier and you will be playing your part in protecting all beekeepers both here in Townsville and further afield."

Please contact the Varroa program on Varroa@daf.qld.gov.au to arrange for your free kit. And check your emails for a notice about the new detection of Asian Honey Bee wings in Rainbow Bee eater pellets at the Port!!!! Be vigilant with your hives.

Check out The Ed in pic on the right – he is looking very enthusiastic about getting his new sugar shaker jar and free bag of icing sugar to roll the workers around in. It's like an early Xmas present.



Club Library now on-line

Most members will know that the club has an excellent library that will enhance the skill levels of all beekeepers from novice to the most experienced! The collection includes wonderful books covering beekeeping at all levels, an excellent books on plants and floral resources relevant to beekeepers as well as books on Australian native bees. The library also has videos and magazines. Getting access to the library is now a whole lot easier with a representative collection of books available for your perusal on-line at <http://www.beesnorth.com.au/pages/wsonly.htm>. This is a members-only area so you will need to log in to view its contents. If you haven't as yet registered your log-in credentials, please do so by following the registration link in red letters! If you'd like some of these books brought along to the next club meeting, please send an email to Beryl our Librarian (smartberyl@gmail.com).

Well done Ray Berkelmans - our IT man who lives on the Gold Coast – this will make it easy to see what's available from our well stocked library.

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Home About Us Contact

Home
About Us
Tropical bee issues
Wonderful world of honey
Bee Swarms
Search Site
Recipes
Contact
Flowering calendar
Flowering - Jan
Flowering - Feb
Flowering - Mar
Flowering - Apr
Flowering - May
Flowering - Jun
Flowering - Jul
Flowering - Aug
Flowering - Sep
Flowering - Oct
Flowering - Nov
Flowering - Dec
ResourceSecurity
KeepingCool
AsianBee
Native bees
Club Membership
Hive monitoring
Members Only Area

Club library

These are just a sample of books in the club library. They are free to borrow for members. Please contact our Librarian, Beryl Smart, if you'd like one or more brought to the next meeting, or want to see more in our collection. Email: smartberyl@gmail.com

Cover	Title/Year	Author(s)	Back
	The Australian Native Bee Book 2016	Tim Heard	
	Buzz The Nature and Necessity of Bees	Thor Hanson	
	Natures Gift	Athol Craig and Skaidra Craig	
	Backyard Beekeeping	Courtney N. Smithers	

www.beesnorth.com.au/images/Library/small/AustralianNativeBeeBook_bsm.jpg

Beginners Workshop for Club Members

Beginners Honeybee Beekeeping course

Saturday 30th November 2019 Address: 47 McLean Street Gulliver

Cost \$50 per person (includes the whole day, food and 2x full depth frames to take home)

0900hrs-1000hrs: Beekeeping 101– (presenter's TBA x3)

- What is a queen, worker, drone?
- What do nursery bees feed to larvae? royal jelly, bee bread...
- How do bees make honey? What is the water percentage before capping?
- What happens to the honey if you extract uncapped?
- Hive beetle what is it? What do they do to a hive?
- = What is chalk brood?
- What is AFB?
- Why do bees swarm?
- Signs of swarming

1000hrs -1030hrs: Morning tea – provided (Joan & Peter)

1030hrs 1100hrs: Biosecurity demonstration (presenter TBA)

- Sugar shake test
- Alcohol wash test
- Drone uncapping for varroa mite
- AFB match stick test.

1100hrs -1200hrs: Hive inspection (4 – 5 hives - 8 x volunteers TBA)

- Opportunity to inspect a hive, handle equipment and extract honey.

1200hrs- 1300hrs: Lunch – provided (Mick, Peter & Joan)

- Question & answer time during lunch. We will have club members (Volunteers TBA x3) to answer questions while having lunch, general chit chat. No question is a stupid question and remember there are 6 right answers to one question in beekeeping ☺

1300hrs-1500hrs: Demonstration on how to put together - frames, lid, box and bottom board. Discussion on the different type of lids, boxes, frames and bottom boards. (Paul, Tim + 4 volunteers TBA)

This is an opportunity for everyone to make 2 x frames (included in cost) to take home ready to put into their hives and to assemble your own boxes, lids and bottom boards.

