

# Townsville and District Beekeepers Association (Inc.)

[www.beesnorth.com.au](http://www.beesnorth.com.au)



PO Box 1115, Aitkenvale QLD 4814

## Newsletter No 6 July 2017

In this Issue:

- Native bee workshops 12, 13 August
- New Club mascot needs naming
- How much to start up in beekeeping?
- Bees in the news and research topics
- Committee member recruitment drive
- Meeting minutes
- Membership fees due
- Do the "Sugar Shake" and send in a report
- Shop price list

**Next Meeting: HPSS 5 Sussex St Hermit Park**  
**2:00 pm Sunday 16 July, 2017**  
Bring a chair - and a plate of food if you can  
Tea, coffee, sugar and milk provided

## ***Your Club REALLY needs You now! - positions available***

Come on Members - show your Club some support.

The Club has vacancies for ordinary Committee members, a Trainee Treasurer, a Trainee Secretary, a Newsletter editor, and several other positions as well. If you think you can offer a hand and would like to learn some valuable skills along the way, just ask any of the Committee at the next meeting, or contact our President Alan Z by e-mail ([president@beesnorth.com.au](mailto:president@beesnorth.com.au)). The Club needs to have some reserve for official and ordinary Committee member positions for when existing position holders are away or they retire from the voluntary position. It's your Club, put some effort in, and you will be richly rewarded.



<https://goo.gl/tq66Lq>

## ***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](mailto: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>



## ***New Club mascot needs a name***

And, no thanks, we will not be accepting Boaty McBoatface (see the problems encountered with the online polling for the new British marine research vessel: <http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-36225652>). Send in your suggestions to name our new mascot - Honey B, Buzzy B, Sweet thing, etc etc etc Huge prize for the winning entry. All judgements will be made by TDBA Committee after various graft and corrupted bribes are received. No other input will be tolerated by the judging panel.

## ***How much does it cost to get started in beekeeping?***

From The Ed.

It depends if you want to jump right in , buy the raw ingredients and make it yourself, purchase ready-made equipment, or do a trial on borrowed equipment.

The best approach is to join your friendly TDBA, where you can call on the expertise and accumulated knowledge from the longer term beekeepers, and share your questions with other "NewBees" who are also just starting up. You can also find out if there is a "spare" starter swarm and nuc box (smaller box for new hives) that is available for loan. Quality Beekeeping Supplies in Brisbane offer this page of advice for what's need to get started with a small hive for around \$250 with a beeswax foundation hive: <https://goo.gl/dxYM1J>



Alternatively here is my experience in setting up a hive with full size plastic foundation in timber frames, a single 10 frame brood box with double supers on top. You could buy this assembled or prepare it yourself (several weeks in preparation if you take this course):

TDBA Starter Kit (Member only price cloth)	\$110	(includes hive tool, smoker, brush, cotton jacket with veil, and gloves)
Supers x 3	\$87	
Hive frames (unassembled) x 30	\$45	
Plastic foundation x 30	\$60	
Queen excluder	\$22	
Lid	\$27	
Base board, trim and supports	\$25	
Emlock clamp	\$12	
Apithor trap for SHB	\$7	
Oil trap for SHB	\$7	

That's a sub total of \$402 for the hardware and gear, but now you have to coat the hive box components (not the frames) with 3 x coats of each of:

Cu naphthanate preservative	\$23/L
Enamacryl (water based enamel)	\$34/L

You are almost ready to get those bees, but now you need to assemble the hive box and frames.

Aquadhere	\$5
Galvanised clouts x 100	\$6
Treated pine timber screws	x 100 \$8

There goes another \$76, so just under \$500 to get the full 3 box hive kit, and add in several days of painting and assembly. Of course you haven't got any bees yet!, so the availability of a spare swarm, or splitting someone's hive may be required – this will provide you with some valuable hands-on experience. A nuc can cost anywhere from around \$125 to around \$150 depending on number of frames and bees.

