



AUSTRALIAN HONEY BEE INDUSTRY COUNCIL INC.

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Monthly News February 2022

Enjoy reading this newsletter and learning about our work on behalf of your honey bee industry?
If you haven't already become a Friend of AHbic, we welcome you coming on board to help us!

CONTRIBUTE HERE

Or use the form on the last page

Supporting Australia's national beekeeping industry that supports you

Registrations
will open
soon

4th AUSTRALIAN
Bee Congress

CELEBRATING HONEY BEES

At the heart of a healthy Australia
8 - 11 June 2022
Rosehill Gardens, Sydney, NSW

www.australianbeecongress.com.au

**SAVE
THE DATE**

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The Australian Honey Bee Industry Council (AHBIC) is the peak industry body for the Australian beekeeping industry working for all within our industry including honey producers, honey packers, pollinators, queen bee breeders, equipment manufacturers/suppliers

The following list recognises contributions received for the last 12 months. A number of generous contributors wish to remain anonymous. We encourage beekeepers to support those packers, queen bee breeders, equipment manufacturers/suppliers who contribute to AHBIC. Thank you to all our contributors & supporters. AHBIC appreciates your generous & ongoing support.

Friends of AHBIC – Voluntary Contributions

PLATINUM PLUS (0)

PLATINUM (2)

Beechworth Honey Enterprises P/L
Hive & Wellness Australia P/L

GOLD PLUS (9)

Almond Board of Australia
Australian Honey Products P/L
Baker Beekeeping P/L
Beekeeping Australia P/L
Bega Cheese Limited
Goldfield Honey Australia P/L
Lauberts, Ugis
New South Wales Apiarists Association
Sterling Kershaw & Co

GOLD (12)

Australian Queen Bee Line P/L
Amateur Beekeepers Assoc. NSW
Browns Bees Australia P/L
Cotton, Allan & Michelle
Bricknell, Jack
Jensen, Bryce & Leanne
McDonald Honey
Mid Western Fresh Honey
Riverina Beekeeping Supplies P/L
Weerona Apiaries
Woolfe, BD & CA
Zadow, IM & MJ

SILVER (24)

Australian Manuka Honey Association Ltd
Australian Quality Honey (Blue Hills Honey)
Australian Women in Beekeeping Club Inc
Barnes Apiaries
Bees Neez Apiaries
Boyd Apiaries P/L
Clarkes Bees & Honey P/L

Cooper, Casey
Eastburn, Murray & Sandy
Ecrotek
Gells' Honey Maryborough
Honey Australia P/L
Hooper Honey (Ben Hooper)
Le Feuvre, Danny
Manukalife Pty Ltd
McDonald, Eileen & Bob
Michie, Robert & Raelene
Nuplas P/L
Pavy, Rod
Porter, ML & DJ
R. Stephens Apiaries
Ruge Honey
Warral Apiaries P/L
West Coast Honey P/L

BRONZE (13)

Archibald Honey P/L
Arkadiieff, Murray
Australian Honeybee P/L
Cunial Beekeeping P/L
Fuller, Steve
G&A Apiaries
Hampson, Terry (Daybreak Apiaries)
Holscher, Luke
Ipswich & West Moreton Beekeepers
Lutze, Brett & Lynda
Masters, Neil & Sharon
Targett, Stephen
The House of Honey

COPPER (18)

AB's Honey
Ballarat Regional Beekeepers
Bee all Natural
Bayside Beekeepers Assoc.
Carpenter, Ian
Clarke, Michael
Cooper, Barry
Costa, Daniel
De Jong, Wim
Griffin, Vic

Gustare Honey Australia P/L
Hoskinson, HL & HM
Mew, Peter
Moran, Jessica
Nobbs, Courtney
Northside Beekeepers Assoc.
Weatherhead, Trevor & Marion
Wheat, Nathan

OTHER (4)

Copier, Aaron
Drake, Liam
Kassebaum Christopher
Rasmussen, Ivan

NON-PUBLISHED Value (20)

Australian Virtual Hobby Beekeepers Conference 2021
Barton, Keith
Bec's BeeHive Beekeeping Supplies
Brenton, Daryl
Davis, Brenton
Evans, Trevor & Faye
Faithfull, Mark
Geelong Beekeepers
Gilbert, Martin & Lorraine
Honey Australia P/L
Hampton, Tom
Hivekeepers
Kennett Apiaries (SA) P/L
Moggill Honey
Mumford, Dave & Wendy
Naicol P/L
Sorensen, Glen & Trevor
Southern Truck Centre
Tabulam Real Honey
The Tasmanian Honey Company

Anonymous (24)

Did you expect your name to be listed here?
Please check your emails for a message from AHBIC inviting you to renew your contribution (AHBIC emails often end up in spam) or feel free to email [Helen Goodall](mailto:Helen.Goodall@ahbic.org.au).