Please RSVP if you would like to attend. The payment for the course can be made into the Townsville and District Beekeepers Association bank account.

Sonya - sonyaverb@optusnet.com.au, or msg : 0408530991

AGM will held at November Meeting at 5 McKinley St North Ward

Nominate now to become an active member of your Club , or just become an occasional volunteer at the Club activities. Get involved and help make your Club more dynamic. Nomination form is in this Newsletter

Xmas lunch invite from the President – his shout (I think he

Hi All Members

For those that are interested we are having an End of Year Lunch at the Bohle Barn on Sunday 08th of December, 1200 for 1230. Numbers are limited so first in best dressed. Members will order their own meals with the club supplying some Christmas cheer to wash lunch down.

Please have names in to me by the 30th of November.

Cheers

**Mick Olsen
President**



said that??)



TDBAI wish all our members and family a happy and peaceful Christmas season and a prosperous New Year.

May all your hives be happy and your frames be full.



Bee Bloopers



Seems there has been a rash of “Oooooopsy” moments lately, and the one on the left caught on camera happened at Jon and Frana’s place.

My “Oooooopsy” moment happened when I thought I would “do the bees” one recent Sunday. I tried slipping a new base board under the 3 box hive. I was being careful as I had already undone the Emlok to lift the supers, but they were a bit heavy – ahhh, what could go wrong, just slide the new one under, oooooops, plastic boxes are very slippery when tipped too far, so I had a brood box and 2 supers on their sides. Moved on to check the nuc box, and picked it up by the lid, but only one catch was engaged, so down went the 5 frame nuc and new queen, bugger. No photos of all that because I was too busy picking up boxes, frames, bees etc.

Cheers:
The Ed.

Alan Z and Club members volunteering at community events again:

Last Saturday Sonya, Waldon and myself did the 8 am to 1pm at Rowes Bay Sustainability Day, and backed up for the 2pm to 9pm at Riverway. We had a newbie help us in the morning who enjoyed himself and learned a lot. Tom & Joan Ruddell helped for the afternoon event.

Beekeepers faces on the honey jar label

John Carr sent this in. What do you think?? Would it help to sell more honey if we put our ugly mugs on the honey jar??

What if it frightens the women and children and spooks the horses? An idea worth pursuing?
Why not a photo of the bees who made the honey, and not the person who stole it from them??



No Club meeting in December, but get along to the Xmas Lunch at the Bohle if you can.

Next Club meeting will be in February 2020, with details to be advised.

This is the last Newsletter for 2019.

Hope you have enjoyed the content. Send me your backyard beekeeping stories – the other Club members would love to hear what each of us is up to and how our bees are performing,

Subscribe to the Bee Aware e-newsletter and stay up to date

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 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.

Ronelle Nord, Alice River – 0417752622

Duane Saltmer Alice River - 0400 339 508

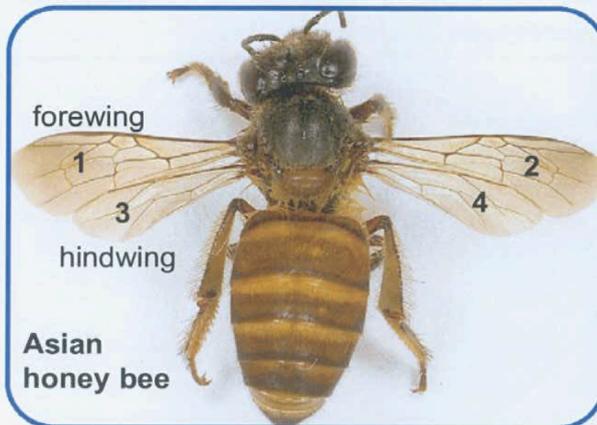
Adrian Kirby Kirwan - 0403 443 141

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.