Of course you could also get into bees in a cheaper, slower, stepwise manner and to get started you could make your own nuc box (<https://hubpages.com/education/6-easy-steps-to-make-a-nuc-box>), or just buy a 4 frame corflute nuc box from the Club Shop for \$25, and assemble it your self with help from the internet 9<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jiva8XkTU4w>). Then you could buy the nuc contents of brood, workers, queen and frames from a Club member when available for around \$120-150. This would keep you happy for at least 6 months for under \$150 and then you can decide how deep into the mysteries of beekeeping you want to go.

For advice or offers of loans of bits and pieces, swarm availability and nucs and assembly advice just contact the Club Members, or see the back of the Newsletter and support or our local club sponsors for supplies, or:

Pender Beekeeping Supplies: <http://www.penders.net.au/index.html>

Quality Beekeeping Supplies: <http://www.qualitybeekeepingsupplies.com.au/>

## ***Support one of our sponsors at Tax time***

TDBA Inc accounting books and compliance with all things official at tax time are being handled by Graeme Kent at no cost to the Club.

They are doing a special deal where you can get your tax return done for \$80 if it's for a simple wage and salary earner return.

Please consider our supporters when doing business.

**GRAEME KENT**



**BUSINESS SERVICES**

**TAXATION – ACCOUNTING – BOOKKEEPING**



ABN: 73 502 154 923

N: 0400 607 858

E: [ititsv@gmail.com](mailto:ititsv@gmail.com)

## ***Human activity is a key driver in the spread of pathogens of *Apis mellifera****

Aussie bee expert, Robert Owen, exposes poor beekeeping practices as a major worldwide problem

From: [http://www.beeeculture.com/catch-buzz-human-activity-key-driver-spread-pathogens-afflicting-european-honey-bee-apis-mellifera-says-oz-researcher/?utm\\_source=Catch+The+Buzz&utm\\_campaign=5c7104d225-Catch\\_The\\_Buzz\\_4\\_29\\_2015&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_0272f190ab-5c7104d225-332070937](http://www.beeeculture.com/catch-buzz-human-activity-key-driver-spread-pathogens-afflicting-european-honey-bee-apis-mellifera-says-oz-researcher/?utm_source=Catch+The+Buzz&utm_campaign=5c7104d225-Catch_The_Buzz_4_29_2015&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_0272f190ab-5c7104d225-332070937)

Poor management practices have enabled the spread of *V. destructor* and other bee pathogens, an Australian bee researcher argues. In the search for answers to the complex health problems and colony losses experienced by honey bees in recent years, it may be time for professionals and hobbyists in the beekeeping industry to look in the mirror.

In a research essay published last week in the Journal of Economic Entomology, Robert Owen argues that human activity is a key driver in the spread of pathogens afflicting the European honey bee (*Apis mellifera*) and recommends a series of collective actions necessary to stem their spread. While some research seeks a “magic bullet” solution to honey bee maladies such as Colony Collapse Disorder, “many of the problems are caused by human action and can only be mitigated by changes in human behaviour,” Owen says.

Owen is author of The Australian Beekeeping Handbook (available at a discount price from the TDBA Shop), owner of a beekeeping supply company, and a Ph.D. candidate at the Centre of Excellence for Biosecurity Risk Analysis at the University of Melbourne. In his essay in the Journal of Economic Entomology, he outlines an array of human-driven factors that have enabled the spread of honey bee pathogens:

Regular, large-scale, and loosely regulated movement of bee colonies for commercial pollination. (For instance, in February 2016 alone, of the 2.66 million managed bee colonies in the United States, 1.8 million were transported to California for almond crop pollination.)

Carelessness in the application of integrated pest management principles leading to overuse of pesticides and antibiotics, resulting in increased resistance to them among honey bee parasites and pathogens such as the Varroa destructor mite and the American Foul Brood bacterium (*Paenibacillus larvae*).

