



NO.7
August 2017
Po Box 1115,
Aitkenvale,
Qld, 4814

TOWNSVILLE AND DISTRICT BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION INC.

WWW.BEESNORTH.COM.AU

Financial Membership Renewals

Just a friendly reminder that membership fees are well and truly due! Thank you to all members paid to date. It is appreciated and makes life a lot easier. See below for internet banking details.

Name:- Townsville and District
 Beekeepers Association
 BSB:- 633 000
 Account:- 141466078

Refer :- Please make sure you add your Surname so that your membership can be signed off. Currently \$25.00

Bowen Bowls Weekend

Bowen Bowls with Central Queensland Beekeepers is on again this year, and we have all been invited for a fun weekend of laughs, sore heads and hip dislocations. Held this year on the weekend of 28th/29th of October. This is a great weekend, and the whole family is more than welcome. Please contact Paul Marsh on paul@bee2u.com.au and let him know so he can try and get us the best accommodation deals at the Big 4.



Drone Uncapping

PLEASE!! Help be a part of the NVMEP with Biosecurity Queensland. For all of you who have already claimed a FREE managed hive pack.....(We know who you are!!..) Please put your kit to use by doing the different testing methods, including drone uncapping, alcohol wash and sugar shake. Submit sample form to: varroa@daf.qld.gov.au or send to Reply Paid, Biosecurity Queensland, NVMEP, PO Box 1085, Townsville QLD 4810. This is all a precaution for when and if Varroa ever hits us!! If you wish to have Carla present and guide you please contact her on 073330 4547. See the attached form sent with the newsletter for a fillable pdf. Thank you!

Plant & Garden Expo Aug

Plant and garden expo is on again!! Sat 26th and Sun 27th of August. We will be sharing our stall with Biosecurity Qld, so we really need some volunteers to help maintain the stall over those two days. Im sure there are some of you who have even 1 hour spare over that weekend. Please!! We are getting the site at no charge to the club, so we should really utilize this opportunity. Please contact Alan Z to put your name down!

Welcome Our New Members

Astrid V-North Ward, Janice & Phillip J-Douglas, Dennis B-Jensen,
 Shanta S- Kayleen ACT, Mike G-Pallarenda

AFB Disaster

by Frana & Jon

AFB Alert – Hermit Park

There was a good roll up at HPSS for the July meeting in which one of the planned activities was the transfer of frames into the Biosecurity Qld brood box and a honey harvest.

Those who were present at the July meeting will remember that this hive had a problem which was apparent before opening – a sour odour. The honey super was light in weight and the frames dry, while the brood frames had the characteristic sunken and perforated cappings of foul brood.

The hive was last opened late May to take a frame for the display box at the Open Day. The honey super was heavy and nearly ready for harvesting and the brood was healthy, yet six weeks later it was ‘a goner’.

The hive opening generated a lot of discussion with members saying they had learned a lot, and that it had been a very interesting event. Hopefully this is the closest anyone else will get to experiencing AFB first hand.

There are two types of foul brood, American (AFB) and European (EFB). They have similar characteristics but a positive identification is only possible by laboratory testing. We were hoping for EFB – the lesser of two evils – but the results have come back positive

for AFB, the



beekeeper’s nightmare.

That hive has since been removed, is secured away from any potential bee robbing, and is awaiting destruction. We don’t know how this particular hive became infected with AFB, the adjacent hives appear to be healthy but we will be monitoring them for signs of AFB, keeping in mind it can take several months to show up. We have also taken the necessary precautions against potential spread among our other hives.

Jon & Frana



KNOW YOUR PEST & DISEASES

Don’t forget that we have the Biosecurity manual for Beekeepers. It is a great book developed by Plant Health Australia (PHA). These are free to you. We will have copies at the next meeting.

