



## AUSTRALIAN HONEY BEE INDUSTRY COUNCIL INC.

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# Monthly News July/August 2020

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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*



Loading hives for travel to almond pollination. Photo credit – QBA and Murray Arkadieff

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Pandemic can't stop 9 billion [bees](#) on their way to Victoria's almond crops.



Hives arriving for almond pollination. Photo credit – QBA and Murray Arkadieff

# AUSTRALIAN HONEYBEE INDUSTRY COUNCIL INC

ABN 63 939 614 424



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)

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

#### GOLD PLUS (6)

Australian Honey Products P/L  
Baker Beekeeping Pty Ltd  
Beekeeping Australia Pty Ltd  
Goldfield Honey Australia Pty Ltd  
Sterling Kershaw & Co  
Almond Board of Australia

#### GOLD (8)

Amateur Beekeepers Assoc. NSW  
Cotton, Allan & Michelle  
Hampel, SJ & SM  
NSW Apiarist Association  
McDonald Honey  
Weerona Apiaries  
Woolfe, BD & CA  
Zadow, IM & MJ

#### SILVER (25)

Australian Quality Honey (Blue Hills Honey)  
Barnes Apiaries  
Bees Neez Apiaries  
Brenton, Daryl  
Boyd Apiaries Pty Ltd  
Cairns District Beekeeping Assoc  
Cooper, Casey  
Davies Apiaries  
Desert Breeze Honey  
Eastburn, Murray & Sandy  
Gells' Honey Maryborough  
Hampson, Terry (Daybreak Apiaries)  
Hooper Honey (Ben Hooper)  
Kuyan Apiaries  
Le Feuvre, Danny  
McDonald, Bob & Eileen  
Michie, Robert & Raelene  
Pavy, Rod  
Porter, ML & DJ  
R. Stephens Apiaries  
Ruge Honey  
Victorian Recreational Beekeepers Association  
Warral Apiaries P/L  
Wilson, Colin  
Victorian Recreational Beekeepers Association

#### BRONZE (10)

Clarke, RK & KM  
Cunial Beekeeping Pty Ltd  
Heritage Honey (P. Norris)  
Holscher, Luke  
Ipswich & West Moreton Beekeepers  
Lutze, B&L  
Masters, Neil  
Mumford, Dave & Wendy  
Targett, Stephen  
Walkabout Apiaries

#### COPPER (27)

AB's Honey  
Ascot Veterinary Group  
Ballarat Regional Beekeepers  
Bee Scientifics (Jody Gerdtz)  
Berry, Jessica  
Bayside Beekeepers Assoc.  
Clarke, Michael  
Clifford, David  
Cooper, Barry  
Frost, Liz  
Gustare Honey Australia  
Honey in the Garden  
Hoskinson, HL & HM  
JBR Bees  
Jordan, Corinne  
Kennett Apiaries (SA) Pty Ltd  
MacGibbon, Kevin  
Nairn, Mal  
Northside Beekeepers Assoc.  
Petratos, Aris  
Redpath's Beekeeping Supplies  
Sedgwick, Peter (Honeyworks P/L)  
Stokes, Peter  
Trigg, Margaret  
Weatherhead, Trevor & Marion  
Westlands Honey Beverley WA  
Wilson, Luke

#### OTHER (4)

Davey, Robin  
De Broun, Pauline  
Honeylife Australia  
Shaw, Robert

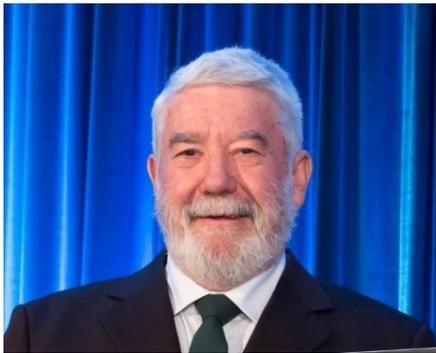
#### NON-PUBLISHED Value (17)