The international trade in honey bees and honey bee products that has enabled the global spread of pathogens such as *Varroa destructor*, tracheal mite (*Acarapis woodi*), *Nosema cerana*, Small Hive Beetle (*Aethina tumida*), and the fungal disease chalkbrood (*Ascosphaera apis*).

Lack of skill or dedication among hobbyist beekeepers to adequately inspect and manage colonies for disease.

Owen offers several suggestions for changes in human behaviour to improve honey bee health, including:

Stronger regulation both of global transport of honey bees and bee products and of migratory beekeeping practices within countries for commercial pollination.

Greater adherence to integrated pest management practices among both commercial and hobbyist beekeepers.

Increased education of beekeepers on pathogen management (perhaps requiring such education for registration as a beekeeper).

Deeper support networks for hobby beekeepers, aided by scientists, beekeeping associations, and government.

“The problems facing honeybees today are complex and will not be easy to mitigate,” says Owen. “The role of inappropriate human action in the spread of pathogens and the resulting high numbers of colony losses needs to be brought into the fore of management and policy decisions if we are to reduce colony losses to acceptable levels.”

**Eds Note:** one of the main goals of the TDBA is to promote healthy beekeeping practices amongst newbies and experienced Townsville beekeepers by open days, hive openings, workshops and access to experienced beekeepers. Members are encouraged to seek advice from within the Club if they are concerned about any aspect or are experiencing difficulties managing their hives. The Club Shop has Robert Owens' excellent Aussie focussed bee book - “The Australian Beekeeping Manual” for sale to members for \$35.

## ***Online training will help bring beekeepers up to standard***

A new online training course was launched by the [Australian Honey Bee Industry Council](#) (AHBIC) and [Plant Health Australia](#) this week, to make it easy for beekeepers to find out how to care for honey bees in accordance with the new [Australian Honey Bee Industry Biosecurity Code of Practice](#).

The [Biosecurity for Beekeepers course](#) explains why biosecurity is important to beekeepers, describes the main pest threats to hives and shows how to check hives for any sign of pests that can reduce bee numbers.

It is designed for people with a basic understanding of beekeeping practices, and all beekeepers will find it helpful.

AHBIC chairman, Lindsay Bourke, said that the course coincides with the introduction of the new Australian Honey Bee Industry Biosecurity Code of Practice so that all beekeepers can learn about the code's requirements and make sure that their practices meet the Code.

“All commercial beekeepers are encouraged to complete the course,” said Mr Bourke. It's free if you're a commercial beekeeper – you just need to get online and enter the token code provided by your state or territory government. Token codes will be rolled out over coming weeks.”

“Hobby beekeepers will benefit from Biosecurity for Beekeepers as well,” Mr Bourke added, “and for them the cost is \$20 – a worthwhile investment.” Plant Health Australia's honey bee biosecurity project officer Michael Holmes said that the course is straight forward and gives beekeepers all they need to know. Hive inspections are covered in the course and are a requirement of the Code of Practice “It should take around 90 minutes to do the course, and it can be done in more than one sitting,” Dr Holmes said. “Once completed, there's a short test to fill in, and then you get a certificate to demonstrate that you are qualified in procedures under the new Code.”

The course can be accessed from the BeeAware website at [beeaware.org.au/training](http://beeaware.org.au/training) and instructions are available on the site.

This key element in improving bee biosecurity in Australia has been funded by the [Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation](#) and the Australian Honey Bee Industry Council.

## ***Native bees feature in Aus Geo mag***

The latest Australian Geographic magazine has an article on native bees and some beautiful photos by James Dorey, here's a small selection

See: <http://www.australiangeographic.com.au/topics/wildlife/2017/06/bees-up-close/bee1>



# WINNER

Small Publishers' Adult Book of the Year  
2017 Australian Book Industry Awards  
Celebrating Australian Stories  
ABIA2017 ablawards.com.au



ABIA

Available from the Club Shop is the Australian Native Bee Book by Dr Tim Heard. The book just received this prestigious award. Tim's offsideer from Sugarbag Bees, Dr Toby Smith, will be running the native bee workshops on 12 + 13 August here in Townsville. See info in Newsletter or on our website beesnorth.com

## **Genetically engineered fungus with scorpion and funnel web spider toxin infects malaria carrying mosquitoes - and it's safe for bees - apparently (but what about the humans??)**

Online in the journal Scientific Reports.