NEWS FROM THE CHAIR, Trevor Weatherhead AM



1. An update from the Executive on where we are with regard to a new CEO. The Executive are in the final throws of finalising the Position Description for the CEO. The opportunity was taken to update the Position Description. The position will soon be advertised.

2. AHBIC has been asked for assistance from the Australian Queen Bee Breeders Association (AQBBA) in making representations to Australia

Post regarding problems with delivery of queen bees. If you have had problems please let our acting CEO know about these so we can put together a case to go to Australia Post. Please do this within the next week.

3. Elsewhere in the newsletter you will see the opportunity to comment on Australia's domestic organic regulatory framework. If you are in the organic business please avail yourself of the opportunity to make a submission.
4. The Congress Sub-committee is finalising the registration form for the 4th Australian Bee Congress to be held in Sydney in June. Make sure you have registered your expression of interest at the website <https://australianbeecongress.com.au/> This way you will be advised immediately registrations open. I look forward to seeing you in Sydney.
5. You will also see in this newsletter references to the NEXDOC upgrade. If you export honey or apicultural products, most likely beeswax, then you need to study and take part in the virtual drop in sessions to learn more. Thank you to those exporters who helped in the sessions with the Department to make sure the changes were practical and able to be carried out by our industry exporters.
6. With all the rain in south east Queensland and northern New South Wales I hope there have been no hives caught up in the floods. Big lots of rain. At my place we had over 500mms for the period but down the coast I know it was well over the one metre mark.

NOTE FROM ACTING CEO, Danny Le Feuvre



It has been a busy 5 weeks for me, parachuting into the day to day running of AHBIC. To quote one of our former chairs, Peter McDonald *"I thought I had a good understanding of what AHBIC did. I was astounded by the amount of work that is involved"*, 2018 chair report.

I thank Helen for the smooth transition that she facilitated and the amount of work Helen put into ensuring I had all the information to continue 'business as usual' for AHBIC.

Soon we will be able share the many 'fruits' of Helen's labour when the all new website goes live at the end of March, the National Beekeepers award program is launched and the 'Home sweet Home' campaign takes off in the coming months.

The Australian Queen Bee Breeders Association has requested the assistance of AHBIC to help drive a resolution to the multiple issues around the postage of queens. There are many anecdotal accounts of queens going astray but we need detailed cases that can be used to demonstrate the issues to Aust Post. If you have had issues please email AHBIC with details so we can catalogue the issues.

Notice to Creditors – Riverina Beekeeping Supplies

Anyone who has been caught up in the unfortunate situation involving Riverina Beekeeping Supplies Pty Ltd and has paid money for goods that have not been delivered are encouraged to contact.

Matthew Cerato or Toby Daniel on (02) 6938 3800 or admin@chamberlainssbr.com.au

HEAR FROM ONE OF OUR MEMBERS

Bee Industry Council of Western Australia (BICWA)

G'day,

The red gum still shows a good flower pattern, and the WA bees are pleased, as are the beekeepers!

It has been a short month, where BICWA was busy fine-tuning its membership sign up process and preparing for the first board meeting in 2022 (25th FEB).

There has not been any further industry engagement concerning the Forest Management Plan (FMP), although BICWA submitted its concern in the Department's appointment of an independent panel. This panel is established to guide the development of the new FMP and should consist of proven performers in forest restoration, ecology or conservation. We continue lobbying for our industry and the broader communities.

The Marketing team at UWA, sponsored by the Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) for Honey Bee Products, delivers on the 25th FEB an update on the 'WA honey promotion' project. This project analyzes honey marketing overseas and provides valuable input for honey packers.

Unfortunately, we have decided to cancel the conference for the third year in a row. We now hope for the 4th time lucky in 2023.

Talk to you next month, and don't forget to subscribe to our webpage and like us on Facebook.