Australian Women in Beekeeping  
Bec's BeeHive Beekeeping Supplies  
BeeInventive (Flow)  
Ecrotek  
Evans, Trevor & Faye  
Faithful, Mark  
Gilbert, Martin & Lorraine  
Geelong Beekeepers Club  
Gold Coast Regional Beekeepers  
Hibberd, GL & HK, HSH Apiary  
Leemon, Diana  
Lewis, Peter  
Matsen, Jeff  
Moggill Honey  
Naicol Pty Ltd  
WA Pure Honey  
Watson, Jim

#### ANONYMOUS (12)

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

By now beekeepers will have moved a lot of hives into almond pollination despite some being held up with wet conditions due to some welcome rain. I see in one report that there will be an estimated 227,000 hives carrying out almond pollination this year.

With the Covid-19 restrictions in place AHBIC participated in a series of national meetings initiated by the Victorian Department. My thanks to Brett Harrison for making these meetings possible.

The meetings were basically a sharing of information and identification of any problems in relation to firstly getting the hives in and later out of pollination and most importantly making sure that beekeepers did not have to self-isolate after they came back from delivering the hives into Victoria.

Participants in the meetings were from the State Beekeeping Organisations plus representatives from the various State Government Departments that were dealing with movements in relation to Covid-19 restrictions plus pollination brokers. The State Associations had to do most of the heavy lifting but I was very pleased with the amount of input from the various State Government Departments. Overall the meetings were very successful.

AHBIC put a special Covid-19 page on our website where all the information is put so that anyone could see the latest on what is happening. As most know things change quite regularly and it is important that beekeepers could see what is happening in real time. Our thanks to the Almond Board of Australia who funded this aspect of the website on the Covid-19 details.

AHBIC has renamed the Quarantine and Disease Sub-committee as the Biosecurity Sub-committee as this reflects better what the Sub-committee is actually doing. I hope that all member bodies of AHBIC have replied with their nominations to the various Sub-committees.

The final report on the AHBIC Communications Plan will be available shortly. The work then begins to put the recommendations into actions.

The survey for the National Agricultural Workforce Strategy has been completed. Hopefully others in our industry have also completed the survey.

A meeting was held with CropLife re the [BeeConnected](#) app. It is to be updated and I would urge all beekeepers to use it. It could save your bees. If you have any problems let me know.





## NOTE FROM CEO, Helen Goodall

In July the Biosecurity Beekeepers online [course](#) became available as a free course for all beekeepers. The course has also been recently updated. The Biosecurity Beekeepers course is delivered by Plant Health Australia through funding from state and territory governments and AHBC.

A bushfire recovery report has been published by AgriFutures to help understand what needs to be done to support the honey bee and pollination industry recovery from the 2019-20 bushfires. This report details a recovery plan developed in consultation with industry and requires Australian and state government funding and cooperation to implement. AHBC is advocating on a national level, with the support of the state associations working with state governments. A copy of the report is available [here](#)

I often receive inquiries via the phone or website requesting information on the requirements to export honey. A new digital service was launched on 30 June 2020. It's called the Trade Information Service (TIS) and it enables exporters to quickly access tariff rates, import country requirements and commercial insights for honey in eight markets. For further information please refer to page 6 of the newsletter or click [here](#)

B-QUAL has attracted a lot of attention recently due to some great work they will be undertaking. B-QUAL were awarded \$189,000 to work in partnership with the Cooperative Research Centre to deliver an auditable and digitised traceability system. This project includes the development of a unique flora database and a national honey library. Please see the [media](#) release from Minister Littleproud. There is also a news article regarding the project that can be read [here](#)

As a reminder if you are transporting bees, please follow the [guidelines](#) for best management practice for the transportation of open entrance beehives. It is suggested that you carry these guidelines with you. If are in Victoria COVID-19 restrictions require you to wear face covering. If you are working on a farm that is not your own, you must wear a mask unless a lawful exception applies. It is important that you refer to the AHBC [website](#) for updates or contact your state association.