A genetically engineered fungus, designed to produce toxins from spiders and scorpions, could effectively kill malaria-carrying mosquitoes, according to a new study. The fungus does not pose a risk to humans and early test results showed it's also safe for honey bees and other insects, according to the study from the University of Maryland (UMD) and colleagues from Burkina Faso, China and Australia. The fungus involved in the study is known as *Metarhizium pingshaensei*, a natural killer of mosquitoes that was originally isolated from a mosquito. Previous evidence suggests that the fungus is specific to disease-carrying mosquito species, including *Anopheles gambiae* and *Aedes aegypti*.



Source: Xinhual 2017-06-14 04:16:42|Editor: Mu Xuequan

When spores of the fungus come into contact with a mosquito's body, the spores germinate and penetrate the insect's exoskeleton, eventually killing the insect host from the inside out. However, the fungus requires fairly high doses of spores and a large amount of time to have lethal effects. To boost its deadly power, researchers engineered the fungus with several genes that express neurotoxins from spider and scorpion venom — both alone and in combination with other toxins. Then, they tested the engineered fungal strains on wild-caught, insecticide-resistant mosquitoes in Burkina Faso.

Each engineered strain killed mosquitoes more quickly and efficiently than the unaltered fungus, but the most effective strain used a combination of two toxins, one derived from the North African desert scorpion *Androctonus australis* and another derived from the Australian Blue Mountains funnel-web spider *Hadronyche versuta*. "Our most potent fungal strains, engineered to express multiple toxins, are able to kill mosquitoes with a single spore," Brian Lovett, a graduate student in the UMD Department of Entomology and a co-author of the paper, said in a statement. "We also report that our transgenic fungi stop mosquitoes from blood feeding. Together, this means that our fungal strains are capable of preventing transmission of disease by more than 90 percent of mosquitoes after just five days." The researchers inserted a genetic "switch" in the fungus that ensures the toxin genes can only be activated in the blood of insects. As a result, the fungus will not release the toxin into the environment.

To further ensure the safety of non-target insect species, they also tested the engineered fungal strains on honey bees and found no bees had died as a result of the toxin-boostered fungus in their tests in Burkina Faso. Next, the researchers planned to expand their on-the-ground testing regimen in Burkina Faso and hoped to deploy the spores in the field, on wild mosquito populations, eventually.

See: <https://goo.gl/EC5UEW>

### **Ed's Note:**

Let's hope this thing does not get out of control!! I can see the next sci-fi horror movie featuring gigantic blood sucking mosquitos with saliva dripping down their proboscis (visions of the movie "Alien") and packing toxins from scorpions and funnel web spiders - all mixed up in a fungal brew. Yikes. - and don't forget the malaria part as well!!



Mossies dining on humans.

<https://goo.gl/dz2o97>

# The Worst Places To Get Stung By A Bee: Nostril, Lip, Penis

NOT EXACTLY ROCKET SCIENCE A Blog by Ed Yong

Posted, 04/3/2014

<https://goo.gl/5omaUE>

Sent in by Frana M

It started when a honeybee flew up Michael Smith's shorts and stung him in the testicles.

Smith is a graduate student at Cornell University, who studies the behaviour and evolution of honeybees. In this line of work, stings are a common and inevitable hazard. "If you're wearing shorts and doing bee work, a bee can get up there easily," he says. "But I was really surprised that it didn't hurt as much as I thought it would."

That got him thinking: Where's the worst place on the body to get stung?

