

Townsville and District Beekeepers Association (Inc.)

www.beesnorth.com.au



PO Box 1115, Aitkenvale QLD 4814

Newsletter No 1, February 2019

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Next Meeting: Sonya V's
47 McLean St, Gulliver
10:00 am Sunday, 17 February 2019
Sausage sizzle after the meeting. We provide the BBQ, sausages, bread, sauce onions, you can bring a cool beverage of your own taste.
Bring a chair, and a plate of food to share if you can
Tea, coffee, sugar and milk provided

Hive gains 2 kg/day after New Years revelry.

What makes a hive turn it's head around and decide to "go for Gold"?

Obviously the most important ingredient to getting that golden reward from your hard working hive is to have the bees in good shape. Some of the requirements for this are: a young, healthy laying queen, no diseases or pests, hive in a good location with nectar and pollen available, some good honey and pollen stores laid down for quiet times, and access to water. But all of this does not necessarily produce the goods if human intervention and weather get in the road.

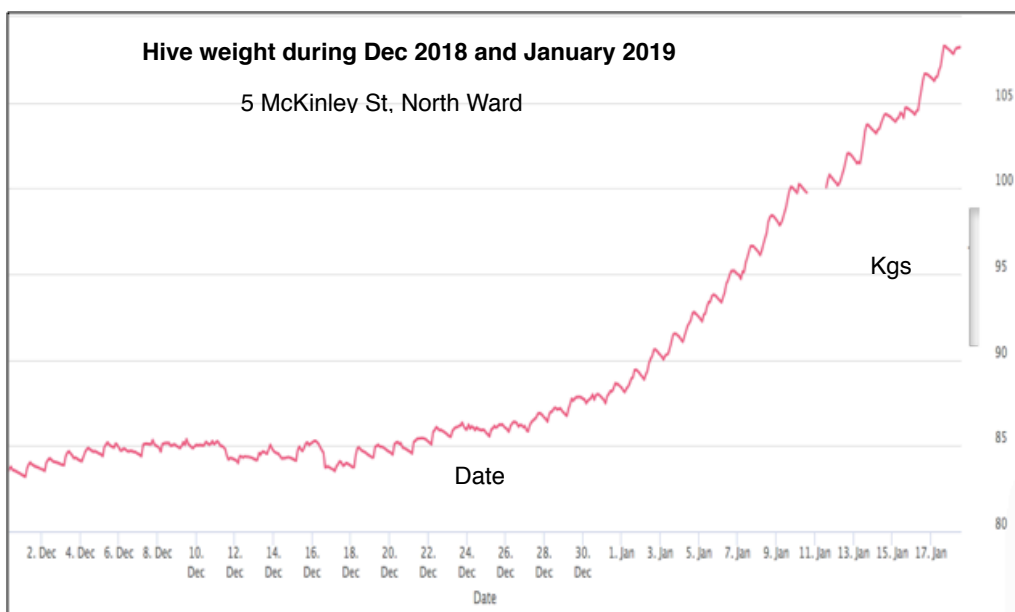
I like to prepare my hives for my holiday absence by giving the girls plenty of space in both brood box and honey supers, topping up SHB oil traps, renewing Apithor traps, going through the brood to check for a good laying pattern and seeing the queen, looking for AFB signs, etc.

The graph shows the lack of hive weight gain in early December when I fiddled about adding an extra honey super, shifted the queen excluder up to have a double box brood chamber, added a honey super box of WSP waxed foundation, and checked my cane toad and ant preventers. The hive was obviously not happy after my meddling. No weight gain until 2 weeks later around 18 Dec.

The data is from a Ray Berkelmans designed and built wifi hive weight scale setup that records hive weight, temperature, humidity, battery charge level and transmits these data to the internet every 10 minutes so that I can check in on my girls while I am on holidays (ask Club member Ray for details, he is now our Honorary IT man). This graph just shows hive weight in kgs from 1 Dec 2018 – 17 Jan 2019.

My fiddling around in the hive appears to have stalled the increase in weight that was occurring before 1 Dec 2018. It took until at least 10 December for the hive to recover and re-commence laying in honey stores. And then the rain came during 10-18 Dec. The heavy downpours and high winds really put a kibosh on the ability of the bees to forage and the hive actually lost weight during this period. It was not until Xmas Day (23 days after my departure) that the hive regained its initial weight. And then something happened- maybe a fresh flowering stimulated by previous rain, or maybe cabin fever by the foragers desperate to get out and go for it? I don't know, but from then on the hive has gone for broke. The latest data I have at the time of writing on 17 Jan 2019 is a 2 kg weight gain in one day!!! That's packing it in. Honey flow time can vary depending on weather and flowering times at this time of year, but as you can see, there are several other factors that can interrupt or influence when your hive gets the message and "goes for Gold".