Over the past few years, we have experienced droughts, fires, floods and now the ongoing restrictions and challenges of COVID-19. Everyone is impacted differently and adding this to normal life challenges, or the running of a business can add enormous pressure or stressors. The B-QUAL [newsletter](#) has some useful information on how to look after your mental health or where to go for advice. Another resource is [HiveAid](#) that is available for beekeepers, which provides ongoing free access to certified counselling support.



## 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. Including:

- Rebuilding the Honey Bee and Pollination [Industry](#)
- Fungicides and bees in [canola](#)
- Fungicides and bees in [apple & pear](#)
- Fungicides and bees in [almonds](#)

## SCHOLARSHIPS AND PROGRAMS

- [The Australian Rural Leadership Program](#) is a dynamic experiential learning program focused on the development of leadership for individuals and collectives who are contributing to the future prosperity of rural and regional Australia.
- [Applications open](#) for Women's Leadership Development: Horticulture Sector. Scholarships grants are co-funded by Hort Innovation and Women & Leadership Australia.
- AgriFutures is supporting Farmers2Founders and their upcoming [Ideas Program](#). They are sponsoring up to four positions in the program and would love to attract applications from our innovative honey bee levy payers. The Farmers2Founders Ideas Program is designed for primary producers with fresh ideas. Over 12 weeks, the program provides funding, coaching, and more to support producers to work out if your business idea is worth pursuing.
- Nuffield Australian Farming Scholarships [Applications open](#) .

## NEWS FROM APIMONDIA

- [Apimondia](#) issued a press release on the Standards of Protection Goals for Risk Assessment of Pesticides to Bees.

## GENERAL NEWS AND LINKS – AUSTRALIA

- [Science](#) has once again validated Indigenous wisdom by identifying a rare, healthy sugar in native stingless bee honey that is not found in any other food. University of Queensland organic chemist [Associate Professor Mary Fletcher](#) said Indigenous peoples had long known that native stingless bee honey had special health properties.
- Release of the Trade Information Service. Save time and hassle in finding importing country requirements and tariff rates for honey. A new digital service, which saves exporters time and effort searching for regulations across multiple sites, was launched on 30 June. It's called the Trade Information Service (TIS) and it enables exporters to quickly access tariff rates, import country requirements and commercial insights for honey in eight markets.

TIS has been built by Austrade, in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment. We encourage you to test it out by visiting [here](#) selecting a product (honey) and market of interest, and clicking on the 'Laws and Regulations' tile. We hope you find it valuable and welcome suggestions for improvement (there's a feedback function in the site).

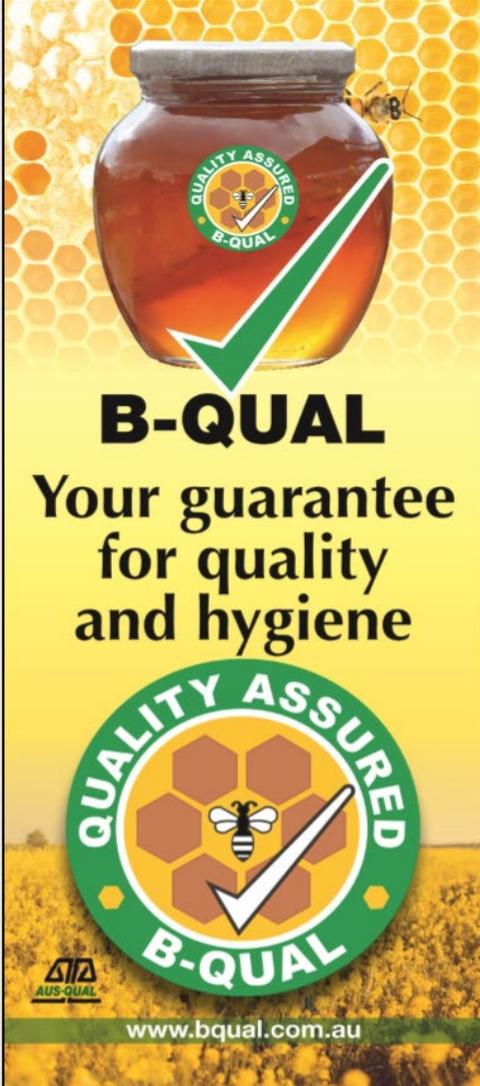
TIS is narrow in scope right now because it is 'proof of concept'. That is, Austrade chose honey (and mangoes) to prove that the idea was viable – that data from several regulatory sources could be married together in one site - to help take some of the pain out of export. Exporters told Austrade that having regulations and commercial insights together in one place, and making the answers to regulatory questions visible as early as possible, were what they wanted. From now on, the service will expand to cover more products and regulations based on user feedback. If you'd like to know more or would be interested in joining a webinar about how to use TIS, please contact [DigitalServices@austrade.gov.au](mailto:DigitalServices@austrade.gov.au)