Everyone who works with stinging insects has their own answers, but Smith couldn't find any hard data. Even Justin Schmidt was no help. Schmidt is the famous creator of the Schmidt Sting Pain Index—a scale that measures the painfulness of insect stings using wonderful synaesthetic descriptions that almost read like wine-tasting notes. Wine-tasting notes of agony.

According to Schmidt's index, the sweat bee sting (1 on a scale of 0 to 4) feels like "a tiny spark has singed a single hair on your arm". The yellowjacket sting (2) is "hot and smoky, almost irreverent; imagine W. C. Fields extinguishing a cigar on your tongue." And the daddy of stinging insects—the bullet ant (4+)—produces "pure, intense, brilliant pain, like fire-walking over flaming charcoal with a 3-inch rusty nail grinding into your heel."

Schmidt recognised that "pain levels from particular stings do, of course, vary and depend on such features as where the sting occurred (...)", but he didn't say *how* these levels vary by body part.

So, Smith decided to find out. His experimental subject: himself. As he writes in his new paper (which, incidentally, is deadpan gold): "Cornell University's Human Research Protection Program does not have a policy regarding researcher self-experimentation, so this research was not subject to review from their offices. The methods do not conflict with the Helsinki Declaration of 1975, revised in 1983. The author was the only person stung, was aware of all associated risks therein, gave his consent, and is aware that these results will be made public."

Smith was methodical. He collected bees by grabbing their wings "haphazardly with forceps" and pressing them against the body part of choice. He left the stinger there for a full minute before removing it, and then rated his pain on a scale of 1 to 10. Pain is very hard to measure, but psychological studies have found that numerical scales do a decent job of putting numbers on an inherently subjective experience.

He administered five stings a day, always between 9 and 10am, and always starting and ending with "test stings" on his forearm to calibrate the ratings. He kept this up for 38 days, stinging himself three times each on 25 different body parts. "Some locations required the use of a mirror and an erect posture during stinging (e.g., buttocks)," he wrote. If you are chuckling at the image of a man twisting around in front of a mirror to apply an agitated bee to his butt, I assure you that you are not alone.

Smith's pain map. The scale is from 1 to 10. See map on right.

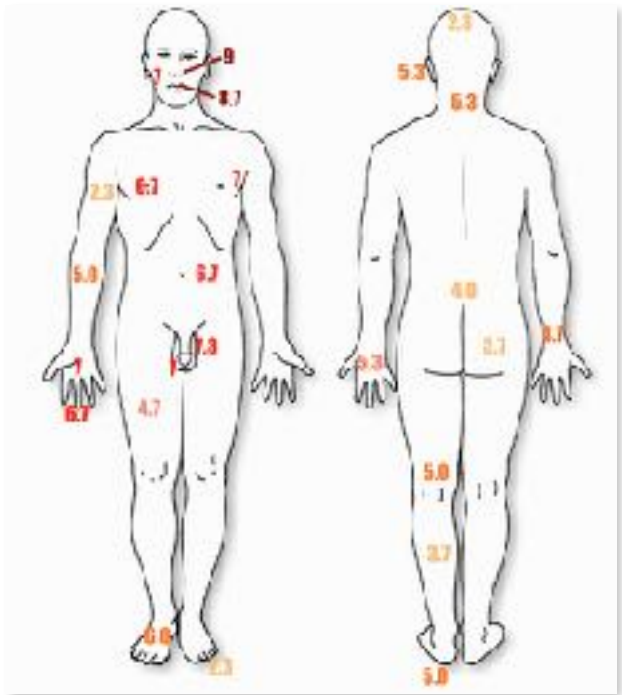
"All the stings induced pain in the author," Smith writes. The least painful locations were the skull, upper arm, and tip of the middle toe (all averaging 2.3). "Getting stung on the top of the skull was like having an egg smashed on your head. The pain is there, but then it goes away."