Regards,

Brendon Fewster - Chair



4th AUSTRALIAN Bee Congress

CELEBRATING HONEY BEES

8 - 11 June 2022

At the heart of a healthy Australia
www.australianbeecongress.com.au

Rosehill Gardens, Sydney, NSW

2022 AGM and Conference Dates

New South Wales Apiarists Association	7 th June – Rydges Parramatta
Bee Industry Council of WA	TBA (face to face cancelled)
Queensland Beekeepers Association	23 rd -24 th June – Warwick RSL
Victorian Apiarists Association	20 th -21 st May – Yorke on Lilydale
South Australian Apiarists Association	31 st May – location TBA
Tasmanian Beekeepers Association	27 th -28 th - Launceston
Australian Queen Bee Breeders Association	TBA
Honey Packers and Marketers Association	TBA
National Council of Crop Pollination Associations	TBA
Australian Honey Bee Industry Council	12 th June – Nesuto Apartment Hotel - Parramatta

AHBIC AGM

The following positions are available at this year's AGM.

Chair

Currently – Trevor Weatherhead (will not be renominating).

Executive Positions

- Peter Barnes – eligible to renominate.
- Ben McKee – eligible to renominate.

To nominate for Chair the following process applies from the constitution:

7.7 Nominations of candidates for election as Chair of AHBIC:-

- shall be made in writing, signed by one voting delegate and accompanied by the written consent of the candidate.
- each nominee may submit a two hundred (200) word statement.
- the nomination shall be delivered to the Secretary not less than twenty eight days prior to the date fixed for the holding of the Annual General Meeting. All delegates are to be notified of all nominations at least fourteen days prior to the holding of the Annual General Meeting.
- If no nominations are received as required under sub-rules 7.7 (a) and 7.7 (c), nominations shall be taken from the floor at the next Annual General Meeting.

AHBIC Australian Beekeeper Award



THE AHBIC AUSTRALIAN BEEKEEPER AWARD

The Award program recognises a person who has demonstrated that they have made a positive difference to the Australian Honey Bee Industry. The program state finalists will participate in a workshop to develop their leadership and story telling skills. Each state finalist will produce a short video on a selected topic that will be judged by a national panel to select the national award recipient.

To find out more information either click the link below or contact your state association.

<https://honeybee.org.au/programs/australian-beekeeper-award/>

EXTENSIONAUS

- Ensure you make the most of these informative [extensionaus -professional beekeepers](#) resources.

SCHOLARSHIPS/PROGRAMS

- The Winston Churchill Trust will fund around 100 people from diverse walks of life so they can explore international best practice and innovation in a field of their choosing. Applications open February 1 2022, for travel overseas in 2023.

A series of virtual information sessions based around specific themes is being held to inspire project ideas and guide people through the application process. Each session will feature existing Churchill Fellows sharing their experiences, and live Q&As.

Applications can be made online from 1 February 2022, closing 28 April 2022. Registration for the virtual sessions is essential. To book and for more information visit churchillfellowships.com.au

EXPORT DOCUMENTATION ONLINE!!

AHBIC has been working with the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment to implement the NEXDOC system for the honey bee industry. This system will eventually replace the manual submissions of forms and speed up the process of getting export documentation from the Department. Initially NEXDOC will roll out for exports to Malaysia and will include honey and honey bee products (excluding live bees). See below for more information, I encourage anyone who exports honey to attend an information session.



Australian Government
Department of Agriculture,
Water and the Environment



Export certification for honey and apiculture products to Malaysia

Export certificate applications will move to the new NEXDOC system from 28 March.

If you are exporting honey or apiculture products, such as bee wax, to Malaysia your export certification is moving to the NEXDOC system.

Benefits of NEXDOC:

- Replaces manual applications and certificates with a faster online system
- Print certificates in your own office
- You can track the status of your application
- QR code security on certificates
- Electronic certificates have lower documentation charges.

Next steps:

Join us for an online information session to find out more. A link to join the sessions will be available on the NEXDOC webpage prior to the sessions.

Online session times		
Wednesday	2 March	10.00am - 12.00pm
Friday	11 March	1.00pm - 3.00pm
Tuesday	15 March	10.00am - 12.00pm
Thursday	24 March	1.00pm - 3.00pm
Tuesday	29 March	2.00pm - 4.00pm
Thursday	7 April	10.00am - 12.00pm

Further information

Email: nexdoc@awe.gov.au

Go to: www.awe.gov.au/biosecurity-trade/export/certification/nexdoc



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awe.gov.au



NATIONAL BIOSECURITY STRATEGY



Give your feedback on the national biosecurity strategy, a collaboration between Australian, state and territory governments, industry, environment groups and communities.