## EXTENSIONAUS

Ensure you make the most of these informative [ExtensionAUS](#) resources.

- [Braula fly](#) (walk) can be mistaken for Varroa or other parasitic mites, as they are a similar colour and length, however Braula is only half the width of Varroa and has 6 legs rather than 8.
- [Plan Bee](#) aims to foster a sustainable national genetic improvement program using innovative breeding technologies to transform the performance of honey bees in Australia.

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



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Phone (07) 3361 9200  
email: [bqual@ausqual.com.au](mailto:bqual@ausqual.com.au)

## HEAR FROM THE STATE ASSOCIATIONS

### WA Farmers Beekeeping & Bee Industry Council of Western Australia (BIWCA) Section

Well, what a time we've had! Here in WA we find ourselves hopefully coming out of a rather strange time with Covid-19 but lucky to see that all interstate travel is allowed again. We are thinking of our fellow beekeepers in Victoria. The restrictions made us cancel our yearly AGM and Conference day in May.

Although we still envisage holding a full Conference next year, it will be smaller and will have an online component for those not quite comfortable with being in a large group. That's fine, and we will still deliver something that will engage your interest. Mark your diary June 29 – July 1 2021 and watch out for further announcements to be released soon through our webpage: [www.bicwa.com.au](http://www.bicwa.com.au) or social media.

BICWA is starting to make some great inroads to move forward and ensure that the viability of the WA industry is supported. We are re-looking at the structure of BICWA and assessing how to run our industry into the future. This will bring us to work out an improved strategic plan, which will aid with requests for funding opportunities into the future and to guide our industry. We also believe it is time to have a full/part-time CEO to help run our industry.

At the 17<sup>th</sup> July 2020 we held a very well attended AGM at DPIRD in Kensington. The BICWA board is elected and confirmed for the year 2020/21 as follows:

<b>APC Beekeepers</b>	Kim Fewster and Dave Christensen
<b>WA Beekeepers Association</b>	Mat Welch and Julie Dinsdale
<b>WA Farmers Beekeepers</b>	Brendon Fewster and Matt Colvin
<b>WA Apiarists' Society</b>	John McLaughlin
Secretary	Christine Spycher
Treasurer	Tristan Campbell

Both positions are held by non Directors. The position of Chair and Vice Chair is selected at the next BICWA meeting,



#### **Awards**

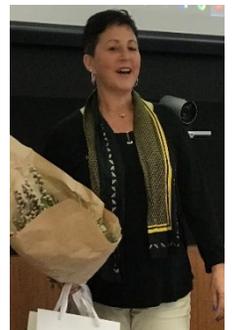
*Wayne Ridley- Outgoing Director of BICWA, retiring Officeholder for WABA and APC Committee member*

Wayne has worked tirelessly for decades on behalf of the industry and was presented with a plaque of appreciation and industry trophy.

Acknowledgement: Thank you to John L Guilfoyle Pty Ltd, Bellevue for sponsoring the hive tool trophy.

*Leilani Leyland- Outgoing Director and Secretary of BICWA*

Leilani was presented with a gift and card from the BICWA Board and thanked for all her services to the industry. Her drive, enthusiasm and knowledge has been significant in the creation of BICWA. We thank Leilani for her continuous involvement in Conference and Honey Month planning and look forward to still working with her.