The most painful sites were the penis shaft (7.3), upper lip (8.7) and nostril (9.0). "It's electric and pulsating," he Smith. "Especially the nose. Your body really reacts. You're sneezing and wheezing and snot is just dribbling out. Getting stung in the nose is a whole-body experience."

"Erm, but the penis?" I venture.

"It's painful, and there's definitely no crossing of wires of pleasure and pain down there," he says. "But if you're stung in the nose and penis, you're going to want more stings to the penis over the nose, if you're forced to choose."

Was there any point in the experiment when he thought: Hey, maybe I shouldn't sting myself in the nose and/or penis? "By the time I got round to the third round, I thought: I really don't want to do my nose again," he says. "I had originally had the eye on the list, but when I talked to [my advisor Tom Seeley], he was concerned that I might go blind. I wanted to keep my eyes."



There are some interesting nuggets here. We might expect that the most painful places to get stung are the sites that have the thinnest skin or that are served by the most sensory neurons. But neither factor cleanly explains the results. For example, palm with its thick skin hurt much more than the thin-skinned arm or skull. And the upper lip hurt much more than the middle finger, even though both are served by similar numbers of neurons. A pain map of the body would probably look very different to a purely sensory one.

Now, clearly, these data are very subjective, and they all come from one person. Smith is clear that his anatomy of pain can't be generalised to everyone else. "If someone else did this, they'd probably have different locations that they felt were worst", he says, although from talking to his colleagues, he feels that the rough shape of the map would be similar. "I didn't see a lot of merit in repeating this with more subjects," he says.

Any takers?

**Reference:** Smith. 2014. Honey bee sting pain index by body location. PeerJ. <http://dx.doi.org/10.7717/peerj.338>

**Ed's note:** This is a repeat of an article from a previous Newsletter, but I thought it warranted another airing in case you hadn't seen it. Brings tears to my eyes.

# TDBA Inc Meeting Minutes, 18 June at Heidi and Lindsay's

Open 2:00 pm

**Welcome:** President AI

**Apologies:** noted and attendance book circulated

**Visitors:** Welcomed and identified

**Agenda** and activities outlined

**Minutes** of previous meeting: as per Newsletter, Prop Jon M, Sec Dave T.

**Treasurer's Report:** verbal report - all good

**Newsletter Editor:** need temporary Ed for last half of 2017 - any volunteers?

**Shop Report:** Massive purchase of new equipment just placed, all gear going well

**Library:** books and ABK on display. Jon M recommends bee colour vision article

**General Business:**

**We NEED a new Secretary and Newsletter Editor ASAP!!!!**

Pres AI suggested new ways to connect newbees to older Members when opening hives - there is a need to do more mentoring, Sonya V invited all to a hive opening at her place at 10:00 am 25 June, Carla K indicated invite to Rowes Bay RSL hive inspection on 2nd Sat of month at 9:00am. More info to come via webmail. Dan D will speak to people with hives to help out.

Club has ordered 2 x gazebos for displays and meetings.

Need new Committee members and a Secretary and a Newsletter Editor.

Check out the Bee Aware Newsletter website and online class in beekeeping - free for commercial but \$20 for hobby keepers.

Open Day/ Honey Month success with stall holders and public interest, thanks to organisers Chrystal and Dan H and Sonya C (Congrats on the new arrival Sonya!!) and the volunteers who turned up to speak with interested public. Good PR for the Club, HPSS is a good location for this, all sausages sold out!

Eco Fiesta was good, thanks to Paul P for organising and to volunteers - many interested people listed our stall- 5 new members. See photos of both events in a previous Newsletter.

Native bee Workshop 12, 13 August - subscriptions going well. Volunteers to help with set up?

Biosecurity are having an open stakeholders info meeting on 14 July at 1:00 pm at Langton St office. These are very informative, casual meetings and good to hear the lowdown on AHB + Varroa response. Open to all.