PHA also have an online course for \$20 for hobbyist beekeepers. Another great source for any newbee. <http://www.planthealthaustralia.com.au/resources/training/biosecurity-online-training/>



CLUB EMAIL ADDRESSES

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treasurer@beesnorth.com.au

secretary@beesnorth.com.au

editor@beesnorth.com.au

We desperately need an important volunteer..

We really really really need a volunteer to do the secretary duties as a fill in. Any help would be greatly appreciated. Remember a club cannot run with only a few people!

Native Bee Workshop

Native bee one day workshops on 12 + 13 August 2017 Venue is the Upper Ross Community Centre at 1/43 Allambie Lane. TDBA is holding 2 more of the popular native bee workshops this year, by Dr Tobias (Toby) Smith from Sugarbag Bees. These one day workshops have been booked out in previous years, so get in early. Cost is \$25 for financial members of the Townsville and District Beekeepers Association (Inc.). Non-member price is \$40. Numbers are strictly limited, so

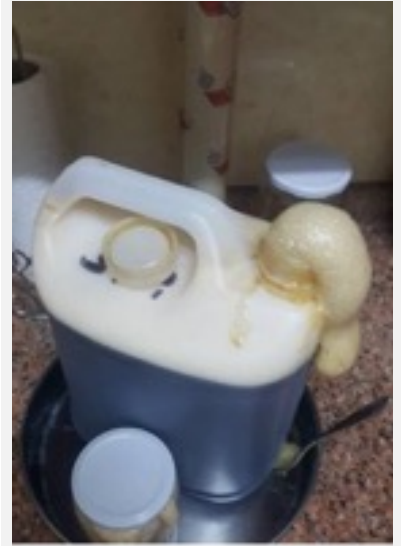
get in while you can! To register, email: info@beesnorth.com.au nominating the day you wish to attend. If you have a native beehive ready to split, or one that needs to be transferred into a new home, please let us know – Toby will do this for you. Club Members: can you lend a hand with setting up/packing up on either day?? - get involved and lend a hand. Contact the Club or Frana and Jon McK. TDBA Club Shop has copies of the award winning "Australian Native Bee Book" by Dr Tim Heard for sale at \$25 for members. It's a great reference and "how to" guide for natives. For further information on Sugarbag Bees activities with native bees, visit their website - [http:// www.sugarbag.net](http://www.sugarbag.net)



SUNDAY 20th AUGUST
SONYA. V's HOUSE
47 McLEAN ST, GULLIVER
NOTE: 9am start

Next Committee Meeting will be on the 10th of Aug at the West End Hotel, Ingham Rd, West End

A BIT OF FUN!!!!!!



Have a look at this picture from Facebook Bee Keeping friends and in 15 words or less can you advise the poor owner, what may be the problem their honey production? This is from a new Beekeeper from the States asking if anyone can assist. The winning entry may win a free jar of honey as seen in the picture bottom left or top right (with whatever honey is left plus any additional alcohol content). Winning entry and results will be determined at our next Meeting.



July Meeting Notes

TDBA inc Meeting Minutes, 16 July 2017 at Hermit Park primary school.

Open 2:00pm

Welcome : President Alan

Apologies: noted and attendance book circulated

Visitors: Welcomed to club meeting

Workshop held with Frana and Jon opening school hives for members and visitors.

Some surprises and good learning experience of what can go wrong.

General Meeting continued at 2:45 pm

Minutes of previous meeting was accepted as per newsletter, Prop - Neal , seconded - Carmel Gage.

Treasurers report : financially healthy, Club memberships are due and can be paid at the club meeting or direct debit into bank account, Make sure members name is used as reference for direct debit.

End of financial year and the books to be sent to the accountant for verifying ready for the AGM.

Secretary : still no permanent secretary, Frana explained the duties of the secretary for the club members present. Which is a quite easy position. Please step up and help your club, 10 general meetings a year and 4 committee meetings a year to attend.

Shop report : Turn over of stock is quite high even for the winter months.

Library: has a good range of books, current ABK magazines and some DVD's. List of available books added to newsletter. Older editions of Magazines will be held at the unit for borrowing.