#### **WA Farmers Beekeeper Section**

The Annual General Meeting took place on Friday the 17<sup>th</sup> July before the BICWA AGM at DPIRD. WA Farmers Beekeepers board is elected and confirmed for the year 2020/21 with Chairman, Matt Colvin (new) and Vice Chairman Rupert Phillips (remaining). Attendees thanked the outgoing Chairman, Stephen Fewster, for his work within the organisation. WA Farmers, beekeeper section and BICWA met with the Forest Industries Federation of WA (FIFWA), peak body for both the native and plantation sector. Like the foresters, the beekeepers are worried by the ongoing demand to lock up ever greater percentages of the states forest reserves from any sort of commercial or even recreational activity. With the next state election due in March 2021 we will be looking at common election policies we can present to all political parties to ensure that the state forest remains an accessible and sustainable resource for all.

## **NSW Apiarists Association (NSWAA), President Stephen Targett**

NSWAA has made a submission for the NSW \$140 million Bushfire Recovery Grant. The NSWAA submission is multi faceted with short and long term benefits for not just the NSW industry but will also benefit other states. The total project is just over \$4 million with us asking for \$1.94 million of grant money. The industry had to have matching funds for the grant monies. The submission includes most major industry players plus University of Technology Sydney and University of Sydney. University of Sydney was the applicant and will be the project manager on behalf of the industry. We will know whether we have been successful by mid Nov 2020.

NSWAA has been taking part in DPI COVID 19 industry meetings as well as COVID-19 meetings for the procedures for bees travelling into and out of Victoria for almond pollination. This has been a great collaboration effort between states, almond industry and NSW Police. An Ebee will be out early next week with procedures for NSW beekeepers crossing from Victoria into NSW with bees on board.

NSWAA also made a submission to the National Agriculture Workforce - discussion paper. This will be on our website shortly. Hopefully all those beekeeping businesses who use overseas workers in their business also made a submission.

## **Queensland Beekeepers' Association (QBA) – State Secretary, Jo Martin**

The QBA has been working to resolve multiple ongoing issues for the beekeeping industry in recent months. Between droughts, the aftermath of bushfires and now a global pandemic, QBA has been a constant advocate for our members and the greater industry. In this update we will cover the top matters covered in recent weeks.

### *Drought*

With more than 67% of Queensland still under drought declaration, Queensland based beekeepers continue to go to great lengths to maintain the health and productivity of our hives. Earlier in the year QBA was successful in obtaining a Queensland Government drought assistance program for the Queensland Beekeeping industry. Funding from the program provided a 12-month fee waiver (2019-20 financial year) on crown land apiary sites as well as an additional \$350,000 allocated for the purchase of emergency sugar that was distributed to beekeepers, desperate to keep colonies alive through the difficult conditions.

In total the State Government funded package was valued at \$1 million. It is understood this was an unprecedented assistance package for the Queensland Beekeeping industry. QBA would like to extend our sincere thanks to the team at Hive and Wellness Pty Ltd for their assistance in the distribution of the emergency sugar stockpile, this was a mammoth task that was skilfully executed by the team to ensure our beekeepers received allocations as quickly as possible. QBA was involved in overseeing the delivery of this program and provided a final report to the Queensland Department of Agriculture on the completion of the program. QBA is still actively pursuing an additional drought assistance package for the 2020-21 financial year from the Queensland Government.

### *COVID-19*

Over the past few months, Queensland beekeepers have faced a unique set of challenges due to the global COVID-19 pandemic. Earlier in the year, as the Queensland State Government was making preparations for the pandemic, the QBA was invited to sit on the Queensland Agricultural Co-ordination Group (ACG), a group chaired by the Director General of the Department of Agriculture Dr Beth Woods and co-chaired by the Hon Mark Furner, Minister for Agriculture. The establishment of the group was to collaborate key Agriculture/Horticulture industry stakeholders and Department to ensure the needs and welfare of stakeholders were met during this period of uncertainty caused by the introduction of the virus to Australia.