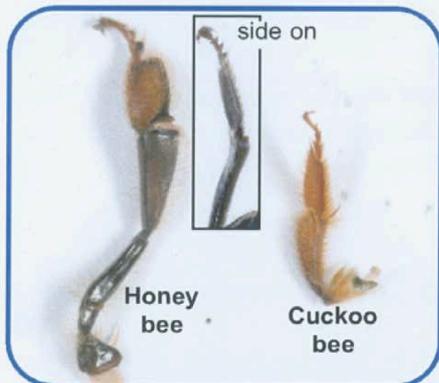
Is it a BEE or a WASP ?

The differences between bees and wasps can be hard to pick in moving insects. Any one difference can sometimes have exceptions, so to identify bees ALL of the bee features below should match.

BEE FEATURES



Bees always have two pairs of wings, the upper is the forewing and the lower is the hind wing



Bee hind legs are broad, flattened and at least partly hairy



Bees typically have no 'waist', unlike the paper wasp, right

WASP FEATURES



Wasps always have two pairs of wings also



Wasp hind legs are normally thin and cylindrical and very rarely hairy

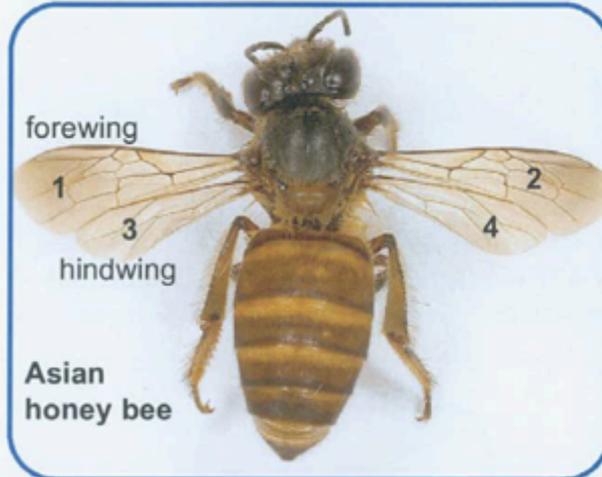


Wasp bodies often have a 'waist' between the abdomen and the thorax, similar to ants

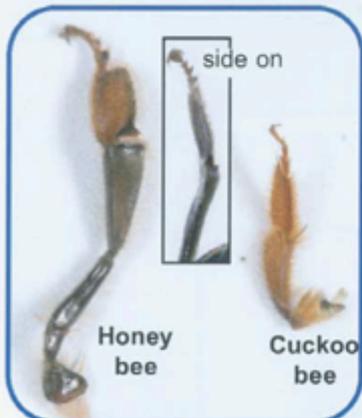
Is it a BEE or a FLY ?

The differences between bees and some flies can also be hard to pick in moving insects. Any one difference can sometimes have exceptions, so to identify bees ALL of the bee features below should match.

BEE FEATURES



Bees always have two pairs of wings, the upper is the forewing and the lower is the hind wing.

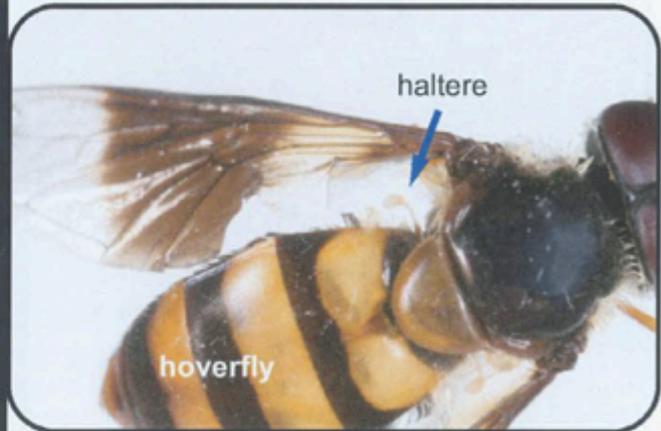


Bee hind legs are broad, flattened and at least partly hairy.



Bee antennae are prominent, straight or with an 'elbow' formed by a bend after the first enlarged segment.