General Business:

As per previous meeting to connect newbees to older members when opening hives. A great learning experience, Contact Daniel Horne for hive openings as well as Carla K 2nd Saturday of month 9:00am at Rowes Bay RSL . Other members when opening hives email info@beesnorth.com.au in advance to share the experience.

Native bee workshop 12 & 13 August – by the time you read this it has been completed.

Townsville Garden expo : 26 & 27 August. Qld Bio-security have invited our club to join them at this event. They have a large display area with power. Ideas on any changes from eco fest welcome to make our display better for the community.

And of course volunteers are required to part with your knowledge of all things about bees.

Bio- security- when opening hives do a brood check and a sugar shake. Which is good house keeping of your hives. Relay the results back which can be done on-line. The more results sent in better for the industry as a whole plus keeps the funding up here.

Hive registration is free for hobbyist beekeepers in QLD and helps bio-security to know where hives are in case of another outbreak.

Another open day maybe in September and not on a club meeting day. Rob Stephens has offered to do some talks on pests and diseases.

Club shop – email will go out to all notifying when the shop will be available in August to come and pick up your supplies direct, instead of our members loading their cars and bringing it to the meeting for distribution. You can also see other items that you have thought about.

Next Club Meeting

20/8 - Sonya Verburgt

47 McLean St Gulliver

17/9 – Daniel & Crystals beehives location to be confirmed

15/10 – AGM Hermit park school

Next committee meeting

10/8 – 7pm West end hotel Ingham rd

Meeting closed at 3:20 pm

Looking after our investments

We invest a fair amount of time and money into our hives. We would like them to last years before we need to replace them. Sometimes we scratch the box or a slip of the hive tool can remove paint on the lip. Woodware is your lid, boxes and bottom board.

What does this mean?

Well water can get into the wood causing it to swell, lift paint and split. Joints can fail if nails rust or screws loosen letting the wood get wet, ultimately causing failure of the woodware.

What can I do?

Care starts when building your hive. Today it doesn't matter if you use screws or a nail gun. These really only hold the joint in place while the glue dries. If the nails are for the lid metal, use a galvanized nail.

Use a quality exterior wood glue, use lots. I

2. Soak in boiled linseed oil thinned with Mineral Turpentine;

It is essential to allow the timber to dry in the SHADE after treatment or they will warp, and to ensure the paint will adhere. Drying time can vary from 1 week to 6 weeks depending on time of year and conditions. Wet season can be a nightmare.

3. Painting

I like to use an exterior gloss enamel. White is the coolest colour in summer and warmest in winter. Enamel paint has a harder surface than acrylic. I use a 100mm foam roller to apply 4 even coats allowing to dry between each coat. Water based is fine and clean up is easy. A quality paint should give you several years of maintenance free protection.

Paint the entire bottom board. The entire outside of the box including the top and bottom edges. I paint the outside edges and lip on the lid. I put corflute under the metal lid for ventilation and insulation.

*TIP Check Bunnings or paint shops for mistinted paint. I saved a lot of money and sometimes you get the colour you want.

On going maintenance

I have a spare hive that I will transfer my frames and bees into. That way fumes can dissipate and repairs are not rushed.

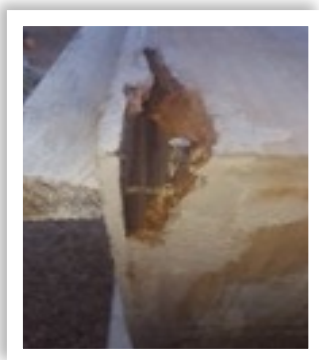
If you find rot dig or cut it out. If it's not too large you can fill the whole with bog. Larger

holes can have pieces of wood glued in, then filled and sanded once dried. Paint as usual.

Go nuts and use colours and designs to individualize your hives.

Daniel.

