

# Townsville and District Beekeepers Association (Inc.)

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



PO Box 1115, Aitkenvale QLD 4814

## Newsletter No 5 June 2018

### In this Issue:

- Club Members news
- Stories from local hives
- Bees in the news
- 5 things to know about swarm catching
- Open Day success
- Research topics
- Do the "Sugar Shake" and send in a report
- Shop price list

**Next Meeting: Hermit Park SS**  
**5 Sussex St, Hermit Park**  
**entrance off McKimmin St**  
**2:00 pm Sunday, 17 June 2018**  
Bring a chair - and a plate of food to share if you can  
Tea, coffee, sugar and milk provided

## Dragon fruit pollination frenzy

Club member Neal E has done hand pollination of his dragon fruit in previous seasons, but this year it looks like the bees have come to his rescue. Neal says he has also seen native Blue Banded Bees paying a visit to the flowers - see middle bee on left. Nice photo Neal, thanks.

Neal also sent in some information regarding the sterilisation process carried out in our portable steam sterilisation unit for the treatment of AFB-infected hives. The information is available to those interested, but it shows why we need experienced technicians to ensure that the steriliser is used correctly in order to achieve 100% elimination of both bacteria and their more resistant spores. The article explained why complete replacement of air by steam is essential for a proper process, and is quoted here -

"Steam at 134 °C can achieve in three minutes the same sterility that hot air at 160 °C can take two hours to achieve."

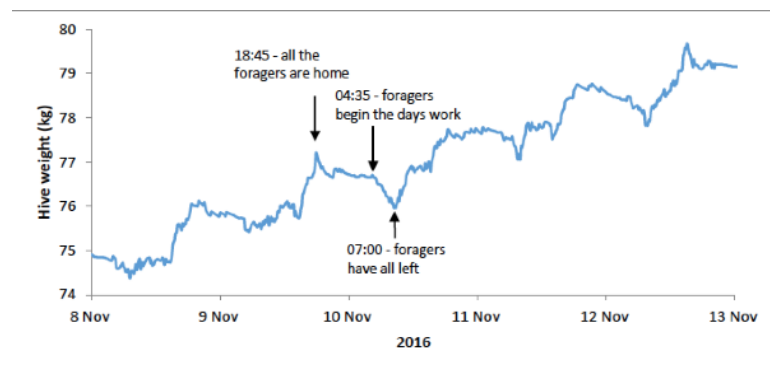


## How many bees in a hive go out each day to forage?

From Ray B

An interesting side note to monitoring hive weight is the daily "wobbles" in the weight data. Hive weights are currently being measured at 2 hives in Townsville and one on the Gold Coast - and the data is sent to the internet and displayed on the Club website at: [www.beesnorth.com.au](http://www.beesnorth.com.au).

Typically, there is a low in the early morning, a high in the early evening, a small but steady decline at night followed by an abrupt drop again early in the morning. Taking a closer look at the timing of the highs and lows it is clear that the daily maximums at this time of year occur at around 18:20, about 30-min after sunset and the minima just after 6am. However, the start of the sharp decline in the morning occurs around 05:30, or about 30 minutes before sunrise! I interpret these bumps in the data to be the forager bees leaving the hive at the crack dawn with most of the bees departed by 6:10am. All day long the hive weight increases as bees bring back supplies of nectar, water, pollen etc and coming back for the final time shortly before dark and knocking off for the day. That makes it a 13 hr day for these girls! No days off! No unionised workforce here! And possibly, that's not the end of the day for them as the nectar has to be dried during the night! Although, that might be someone else's job...? I hope so for the foragers anyway!



This particular hive is double-supersed and what I would consider "full-strength". For the 4-day period shown here, the average early-morning weight-drop averaged 322g. According to Wikipedia, the average worker bee weighs around 100mg. That equates to just over 3000 forager bees on duty each day! For this 4-day period at least, they brought in just over 2.2kg of nectar, pollen etc each day (nett after drying), so between them they carried >7 times their body weight in supplies to the hive - good work!

Interesting, these morning dips in weight only occur during a honey flow. When there is no flow, these daily weight wobbles are not nearly as noticeable, presumably because there is no rush to get out and forage if there isn't much to be had! They are not silly are they?