In the initial phase of the pandemic, the group met weekly via teleconference, providing industry representatives to raise concerns/issues and receive updates from Senior Government officials and the office of the Queensland Chief Health Officer and other key Government Departments. The QBA's involvement in this group has proved critical to the ongoing operations of beekeepers working both inside and outside of the state. Through our involvement with the ACG, we've presented a number of matters to the group which have been resolved swiftly ensuring our beekeepers can continue to do what they do best. QBA continues to liaise with QDAFF on matters of border access, industry exemption and health matters.

### *Queensland Beekeepers migration to the Almond pollination*

2020 has seen a dramatic increase in the number of Queensland hives contracted to pollinate the Australian Almond pollination season. In previous years approximately 11,000 Queensland hives were migrated to the almond growing regions, in 2020 this figure has nearly doubled seeing around ¼ of the Queensland commercial beekeeping industry involved in providing pollination for almonds.

Due to the increasing restrictions on border control across multiple states, it was recognised in early June that provisions would need to be made to ensure the Queensland Beekeeping industry could meet their contracted agreements for the supply of hives for pollination. The QBA quickly acted to secure a border exemption reclassification for our commercial members. This involved commercial beekeeping being reclassified under a critical service 'freight and logistics' exemption under the health directives issued by the Queensland Chief Health Officer. This reclassification also has a number of key requirements that all beekeepers must meet. QBA has continued to provide consistent communication to our members on the evolving changes, providing them with the resources to secure their seamless transit to and from Queensland.

QBA has also recently been heavily involved in the national working group established to coordinate the movements of beekeepers supplying hives for the Australian Almond pollination season. It must be said, that this specific group has gone to great lengths to ensure the mass migration of hives to Almond growing regions is executed with great diligence for the health and safety of our beekeepers and the welfare of their hives. QBA will continue to have strong representation in this group to provide advocacy for the more than 20,000 Queensland hives that have been contracted to provide critical pollination services.

### *National Parks/2024 exclusion*

QBA has continued lobbying efforts to secure continued access to Queensland National parks beyond the current 31 December 2024 exclusion date. The past 12 months has seen our efforts to secure continued access somewhat moving in a promising direction, with the QBA receiving a proposal from the Queensland Minister for Environment, Hon Leeanne Enoch. Currently the proposed position is for an extension of access to Queensland National Park Apiary sites for an additional 20 years, effectively moving the date of exclusion to the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2044.

Although this may not be the precise ultimatum the QBA has been seeking, the extension will provide the industry with more time to negotiate a more long-term, sustainable agreement. Minister Enoch has committed to taking the proposed policy to the Queensland Cabinet for consideration. As with all proposed policy changes, a stakeholder consultation was commenced over a 14-day period in early June 2020. Upon receiving the proposal, QBA immediately swung into action, communicating details of the proposed policy change to AHBIC, State Industry bodies, pollination dependent industry stakeholders and our members, allowing as many interested parties as possible to prepare supporting submissions for the proposed extension.

We received an overwhelmingly large volume of supporting submissions from members, industry organisation colleagues and grower dependent industries on the matter. To everyone who provided supporting submissions, we express our sincere thank you for your involvement in the consultation process. All submissions were forwarded to the Queensland Department of Parks and Wildlife Service within the 14-day period. The QBA awaits updates from the Minister for Environment on the outcome of the Queensland Cabinet Submission and will provide members and industry with updates as soon as they are made available.

### *2020 QBA AGM*

The QBA Management Committee is working to schedule our 2020 Annual General Meeting. A time, date and location will be communicated to members as soon as preparations have been finalised. The QBA Management Committee is committed to delivering a face to face Annual General Meeting for our members, unfortunately due to current social distancing restrictions the meeting will be restricted to 100 members in total. For this reason, members will be required to preregister for the event to secure a seat. The QBA Management Committee are required to follow strict directives as issued by the Queensland Chief Health Officer in order to host this event, this includes multiple transmission barriers and protocols being placed on anyone attending the AGM. QBA will communicate further details regarding the QBA AGM.

Lastly, we hope that the spring of 2020 will be more favourable to our beekeeping industry and community. We are optimistic that we will see a change in weather patterns resulting in the return of regular rainfall events.