Carla K reminded all to participate in the Metho and Sugar Shake sampling and drone scratching and to send results to Biosecurity - essential to provide evidence we are pest free and maintain the staff support from Biosecurity. Is it OK to bring bees from Cairns to TSV during our AHB exclusion restrictions??? - Carla will confirm. Reminder to practice good hygiene between hives - clean gloves, hive tool? metho in a tin with hive tool to disinfect.

Request from Biosecurity to join them in a display at Townsville Plant and Garden Expo - 26 & 27/8, we will need to organise volunteers. This is a huge exhibition and worthwhile visiting - be a volunteer and visit the displays for free!!

Possible Macnade meeting near Ingham discussed, discussion on bee eaters and how to deal with them - or not, hygiene issues around gloves, hive tools.

**Next meeting:**

16/7 - HPSS - change a Langstroth hive to the Biosecurity box, good for newbees to see the brood box, inspect and change over

17/9 - Daniel & Chrystal's Bushland beach or Rupertswood. to be decided closer to the meeting.

10/8 - next Committee meeting

15/10 - AGM at HPSS??

**Meeting closed:** 2:50 pm followed by a Biosecurity hive opening that revealed many SHB and some chalk brood - cider vinegar administered and much squashing of live beetles, 2 people stung. Coffee, tea, some delicious snacks (especially the brownies!) and conversation followed.



## Darwin Woollybutt (*Eucalyptus miniata*) in flower at June Meeting

Some observant beeks noticed that the Club banner was suspended from a beautiful orange flowering eucalyptus not common around these parts, but if you have ever been to The Top End, Kakadu or Kimberley region you will know it well, as it is very common up that way.

See photos above on right:

The Woollybutt Tree is a large eucalypt and also known under its Bardi name "manowan" and is widely distributed in the north of Australia. It grows up to around 20 metres in height and has a rough bark. Its large bright red-orange flowers are a distinct feature of the Dry season and appear around June. Kimberley Aboriginal people are known to have used the lower bark to build shelter roofs, harpoons were made from young tree trunks and the wood was often used to make boomerangs and shields.

<https://skipas.wordpress.com/native-plants/plant-families-l-m/myrtaceae/eucalyptus-miniata-woollybutt-2/>

## Swarm Contact List:

Jon & Frana McKinstry, **Kelso** - 0413 765 192 (Jon) or 0401 014 948 (Frana)

Mick Taylor, **Cranbrook** - 0428 626 707

Brendan Arboit - **Ayr** 0419447122

Dave Turnbull **Annandale** - 0458 645 677

Dan & Drew Donovan, **Wulguru** - 0428 218 816

Sharene Dougall, **Bluewater** - 0415426903

Wayne Taylor, **Rasmussen** - 0434 745 353

Ben Taylor, **Townsville West** - 4728 4992/ 0428 186 000

Steve and Carla Kersnovske - **Kelso** 0417 344 419

Doug McBride, **Mysterton** - 4775 7465

Grant Whiteford, **Cranbrook** - 4728 3051

Daniel Horne, **Bushland Beach** - 0437 540 473

**Swarm List** Please contact Biosecurity : 13 25 23 for any swarm or strange bee activity in the Townsville region. Take a sample from any swarm of 200-300 bees and store in Metho and give them to Biosecurity for Varroa testing.

## Welcome to our New Members

New members will be listed in the next Newsletter

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.

Norman McLEOD, Robyn & Stewart GILLIES, Sally STANLEY, Sue SHORE, Tania MELCHERT, Georgie COULTON, Des BOLTON, Neville HOBDELL, Holly BUCHHOLZ, Leanne BALL, Ty MAXWELL, Jeffrey S, Pauline B, Debra & Stewart H, Kerry & Elpis S.