The years ahead will bring more risks to our food and fibre industries and precious environment and places, in the form of pests and diseases. Working together now ensures we'll be ready.

The draft just released captures the views heard to date about how Australia's biosecurity system needs to evolve. It outlines priorities and actions we can take, and includes questions to guide your comments, which will inform next steps.

Your feedback will help shape the final version that will be presented to Australian ministers responsible for biosecurity later this year.

Everyone who enjoys Australia's food, fibre and environment benefits from our biosecurity system. This strategy is for all Australians, so all views are invited.

Read the draft and give your feedback by 18 March 2022.

Find out more at haveyoursay.awe.gov.au/national-biosecurity-strategy.



Have your say on domestic organics regulation

Public consultation is now open on Australia's domestic organic regulatory framework, including how to support industry growth and build consumer confidence.

First Assistant Secretary of Agricultural Policy at the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, Joanna Stanion, invited all stakeholders, including farmers, transporters, exporters, retailers, consumers and industry bodies to have their say on a new organics regulation impact statement.

"The department is seeking stakeholder views on regulatory and non-regulatory options to improve Australia's domestic organic regulatory framework," Ms Stanion said.

"This is a growing part of the agriculture sector and we are keen to seek a wide range of views.

"The department's consultations to date have included an online business survey with over 100 responses, a targeted phone survey of producers and processors with over 500 respondents, an online consumer survey with over 1,000 responses, and a range of industry roundtables and one-on-one meetings."

The public consultation is now open and will close in four weeks on Thursday 17 March at 5pm.

Find out more at: <https://haveyoursay.awe.gov.au/organics>

Fast Facts:

- The global organic food & beverages market was estimated at USD 220 billion in 2019 (Globenewswire 2021) with over 71.5 million hectares of farmland certified organic globally (IFOAM – Organics International, 2020).
- Australia has the largest organic agricultural area in the world (35.7 million hectares).
- According to IBIS World, Australia's organic industry revenue is forecast to increase at an annualised 14.6 per cent over the five years through 2025-26, to \$3.9 billion.
- With agriculture making up a substantial proportion of all organic output, this initiative is linked to the government's commitment to help the agriculture industry reach its goal of \$100 billion in production by 2030 (Ag2030).

PUBLICATIONS AND RESOURCES

- AgriFutures Australia provides access to a wide range of publications designed to help inform decisions made by Australian rural industries, and to contribute to policy debate on rural issues of national and international significance. Please click [here](#) for recent publications for the honey bee and pollination industry.
- Plan Bee is a national genetic improvement program using innovative breeding technologies to transform the performance of honey bees in Australia. Please take 5 minutes to complete the survey <http://agrifutures.com.au/partnerships/rural-rd-for-profit-program/plan-bee/>
- Farmers, researchers and businesses can now see levy funded research from all the Research and Development Corporations in one location. Please visit growAG.com

GOVERNMENT MARKET ACCESS ADVICE

- Market Access Advice (MAA) 2021-25: China: Dairy, Seafood, Honey and Other Edible Non-prescribed Goods: Advice to food processing and storage facilities on accessing China issued registration number has now been published.
The MAA is accessible online here: [2021 Market access advice notices - DAWE](#) Please direct any queries to exportlisting@agriculture.gov.au
- Market Access Advice 2021-24: Saudi Arabia: Honey: Update on listing requirement for honey processors wishing to export honey and honey products to Saudi Arabia:
<https://www.awe.gov.au/biosecurity-trade/export/controlled-goods/non-prescribed-goods/market-access-advice-notices/2021-24>

AHBIC social media pages

If you have any of the below social media platforms please follow AHBIC and share with your friends.