Ed: Club members, please send me some stories of how your hives managed during the summer period. I need Club members stories so that I don't have to trawl the internet for other news. Your fellow members would love to hear how you are going.



Local beekeepers on Bruny Island showcase the best of Tassie honey

“The Honey Pot” <https://www.thehoney-pot.com> is the shop front for the Wright family who run around 400 hives at several sites on Bruny Island as well as 400 hives on the Tasmanian mainland. They move the hives around to catch the flowering of local nectar producers such as banksia, leptospermum, eucalypts, clover and “prickly box” (*Bursaria spinosa*), a member of the Pittosporum family. The “prickly box” was in flower when we visited and was producing delicious honey. The Wright’s shift their mainland hives to Lake Pedder and to the Huon and Derwent Valleys, where they collect Leatherwood and Manuka Honey. My absolute favourite honey was Leatherwood (*Eucryphia lucida*) which has a unique, strong flavour and is mainly sourced from the wetter wilder forested N and NW parts of Tasmania. Leatherwood is the single most important nectar plant for honey in Tasmania, giving about 70% of all honey produced.



The Ed being shown around the Bruny Is shop by Natalie Wright



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bursaria_spinosa or Prickly Box

Apparently many people prefer the milder flavour of the “prickly box” honey over Leatherwood. The Honey Pot shop had a wide range of other monofloral honeys available for tasting. The fennel honey was a total surprise and had a nice nutty, seed flavour with hints cocoa, coffee and maple syrup – sounds like a wine tasting label!!



The Wrights extract and package all their own honey at their mainland facilities at their in Judbury, Tasmania. They transport the capped frames of honey from their Bruny Is hives by truck on the public car ferry to their mainland processing shed and packing facility in the honey flow season. Apparently this has produced a variety of responses from the other queued up car ferry passengers – ranging from mild interest to absolute panic when the local bees sniff out a truck load honey and wax stores in the covered boxes waiting in line for ½ hr or more for the next ferry. Large swarms of bees accumulating around parked cars trapped in a queue during summer can often lead to some mixed emotions.

The difficulties faced by the Wrights on Bruny Is are mainly from the colder and drier weather influencing flowering times and duration, and the longer non flowering season that requires them to leave at least 2 ideal boxes full of honey to feed the hives over winter from April - November. The island is relatively free of diseases, but they burn and bury any AFB outbreak hives, which thankfully does not happen too often, and they have no SHB!! Surprisingly they had not heard about Townsville’s close shave with AHB and Varroa – so I set them straight about our good work up here.

PS: The extensive fires around the Judbury region near Huonville may have affected the Wright family’s hives and processing facilities. Leatherwood honey supplies will be seriously limited for many, many years following the fires.

Article from **The Ed** while he was holidaying (again). Many thanks to Natalie Wright from the Honey Pot for showing me around their shopfront and letting me grill her on the family business. Thanks also for the delicious Leatherwood honey ice cream.

Backyard honey producers in Tassie are a trusting lot!

While driving around Tassy **The Ed** came across many roadside stalls selling fruit, produce and of course, honey. **The Ed** was most impressed with this low key stall on Bruny Is where the honey and the money were all just parked under the gum tree on the side of the road, relying on motorists’ honesty to first of all pay for the honey, but also to leave the purple money bag behind (on left side in Esky photo)



Life does proceed at a different pace in Tassy, and I hope they don’t have to confront the “big bad world” too soon, as its a delight to have trust placed with you by a stranger - hopefully everyone reciprocates.

On the left: Low key roadside stall with the unattended shop “open” for business.

On the right: Inside the “shop”.3 types of honey and the money purse in there too! Honesty abounds on The Apple Isle.





Neal Elliman sent in some pics from the media. The carrying handles shown below look great for saving backs, but there is no support underneath the hive. I guess that is so the box can be placed on top of other boxes without the need to remove support beams - but, I have had enough "incidents" to know that unsupported boxes don't always stay where you want them too.



More info from Neal Elliman. Just remember this when you waste just one drip of honey from the bottom of a honey bucket or the end of a spoon.