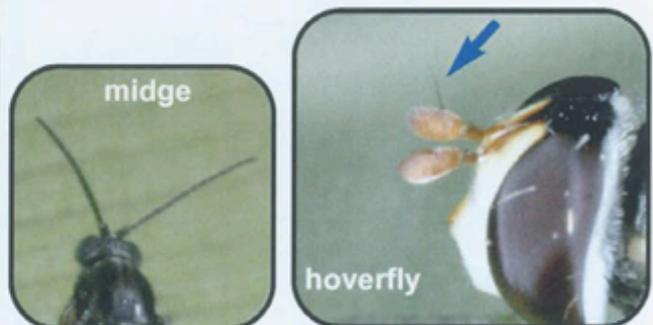
FLY FEATURES



Flies always have only one pair of wings, the upper or forewings. Only close up can you see that the hind wings are reduced to a club-like structure called a haltere.



Fly hind legs are usually thin, cylindrical and very rarely hairy.



Some flies, mainly midges, have prominent and straight antennae. However the species which most look like bees have short antennae, consisting of a small club with a short thin 'whip' on the end.

TDBAI General Meeting – 20 October 2019 – Minutes

Meeting Opened 2:12pm at Hermit Park State School

Chair: Vice President Paul

Minute taker: Michelle Hasted

Welcome guests: Paul welcomed 4 new visitors from Bushland Beach, Charters Towers, Hidden Valley and Kelso

Apologies: John Pareto, Mick Olsen, Beryl Swan, Lindsay Trott, Andrew Reeds and Sonia Verburgt.

Attendance book circulated.

Previous minutes: Previous minutes were moved and accepted by Iain G.

Treasurer: Briefly advised club is very health with \$19,413.75 however the urn has stopped working (so no cuppa's for today's meeting - apologies)

Secretary: Outgoing correspondence: Grant submission. Incoming correspondence: Biosecurity announcement - Veroa

Librarian: Library catalogue will be available online. 2 good books are Australia Bookkeeping Manual and The Australian Native Bee.

Newsletter: Last news letter was a very good newsletter. Please send in any articles to Lindsay. Doesn't have to be a big story just something to share.

Beekeeping bloopers are always a great read.

General Business:

Shops had \$3K of new stock delivered today. Some stock is on back order. New in stock is 2 ltr honey jar. Saturday shop open on the 1st day of the month is going well. Still looking for volunteers. Not setting a roster at this stage as it's working well with volunteers. Shop will be taking orders over the December to January period and can place orders via email. Orders can be collected outside shop hours however must be by arrangement. An electric branding iron with interchangeable letters for approx. \$2K for the set is being considered to buy as a club item and members can hire at a cost yet to be decided. Members will be able to brand frames and boxes. It is a requirement to have boxes branded but not frames.

Townsville Bulletin are doing a feature of 100 clubs in Townsville. Might be Mick O looking after. Special mention will be to encourage and remind the general public not to feed honey to wild birds. 1. It's illegal and 2. Not good for the birds and 3. Can spread disease between bee populations. Best to feed sugar syrup to birds if people want to feed the birds. Supermarket honey is the worst honey for spreading of disease this way.

Swarm list is online and in the newsletter. Contact the club if you want to be added or removed from this list. The details on the list are: name, suburb and contact number only.

Brad from Biosecurity Qld Varroa Mite Project spoke at the meeting – Thanks to the club in the recent media event. Exposure is up to the end of the year. Increase in notifications, 40 notifications and 16 positives of feral European Honey Bee (EHB). Request for samples of swarms being relocated (forms handed out to members/visitors to view). Forms can be found online and confirmed the form in the last newsletter has been updated. Focus is on the Port area and South Townsville. Question – With the drone brood sample – what is the quantity needed. Answer – 100 is great. Sugar shake sample, coat bees in icing sugar and then shaken off, so the varroa mites will fall off. Reminder that bee keepers must register their hives and all movement of hives. Brochures were left on the committee table for anyone.

Reminder for Call for Volunteers next Saturday 26th October. 2 events are being run. Sonia has emailed a request for volunteers.