## QUEENSLAND BEE BIOSECURITY OFFICER UPDATE



Australian Honey Bee  
INDUSTRY COUNCIL



Queensland  
Government

This update from the Queensland Bee Biosecurity Officer [Rebecca Laws](#) gives an overview of her main activities since early 2020.

### **Bee Biosecurity Roadshow**

During February, I took to the road to deliver the Bee Biosecurity Roadshow to spread bee biosecurity messages throughout Queensland. Travelling up the coast from Brisbane to north Queensland, I visited the Sunshine Coast, Gympie, Hervey Bay, Bundaberg, Rockhampton, Tully and Townsville. I met with beekeepers and gave talks on checking hives for bee pests and diseases, and the [Australian Honey Bee Industry Biosecurity Code of Practice](#) (the Code). When the weather permitted, talks were followed by demonstrations of undertaking a comprehensive hive inspection. As the Bee Biosecurity Officer is a relatively new position for Queensland, the roadshow was a fantastic opportunity to meet beekeepers throughout Queensland and build relationships within the industry.

### **Talks and demonstrations for beekeeping clubs**

In addition to the Bee Biosecurity Roadshow, I also gave talks and demonstrations to a number of beekeeping clubs in South East Queensland; including the Bayside Beekeepers Association (East Brisbane), the Ipswich and West Moreton Beekeepers Association, and the Warwick branch of the Queensland Beekeepers' Association. When COVID-19 made it no longer possible to provide these talks in person, I moved online, giving webinars to the Southern Beekeepers Association (Toowoomba) and the Amateur Beekeepers' Association Southern Downs (Warwick).

### **Online public talks**

The restrictions that came with the outbreak of COVID-19 have brought both challenges and opportunities for communicating with Queensland beekeepers. One exciting opportunity was the development of a [series of online bee biosecurity public talks](#) in collaboration with the Digital Engagement and Systems team within the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF). Aimed at professional beekeepers and bee enthusiasts alike, the series of talks focused on bee biosecurity basics, brood diseases, mites and external parasites, submitting samples for disease testing, and the Code. The first talk had over 400 registrations, while the second had over 300 registrations. There has been a great turnout for the live events, with many people also watching the recorded sessions later. Each session has included special guests, including apiary officers, members of the [Australian Honey Bee Industry Council](#), the National Varroa Mite Eradication Program team and more.

### **Resources for school students**

As part of my outreach program, I had also planned to visit several schools to give talks on bee biosecurity. As I could no longer visit these schools in person to provide talks I partnered with the Ag-tech Innovation and Partnerships and Skills Policy group within DAF to develop a bee biosecurity module for secondary school students. This module included a pre-recorded lecture on bee biosecurity practices with video demonstrations of different bee biosecurity techniques and a short assessment for students to test their knowledge.

### **Fact sheets and online resources**

Over the last few months, I have developed and updated existing resources for honey beekeepers, including factsheets on general honey bee biosecurity practices, as well as specific pests and diseases. These resources have been developed to complement the resources available at the national level, and provide Queensland-specific information, for example about climate and legislation.

### **Guidance for beekeepers**

During the last few months, the time put into meeting with beekeepers across the state and undertaking online talks has paid off with more beekeepers being aware of the role of the Bee Biosecurity Officer and contacting me for help and advice. Especially pleasing, has been the contact from new beekeepers seeking advice how to set up sound beekeeping practices in their apiaries. I have also been following up with beekeepers who have received positive diagnoses for high priority pests and diseases like [American foulbrood](#) to ensure that they understood how to best manage their hive going forward.



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[www.honeybee.org.au](http://www.honeybee.org.au)

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](mailto: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:

1. AHBIC Newsletter list of contributors, please publish my name in:
  - i. **disclosed** monetary category or YES / NO
  - ii. **undisclosed** monetary category or YES / NO
  - iii. do **not** publish my name YES / NO
2. Please acknowledge this voluntary contribution with a Tax Receipt (email only) YES / NO

Your contribution is gratefully appreciated, thank you.