And from Ian Gordon.
Seen at the Bees and Honey Shop at Eumundi Qld
<https://www.beesandhoneyeumundi.com.au/>



Australian SHB Research shows success

Some excellent and thorough research has been going on into attractants for SHB in order to make a trap for the blighters before they get into your hive. See the site listed below:

<https://www.agrifutures.com.au/product/external-attractant-trap-for-small-hive-beetle/>

Recommendations from the research were:

- This project demonstrated that commercially available lantern traps with a simple yeast based attractant can be deployed strategically from spring to autumn to intercept and trap SHB flying towards an apiary. An educational video on how to prepare and deploy this trap has been produced to disseminate the information to beekeepers.
- Seasonal data on the weekly and fortnightly changes in numbers of SHB trapped in the field and in hives suggests these changes are primarily influenced by temperature with rainfall as an important influence through the hot seasons. This information is the most comprehensive Australian ecological data on SHB yet generated and can inform strategic trapping programs using the simple yeast traps currently available or a customised SHB trap with synthetic attractant lure once developed. Furthermore, it has been demonstrated that traps placed anywhere up to 185 m from hives can be effective at intercepting SHB flying towards an apiary. Further research is needed to investigate distances greater than 185 m from hives and gather more data on the effect of direction and the effect of prevailing winds on the trap efficacy.
- Further funding is required to continue research to refine and test the blend of compounds attractive to SHB to produce a synthetic lure. Research also needs to be undertaken to produce a release mechanism to optimise the release rate of the components of the synthetic lure with additional research warranted to customise a trap for small hive beetles that incorporates a killing system for SHB and the synthetic lure.

Small Hive Beetle trap is easy to make

Phil Bowman from North Stradbroke Island Organic Honey (see feature article in previous Newsletter) has provided this handy method on how to make your own external SHB bait trap with no toxic chemicals. You only need yeast, sugar, honey and water, and mixed in to one of those fly traps available from Bunnings and elsewhere. Check it out. The video shows that it collects heaps of adult SHB.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YHUmK5SlzXU&t=>

Rooftop hives in Melbourne

From Lindsay Trott, **The Ed**

The Ed visited a friend living in suburban Melbourne, where the craze for rooftop hives and Flow Hives has permeated to the locals. I wondered how happy these hives were, sitting on a concrete balcony in full sun on a 37 Deg C day with that grey haze of big city smog in the distance.. The wet spots from melted wax and propolis were all around , and an open box of stickys had been left out for open feeding to all comers on the residue. No water source in sight. I thought a few basics in bee husbandry had been transgressed here. E-mail me at editor@beesnorth.com.au if you think you can identify all the things that are wrong/undesirable - free hive tool to the best comments.



Beekeeping in Georgia, Russia

From Peter Brock



A friend of **The Ed** visited a beekeeping training centre in Tbilisi, Georgia which is in the Caucasus region of Russia.

The main valley in Georgia runs east to west and has a natural mountain barrier to the North and another one to the South. This makes the valley relatively mild as it blocks out the cold winds from the North. It is part of the largest mountain range on Earth - the Tianshan Mountains (see left).



The centre was running 100 hives that provided around 2 tonnes of honey/year. Usually the local farmer/beekeepers have 50 hives, which is more than enough work and will provide around 1 tonne of honey/year. The facility had 100 hives because they are a training centre for the locals, where they make and sell frames, foundations, hives and 6 to 7 types of monofloral honey. The centre also sells queen bees, pollen, wax, and royal jelly. They also process honey for other keepers. The decapping and extracting spinner can process 3 tonnes from frames in an 8 hour shift run by two people.

A strong Georgian colony has around 30 to 40,000 bees, and they use 2 brood chambers in a hive. The hives have narrow spaces to help bees stay warm. They aim to increase the bee numbers in a hive by 30 to 35% each year. Hive losses run at around 10%/year over winter. The main processing building is at 400m altitude, but the hives are migrated twice/year, one to 800m for three weeks to the linden forest and chestnut forests, then back to base to process the hives and sort out weak and strong hives, then one to 1500m to keep the bees cool when the valley gets too hot. The bees overwinter at 400m despite the snow, and all they do is open the bottom of the hive to reduce humidity in the hive. They have a "cushion" under the top of each hive to absorb condensation water that happens when the sun comes up. Local bee strains (probably Caucasian) have very long tongues that are adapted to feed from deep flowers. It is prohibited to import bees from any other regions. They treat their Varroa mite infestations with a combination of metals and some kind of puffing device, but I did not get the details of that.