***Ed: Big thank you Daniel for some excellent information



Beek Files - Frana



Beek Profile

Full Name: Frana McKinstry

Nickname: None that I care to mention

How long have you been beekeeping for? Since 2010

How many hives do you currently have? Umm, about 30 including some we look after for others

What encouraged you to keep bees? We were asked to take over some hives for old mate who was getting past it.

Plastic or wax foundations? Why? Wax into the brood box, they draw them out better than plastic, but plastic in the honey supers. Unless aiming for honeycomb, then we use wax.

Best moment to date? Watching queen hatching, hearing them piping in the hive, and seeing one do for her unhatched rivals. Also seeing newbies with their first full honey frames.

Worst moment to date? A toss up between major stinging event from really mean hive (we got over 50 stings each that day) and finding AFB in hives last month.

Encouraging words to new beekeepers: Don't be put off by negative comments, listen to others' advice, do your own research and when getting conflicting advice, follow your instincts.

TDBA Inc Office Holders for 2016/2017

President:	Alan Ziegenfusz	alan.G.Ziegenfusz@team.telstra.com , or : president@beesnorth.com.au
Vice President:	Mick Taylor	cranbrooksolar@bigpond.com Nominated: To be Confirmed
Secretary:	We need a volunteer,	secretary@beesnorth.com.au
.....		
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	Mark Quadrell	markquadrell@gmail.com
	Sonya Verbrugt	sonyaverb@optusnet.com.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

Honorary Members of the TDBA Inc: Graeme Smith

LOTS-A-STINGS

Raw honey, and pollination services. Will help new club members get started with bees

Dan Donovan: Ph 0428 218 816

CLUB SHOP PRICES – UPDATED

Item	Price		Frames - Full depth	1.90	
Veil - Native Bee	10.00		Frames - Ideal	1.50	
Veil - cotton	20.00		Frames - WSP	1.50	
Veil - ventilated	25.00		Foundation - Plastic	2.10	
Jacket - Cotton	60.00		Foundation - Wax	2.00	
Jacket - Ventilated	80.00		Beeswax block	15.00	p/kg
Full Suit - Cotton	85.00		Eyelets pkt 500/40gm	10.00	
Full Suit - ventilated	105.00		S/S Wire .5mm x 500gm	20.00	
Gloves	22.00		Wire crimper		
Super - 8 frame	25.00		Bee Brush - Natural bristle	10.00	
Super - 10 Frame	28.00		Queen Catcher	3.00	
Super - Ideal	25.00		Frame Gripper	10.00	
Super - WSP	25.00		Bee Feeders	2.00	
Super - Parker Plastic	65.00		Gate valve	10.00	
Lids (8 or 10 Frame)	27.00		Gate valve - Parker	26.00	
Base - Ply (8 or 10 frame)	22.00		Capping knife, serrated	15.00	
Bases 'Bluebees'	35.00		Comb scratcher	8.00	
Lifting Cleats (Handles, pr)	5.00	pr	Comb Roller	10.00	
Spring clips	2.00	ea	Strainer	25.00	
Emlok	12.00		HONEY CONTAINERS		
Corflute Nuc box	28.00		Honey jars 250gm	0.65	
Corflute - Queen excluder	4.00		Honey jars 500gm - square	0.75	
Hive tool (S/S)	15.00		Honey jars 500gm - rnd	0.75	
Hive tool (Yellow)	8.00		Honey jars 550gm - sq	0.75	
Smoker	38.00		Honey jars 1kg round	1.00	
QUEEN EXCLUDERS			Honey Pails - 1 kg	1.15	
Queen Excluder - Wire	22.00		Honey Pails - 1.5kg	1.30	
Queen Excluder - Plastic	7.00		TRAPS		
BOOKS			Apithor trap	7.00	
Managing AFB	2.00		Silver Bullet trap	7.00	
Australian Beekeeping Manual	35.00		BeetlTra bottom trap	20.00	
Australian Native Bee Book	25.00		AFB Test Kit	0.00	
Club Polo Shirts	30.00				