Instagram: @australianhoneybees

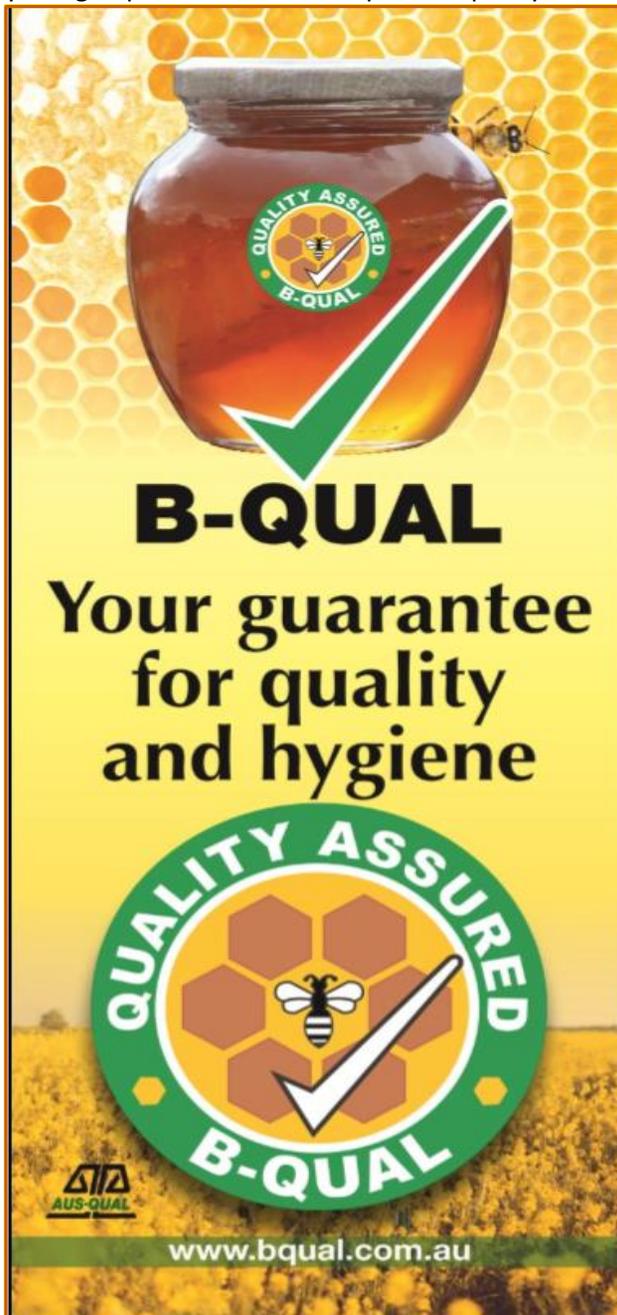
LinkedIn: Australian Honey Bee Industry Council

Facebook: Australian Honey Bee Industry Council

Twitter: @AustBee

B-QUAL

Make sure you sign up to B-QUAL – an important quality assurance system! Click [here](#) for more information.



B-QUAL
Your guarantee
for quality
and hygiene

B-QUAL Industry Owned Quality Assurance System

HOW DOES B-QUAL CERTIFICATION BENEFIT MY BUSINESS?

- Product integrity
- Quality Assurance
- HACCP based certification
- Regulatory Compliance
- Industry best practice
- Biosecurity
- Access to domestic & export markets

B-QUAL Certification also enables an enterprise to market its product under the B-QUAL logo to show that it meets the B-QUAL Industry Standards

Complete your training at home at your own pace!

For more information and to obtain a Certification Information Pack contact the B-QUAL Certification team

www.bqual.com.au
AUS-QUAL Pty Ltd
Phone (07) 3361 9200
email: bqual@ausqual.com.au



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Friends of AHBIC Voluntary Contribution

Please, help us help you and our industry!

Please complete this form and return by email to finance@honeybee.org.au or PO Box 42 Jamison Centre, Macquarie ACT 2614

Friend Category	Investment	Friend Category	Investment
Platinum Plus	\$60,000 & above	Silver	\$1,000 - \$1,999
Platinum	\$20,000 - \$59,999	Bronze	\$500 - \$999
Gold Plus	\$5,000 - \$19,999	Copper	\$100 - \$499
Gold	\$2,000 - \$4,999	Other	\$0 - \$99

Contribution Details

Name:

Address:

.....State.....Postcode.....

Email: (Please PRINT clearly).....

Phone: Date:

Payment Method

Amount: \$.....

1. EFT Deposit (preferred payment method)
Account Name: Australian Honey Bee Industry Council Inc
Bank: Bendigo Bank
BSB: 633 000
Account No: 150 976 405
Reference: Please include your NAME as the reference
2. CHEQUE: Please post cheque with this form to PO Box 42 Jamison Centre Macquarie ACT 2614
3. CREDIT CARD: Online at <https://honeybee.org.au/friends-of-ahbic-voluntary-contribution/>

Please circle YES/NO to the following:

1. The AHBIC newsletter lists contributors
 - i. Publish your name YES / NO
 - ii. Publish the contribution amount YES / NO
2. I would like to receive a copy of the monthly newsletter YES / NO

Your contribution is gratefully appreciated, thank you