Chestnut honey is very strong. Dark honey rhs.
Linden honey has a strange medical aftertaste. Second left

Article from non Club member Peter Brock

Next Meeting at Sonya V's is a sausage sizzle

47 McLean St, Gulliver 10:00 am Sunday, 17 February 2019

Sonya will host a beginner bee keeper display of items that newbies will need to start up. She will also open up her hives for inspection. We will also hold a free sausage sizzle after the meeting. TDBA Club will provide the BBQ, sausages, bread, sauce onions, you can bring a cool beverage of your own taste.

**Bring a chair, and a plate of food to share if you can
Tea, coffee, sugar and milk provided**

Swarm Contact List:

Sonya Verbrugt - **Gulliver** - 04 0853 0991
Wayne Taylor, **Rasmussen** - 0434 745 353
Mick Taylor, **Cranbrook** - 0428 626 707
Ben Taylor, **Townsville West** - 4728 4992/ 0428 186 000
Brendan Arboit - **Ayr** 0406 403 005
Steve and Carla Kersnovske - **Kelso** 0417 344 419
Dave Turnbull **Annandale** - 0458 645 677
Doug McBride, **Mysterton** - 4775 7465
Dan & Drew Donovan, **Wulguru**- 0428 218 816
Sharene Dougall, **Bluewater** - 0415426903
Daniel Horne, **Bushland Beach** - 0437540473*
Ronelle White, **Alice River/ Rupertswood** 0417752622
Tito Parigi, **Magnetic Island** parigitito@yahoo.it
John Pavetto 0488414017, and Ian Goulevitch -**Hinchinbrook Area**.

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.

Revered as a Humanitarian and Scientist, Warwick Kerr was also blamed for the introduction of aggressive Africanised bees to the Americas.

From <https://www.beeeculture.com/catch-the-buzz-revered-as-a-humanitarian-and-scientist-warwick-kerr-was-also-blamed-for-the-introduction-of-aggressive-africanized-bees-to-the-americas/>

Brazilian entomologist Warwick Estevam Kerr died on September 15, 2018 in São Paulo at age 96. Kerr leaves behind a complicated legacy, on the one hand maligned for the introduction of aggressive Africanised bees in the Americas and on the other revered in his homeland as a humanitarian.

Upon his death, the city of Manaus in the state of Amazonas observed three days of official mourning as a tribute to Kerr's work in improving the welfare of the people in the rainforest, and the Brazilian media honored his legacy in Brazilian science, research, economy, and education.

"It's really interesting to see the important media outlets talking about [Kerr's] death and how big a loss it is for the country, not just for science," says Cristiano Menezes of the Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation, a government agency. He was Kerr's last student at the Federal University of Uberlândia.

"He was a fantastic, high-quality researcher, a fantastic human being, [and] with his personality he would make people around him better citizens," Menezes tells The Scientist.

Born on September 9, 1922 in São Paulo, Kerr was originally trained as a plant breeder at the Luiz de Queiroz College of Agriculture (ESALQ) of the University of São Paulo. His PhD was on a Brazilian native stingless bee species, and after graduating in 1947, he continued his work on those bees until he was awarded a fellowship from the Rockefeller Foundation in 1951 to work at Colombia University with geneticists Theodosius Dobzhansky and Sewall Wright. Upon returning to ESALQ in 1954 and until he left the institution in 1958 to start a biology department at the State University of São Paulo, Kerr was laying the foundations for his future contributions to the Brazilian agronomy.

During this time, he was in search of more-productive pollinators because the European bees that were often imported into Brazil from Portugal were not good enough in the Brazilian environment. This led Kerr to Africa. He traveled to Tanzania and South Africa in 1956 and brought back 51 queens of the aggressive African honey bees to cross them with European bees in the hopes that the hybrids would be better honey producers. But in 1957, when one of Kerr's hive managers accidentally opened excluders that separate queen bees from drone bees, about 26 queens of the aggressive African bees escaped, mated with European bees out in the wild, and produced aggressive offspring.

Eric Mussen, an extension apiculturist at the University of California, Davis, has said that Kerr's intentions were good. Kerr "hoped that the gentler European bees would 'mellow out' the African bees' strong defensive behavior, [but] in this case, he misjudged."

The Africanised bees, dubbed killer bees, caused problems as they crossed into Central and North America over the following decades, killing hundreds of people. "Professor Kerr took it on his shoulders," says Lionel Segui Gonçalves, a visiting professor at the Federal Rural University of the Semi-Arid Region (UFERSA) in Brazil. "He was upset and felt responsible, so we began to study the behaviour of these bees to better manage them," recalls Gonçalves, who worked with Kerr for more than a decade on the Africanised bees at the State University of São Paulo, where he and Kerr also began coaching beekeepers to manage these bees.