Bee Keepers catch up in Bowen 26th October email has also been circulated. Agenda for the weekend is Saturday afternoon bare foot bowls competition followed by a bbq that night. Sunday am is bbq breakfast followed by the 3 clubs (Townsville, Cairns and Mackay) General Meeting.

Xmas party is proposed at the Bohle Barn. Mick O is looking into it and an email will be sent around to all members with further details.

December 2019 meeting is not scheduled. Too hot to open hives and is a busy time of the year.

November Annual General Meeting. Nomination forms are in the newsletter. No experience needed and all are encouraged to consider nominating and helping out. New ideas and people are welcomed.

Business from the floor:

John spoke of the Australian Bee Keeping article about “cool space” between frames. Can take the bees 1 – 1 ½ hrs for them to raise the hive temperature by 1 degree. If you leave your hive open in cooler months for too long, you can be asking a lot of energy from your bees to rise the temperature.

When considering oil trays for Small Hive Beetle (SHB), maybe baby oil would be a good alternative to vegetable oil as the baby oil wouldn't go rancid like the vegetable oil does.

Question – Front of the bee hives where the bees are all outside. Is this a swarm sign? Answer – Called “beards” and is very common. Everyone's hive does it. Not a sign of a swarm. Swarming signs might be if they are walking on all sides of the hive. Observation is best with your bees as you get to know your bee hive and it's bees.

Cane toads will also eat your bees if the hive is too close to the ground especially if there is a beard that has formed at the front of the hive. Suggested that a good height is 400mm above ground to the bottom of the hive box.

Another suggestion for a hive stand is to buy an old chair from Vinnies or Salvation Army and remove the back from the seat. Question: What can be used to stop ants from climbing the legs of the hive stand? Answer: Grease, oil or double sided tape on the stand legs could be used to keep brown and black ants away from bees.

Some stories were shared between member and visitors. One story suggested it's not a good idea to put a queen excluder when introducing new queen as it stops the drones from leaving.

For Sales: Nuc or Full bee hive for sale. 1 Brood box, 1 super (double hive). See Don Newport.

Next meeting: TO BE CONFIRMED. Steve and Carla's AGM 17 November 2019. **Now to be held at Heidi and Lindsay's at 5 McKinley St, North Ward**

Meeting Close: 2:45pm followed by checking the Hermit Park State School hives as a new queen was introduced and checking to see if she is Ok.

Sell/Swap/Buy/Help needed

I will list items for 2 Newsletters only, unless you let me know otherwise. Please drop The Editor a note to indicate whether the items are required to be listed for a longer period

- Sonya Verburgt and Mark have 5-6 Nucs for sale. They are ready to go into super/brood boxes. Queens are laying well. The Nucs range from 5 frames to 8 frames. Contact Sonya: 0408530991 or Mark: 0417737417

Club member Dan Zamykal has a number of 10 frame Langstroth hives (\$350) and 5 frame nucs (\$150) with young marked daughter queens from the Bee Lady. He also has a limited number of marked daughter queens from the Bee Lady (\$35). Queens have been professionally raised and open mated in the Cranbrook/Aitkenvale area. Happy to help new beekeepers. Contact Dan on 0447 951 302.

President Mick has metal stands with handy frame hanger (see photo at right) made to order for \$75, mob 0415215595.

- Don Newport Mob: 041 3388 137 has 3 x 5 frame Nucs with new queens including the corflute nuc for \$150.00 ea Plus - A New Beehive with brood box & super. Includes Nuplas base, 2 new full depth painted wooded boxes, steel Queen excluder, new Queen. & all the frames & foundations & bee's. Nothing to do or buy just wait for them to bring the Honey in. \$350.00



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.

Shaun & Sue Warner, Louise and Peter Kilmore, Dale Eriksen, Dylan and Ros Palmer,
Mark and Tara Morzone, Grant and Jo Polke

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.