## Annual Membership Fees Due Now - Membership fees can be made electronically

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

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](mailto:president@beesnorth.com.au), [treasurer@beesnorth.com.au](mailto:treasurer@beesnorth.com.au), [editor@beesnorth.com.au](mailto:editor@beesnorth.com.au) , [secretary@beesnorth.com.au](mailto:secretary@beesnorth.com.au)

And for all web and membership enquiries : [info@beesnorth.com.au](mailto:info@beesnorth.com.au).

## TDBA Inc Office Holders for 2016/2017

President:	Alan Ziegenfusz	<a href="mailto:alan.G.Ziegenfusz@team.telstra.com">alan.G.Ziegenfusz@team.telstra.com</a> , or : <a href="mailto:president@beesnorth.com.au">president@beesnorth.com.au</a>
Vice President:	Mick Taylor	<a href="mailto:cranbrooksolar@bigpond.com">cranbrooksolar@bigpond.com</a> <b>Nominated:</b> To be Confirmed
Secretary:	<b>We need a volunteer,</b>	<a href="mailto:secretary@beesnorth.com.au">secretary@beesnorth.com.au</a>
Treasurer:	Frana McKinstry	<a href="mailto:franajon@gmail.com">franajon@gmail.com</a> , or: <a href="mailto:treasurer@bigpond.com.au">treasurer@bigpond.com.au</a>
Membership	Frana McKinstry	<a href="mailto:franajon@gmail.com">franajon@gmail.com</a>
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## 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

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

Date

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

HIN

Comments


### 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](mailto:varroa@daf.qld.gov.au)

## Club Shop Items - 2017 Price List

These prices are only available to current financial members

<b>Item</b>	<b>Price \$\$</b>
Veil - Native Bee	10.00
Veil - cotton	20.00
Veil - ventilated	25.00
Jacket / Cotton/ Round hat	60.00
Jacket Ventilated	80.00
Full Suit - Cotton	85.00
Full Suit - ventilated	105.00
Gloves	22.00
Super - 8 frame Rebated	25.00
Super - Dove tail	29.00
Super - Ideal	25.00
Parker plastic supers	65.00
Lids	27.00
Bases Ply	22.00
Bases - "Bluebees	35.00
"Lifting Cleats (Handles/pr)	5.00 pair
Spring clips	2.00 ea
Emlok	12.00
Hive tool (S/S)	15.00
Hive tool (Yellow)	8.00
Crimping Tool	8.00
Smoker	38.00
Queen Excluder - Wire (8 or 10 frame)	22.00
Queen Excluder - Plastic	7.00
Frames - Full depth	1.90
Frames - Ideal	1.50
Foundation - Plastic	2.10
Foundation - Wax	2.00
Beeswax block	15.00 per kg
Eyelets pkt 500/40gm	10.00
S/S Wire .5mm x 500gm	20.00
Bee Brush - Natural bristle	12.00
Queen Catcher	3.00
Frame Gripper	10.00
Bee Feeders	2.00
Gate valve	10.00
Capping knife, serrated	15.00
Comb scratcher	8.00
Honey jars 250gm	0.65
Honey jars 500gm - square	0.75
Honey jars 500gm - round	0.75
Honey jars 550gm - squeeze	0.75
Honey jars 1kg round	1.00
Apithor trap	7.00
Silver Bullet trap	7.00
BeetlTra bottom trap	20.00
TK Beetle mat	6.00
Booklet - Managing AFB	3.00
Australian Beekeeping Manual	35.00
Australian Native Bee Book	25.00

## **TDBA Bee Starter Kit - \$110**

**The Perfect Gift for a budding Beekeeper**

**Available in Townsville from the Club Shop:**

**Club Members Price Only!**

**\$110**

*Hive tool, brush, cotton jacket/veil, gloves, and smoker*

***Contact: Daniel: Ph. 0437 540 473***



### **THE AUSTRALIAN BEE-KEEPER MAGAZINE (ABK)**

Published monthly Subscriptions \$84 per year.

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PO Box 7124, Karabar NSW 2620

### **LOTS-A-STINGS**

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

**.Dan Donovan: Ph 0428 218 816**