"Africanised bees were a key to Brazil's improved agriculture and honey production since these are naturally resistant to varroa mites that often clear colonies of European bees, beekeepers in Brazil nowadays use only Africanised bees."

Kerr was also known as a humanitarian, boldly calling out the political and civil violence committed by soldiers when Brazil was under military rule during mid-20th century. For instance, he was once arrested for his opposition to the military soldiers who raped a Brazilian activist nun. Kerr also objected to the military regime's association with the carmaker Volkswagen in clearing thousands of hectares of the Amazon forests. On another occasion, Kerr and his students at the University of Uberlândia worked to save several nests of a native stingless bee that was in danger of extinction from a hydroelectric project in Uberlândia. "People in Brazil talk more about his contribution to Brazil than his Africanised bees," says Menezes.

Over the course of his career, Kerr was the first scientific director of the São Paulo State Research Foundation (FAPESP), the director of the Amazon National Research Institute (INPA), and rector of the State University of Maranhão (UEMA). He founded the department of biology in the Faculty of Philosophy, Science and Literature in the State University of São Paulo at Rio Claro, of medicine at the University of São Paulo at Ribeirão Preto, and of biology in the Federal University of Maranhão.

Kerr also served as president of the Brazilian Society for the Progress of Science (SBPC) and the Brazilian Society of Genetics (SBG). As a member of the Brazilian Academy of Sciences (ABC), Kerr was the first Brazilian scientist to become a member of the US National Academy of Sciences in recognition of his scientific productivity.

The arrival of the honey bee to Tasmania

As seen at Tasmanian Museum and Gallery, Hobart by The Ed.

Tasmania was the first colony to import bees (*A. mellifera*) from Britain. In 1821, an active hive arrived on the ship "Mary".

In 1831, another swarm was imported. The bees were protected during the voyage by placing the hive on the poop deck, under a wire cage so the bees were "at liberty to take the air" but could not escape across the ocean.

The hive was placed in special care of the Superintendent of the Botanical Gardens in Hobart. Within a year the bees had produced 17 swarms.

The Ed: Wikipedia says the first introduction was in 1822 on board the "Isabella". Your choice.



TDBA Inc Club Meeting Minutes 18/11/2018

Meeting was opened by new club president Mick Olsen.

1/ Meeting held at Steve and Carla Kersnovske's property on the banks of the Ross River.

Steve gave a talk first on their beekeeping experiences from when they started to the present time.

They currently have 12 hives and 3 nuc's. 1 of their hives is a sentinel hive for Biosecurity Queensland monitoring of pests and diseases. Hives in use are a mixture of wooden and paradise hives which are high density compressed foam. Steve has also built a long Langstroth hive which can handle up to 50 standard full depth frames. The long Langstroth is suitable for people with back conditions as it is grown horizontally instead of vertically.

Steve and Carla have hives at their house and also at Rowes Bay and other locations. Steve and Carla are very willing to help all new bee keepers, catching and removing swarms, and starting to look at renting hives to people who want bees, but don't have time to manage them themselves.

2/ President Mick then took the floor and introduced the new committee to the crowd of beekeepers. Visitors / new members were welcomed to the club

Lino from Abergowrie who has taken over his father's farm and wants to get back into beekeeping.

Pedro from Gulliver interested in European bees

Brian Costello from Annandale – native bees

Steve Bathurst – European bees.

3/ Minutes from the previous meeting were accepted as true by Frana McKinstry and seconded by Ian Gordon

4/ Christmas Luncheon at the Kirwan Tavern has been and gone. Apparently it was another wonderful gathering of like-minded people.

5/ Treasurers report – Frana gave a quick wrap of the financials. The store was reloaded with stock and the previous opening (November) the shop was gutted and more stock was urgently ordered from the suppliers. Reminder to club members to use Shop@beesnorth.com.au as Frana is getting orders on the Treasurers & the Infoclub mailboxes. Her Mobile phone is a private phone but if an urgent order is required contact Frana or Alan direct and we will try to help.

6/ Shirts – Secretary has now been to the previous supplier of the new design shirts and have placed an order for more shirts, designed the sleeve for a long sleeve version and hats.