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

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

TDBA Inc Office Holders for 2018/2019

President:	Mick Olsen	president@beesnorth.com.au or mick_naomi@bigpond.com
Vice President:	Paul Payne	trapper4812@gmail.com
Secretary:	Alan Ziegenfusz	secretary@beesnorth.com.au
Treasurer:	Frana McKinstry	franajon@gmail.com , or: treasurer@beesnorth.com.au
Membership	Frana McKinstry	franajon@gmail.com or info@beesnorth.com.au
Newsletter Editor:	Lindsay Trott	trottlindsay@gmail.com or: editor@beesnorth.com.au
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	Ian Goulevitch	goulevitchi@gmail.com
	Michell Hasted	pexperts@bigpond.com
	Waldon Edwards	waldon.edwards@iinet.net.au
	Tom and Joan Ruddell	jtrud@optusnet.com.au
	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



**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2017
NOMINATION FORM
OFFICE BEARERS / MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

I, of

Being a member of the above named Association hereby nominate

..... of

To be..... (position) for Townsville & District Beekeepers Association Inc during the year 2017 / 2018

Nominated by:

(Signature)

Seconded by:

(Signature)

Dated:

Note: Form to be returned to TDBA Secretary before AGM

Cut along dotted line

**TOWNSVILLE & DISTRICT BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2017
PROXY FORM**

I, of

Being a member of the Association, appoint

Of

As my proxy to vote for me on my behalf at the Annual General Meeting of the above named Association to be held on 22 October 2017, and at any adjournment thereof

Signed this day of 2016

.....
(Signature)

This form is to be used: - In favour of the resolution ./ - Against the resolution

New form for "Sugar Shake" results – BQ requesting us to step up on detection tests for Varroa

Biosecurity Queensland would like beekeepers to fill out this new 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 in reply paid, or it can be emailed. Carla K will also be visiting everyone who would like to practise with the different self assessment types.

Varroa Mite Eradication Program



Managed hive test or feral nest/swarm removal form

Please use this form to submit the results of self-assessments and to submit samples from collected feral swarms or nests. Complete the first section and then any other applicable sections. Please use multiple forms if necessary and separate forms for each location tested.

Return forms to, or contact for sample collection – Department of Agriculture and Fisheries: 07 3330 4560

PO Box 1085 Townsville Q 4810 or email varroa@daf.qld.gov.au.

Address of collection location	
Collector	
Collector's phone or email	
HIN	

Alcohol wash/ sugar shake (300 bees per hive recommended. Submit sample if anything suspect seen)

Date tested	Alcohol wash or sugar shake? (AW or SS)	Hive ID and approximate number of bees tested	Anything suspect? (Y or N)	Sample submitted? (Y or N)

Drone uncapping (20 drone pupae per hive recommended. Submit sample if anything suspect seen)

Date tested	Hive ID and approximate number of drone pupae examined	Anything suspect? (Y or N)	Sample submitted? (Y or N)

Feral nest or swarm removed and samples kept for DAF to identify and check for varroa (300 bees and several hundred capped brood cells - especially drone brood - recommended)

Date collected	Bees submitted?	Comb submitted?

DAF use only - Analysis by NVMEP

Case	Sample	Date tested	Tested by
ID result	<i>Apis cerana</i> (AHB)	<i>Apis mellifera</i> (EHB)	Other
Varroa seen			
Recording	Date	By	

Scan to server, email to varroa (cc to manager and SPO), add to VMI2019 (attach scan to result), file hard copy

The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries is collecting the information on this form as a record of surveillance activities conducted under the National Varroa Mite Eradication Program. Summaries of surveillance activities may be provided to the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests, formed by the Australian Government Department of Agriculture for the purpose of reporting against the Response Plan for the Eradication of *Varroa jacobsoni* from Queensland – 2019 Incident. Any personal information collected will not be disclosed to any other parties unless authorised or required by law.

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	Traps	
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	Books	
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



TDBA is proudly supported by:

**Fairway
Group Townsville**

Graeme Kent
Senior Accountant,
Business Consultant

Merinda Ct
Annandale QLD 4814

M:0400 607 868 graeme@fwgs.com.au

Coaching - Taxation - Accounting - Bookkeeping

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Dan Donovan: Ph 0428 218 816

Townsville & District
BEEKEEPERS
ASSOCIATION

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