7/ Librarian – Beryl has now taken over as librarian and has asked club members to return outstanding books, magazines & DVD's

8/ DAF – Rob Stephens gave a report on what DAF is doing. The current Varroa mite program will wrap up 30/8/2019 as long as no more are found in the Townsville district. So far they have checked 220,000 regurgitated bee wings for Asian bees. 1 new case of AFB was recorded in the month of November. New member kits will be updated shortly. People catching bee swarms are reminded they must give a sample of bees to the DAF team for identification as it is easy to mis-identify a European bee and a Asian bee.

9/ Dr John Carr reported that varroa mite is now in Fiji.

10/ Alan Z gave a report on talking to the council in regards to a permanent home for the club. Also joining the council in having a community event in Kalynda Chase to promote Bees and the value of looking after our native friends in a new housing estate. The event will be held in May, and could be called "Bee day out"

11/ Interest in having another native bee workshop this year. First day for beginners and second day as an advanced workshop. Priority positions to club members with a max number of 45 per day. It also has to be cost neutral to the club.

General Business – open floor

1/ Lindsay awarded Frana McKinstry the Queen Bee Award for the year - a perpetual trophy for high achieving Club members.

Meeting end – coffee & cake time. + open hives & displays.

PS: Message from **The Ed** on behalf of our hard working volunteer Club Shop workers.

The Club Shop is stocked, priced, organised, run and financed for the benefit of Club members by our volunteers.

Please try to refrain from making multiple small orders out of cycle with the Club Shop opening day of the first Saturday of each month.

Send your requests to shop@beesnorth.com.au in advance, and you can pick them up and pay at the Shop on the Saturday.

Our volunteers have day jobs and other responsibilities, so please make it easy for them to deal with your requests.

Record rainfall in Townsville floods and damages properties - and hives

At the time of going to press, Townsville was absolutely under water after record breaking rainfall and flash flooding in many of the lower lying areas. The Club hopes you have come through the dramatic events and can get back on your feet again as soon as possible. There are some pretty scary photos of hives almost going under or with water lapping at the entrances. Flowers, pollen and rain free "air time" for foragers will be in short supply, so surviving hives will need to be closely monitored for diseases, pests and swarms.

I would think that many Club members would be keen to offer some support to other Clubbies whose hives have come to grief. Maybe at our next meeting on 17 Feb at Sonya's we can co-ordinate some help for those who need to clean out dead or damaged hives, or re-start with new equipment. Please consider the plight of our affected Club members and offer them a hand if you can, or notify the Club to see if someone else can step in to help.

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. New members.

Keith and Sue Miller, Hugh and Bridget Strickland, Amanda Woodcock, Tony, Margaret and Dale Foster, Daniel and Helen Hobday, Duane Saltmer

Annual Membership Fees are due in June/July each year 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.

Currently \$25.00

New email contacts for the Office Holders 2018/19

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

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

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

TDBA Inc Office Holders for 2018/2019

President: Mick Olsen president@beesnorth.com.au or mick_naomi@bigpond.com

Vice President: Paul Payne trapper4812@gmail.com

Secretary: Alan Ziegenfusz alan.G.Ziegenfusz@team.telstra.com

Treasurer: Frana McKinstry franajon@gmail.com, or: treasurer@bigpond.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

Librarian: Beryl Smart smartberyl@gmail.com

Equipment Stewards:.... Alan Ziegenfusz and Frana McKinstry shop@beesnorth.com.au

Webmaster: Ray Berkelmans rberkelm@gmail.com

Publicity Officer: Sonya Verbrugt sonyaverb@optusnet.com.au

Committee Members: Ian Gordon

Ian Goulevitch goulevitchi@gmail.com

Michell Hasted pexperts@bigpond.com

Waldon Edwards waldon.edwards@iinet.net.au

Tom and Joan Ruddell

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

Let's all get up and do the "Sugar Shake" - maintain the detection tests for Varroa

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



**Queensland
Government**

Managed hive sample collection form

Details of person completing the form

Inspector/Person(s) attending

BQ Officer
Contractor
Other

Date

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

Attach sample no.(s) or barcode

Attach LIMS number

Location details

Address

Nearest road

Locality

GPS Location

Latitude

Longitude

(WGS 84, decimal degrees)

 °S

 °E

Contact on site

Phone

Hive details

Number of hives

Comments

HIN

Surveillance details

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

Office use only

Sample receipt and dispatch

Date sample received by BQ

Comments

Sample dispatched to DAF BSL for analysis

No If no, provide reason

Yes If yes, provide date of dispatch and connote number

Sample entered into BORIS by

Date

Laboratory results

Date results received

Results and action taken

Result entered into BORIS by

Date

Privacy statement

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

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

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

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