# Danger of feeding bees with external feeders!

By Ray B on the Gold Coast

While the month of April appears to have been exceptionally good for bees in Townsville, the opposite was the case on the Gold Coast (see graph showing the different hive weights during April). In fact, my hives have been steadily losing weight since January. By mid-April, my strongest hive had weakened to the point that I had to remove one of the supers, and shortly after, I also started feeding my bees with sugar water via an external feeder at the hive entrance.

However, unbeknownst to me at the time, I was putting my hive in great danger! In my 7 years of beekeeping, I had heard of, and read about robber bees, but never been witness to this phenomenon. On 27 April this changed! Shortly after midday I was about to give one of my other hives a bottle of sugar water, just as I had done 2 days before to the hive in question. The bottle was nearly empty, but there was a great commotion in front of the hive. A huge pile of bees was gathered on the feeder trying to get the last out of it. It struck me as odd because the number was way higher than would normally feed and the bees appeared to be in a frenzy. On closer examination, most of the bees in the pile had a distinct black end to their abdomen and almost no stripes. Alarm bells started ringing: these are NOT MY BEES – eeeek! Someone ring “000”! There’s a heist underway!! New black-bottomed bees were arriving at the melee at a great rate. When I took the feeder away it was on for young and old. The marauders set their sights on my hive instead. They simply overwhelmed my bees and entered the hive, presumably to raid the remaining honey stores. Outside the hive I could see many pairs of bees locked in combat. It was warfare!

I probably reacted a bit slowly, but for a good few minutes I felt helpless and couldn't think what I could do to help my bees. Finally the brain turned on and I ran to find something to close the entrance. The first thing I found in my shed was length of 25mm rhs steel and shoved it on the landing. This covered the entrance and a ball of bees grew on the front trying to get in. Combatting bees were everywhere. After about 30 minutes, the marauding bees slowly diminished in number. At this stage my own bees were still coming back from foraging, many fully laden with pollen and were unable to get into the hive. Confusion reigned with my bees exploring the vents and all sides of the hive to get inside.

Poor buggers! I desperately wanted to help them out by letting them in, but I couldn't risk it. The marauders were still too numerous. After 2 hours, activity in front of the hive had finally died down enough for me to remove the iron bar. My bees spilled out immediately. Over the next hour I witnessed many dead bees being carted away and others being pushed off the landing board. I gathered as many bodies as I could find and separated them into two groups: black-bottomed marauders and my own girls. The count was 12 vs 15, so fairly even in proportion, but this was obviously not a good indication of the total mortality. My bees spent the rest of the day fending off a low number of potential invaders. Even 2 days later, black-bottomed bees were still arriving in twos and threes at the hive entrance and being challenged by my guards. Those little bastards were not giving up! Boy, it's a brutal world out there!

And where might you ask were the drones in all this? Nowhere is the answer! You'd think their size and weight might have helped the hive in its defence at the time... but no, apparently it's not their job! I used to have some teenagers like that...

Anyway, the big lesson for me is: When my bees are doing it tough, chances are, other hives in the district are probably doing it just as tough. So feeding with an external feeder may not be such a good idea, lest you want nearby bees to show their ugly side! From now on, internal feeding is the go! The other lesson is: A small hive opening (one that doesn't go the full width of the hive) can be very handy when your bees are under attack, especially if your hive is weak!

Ray B

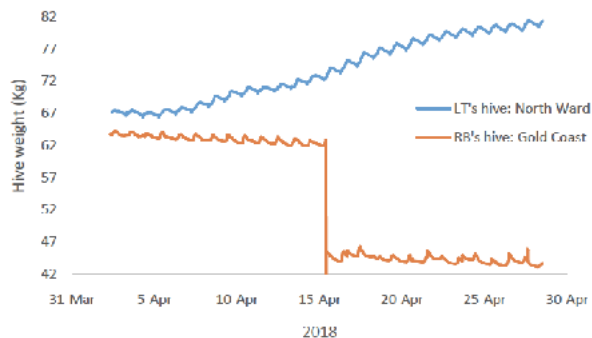
## Red perspex cover keeps SHB at bay - so they say

From Bee Culture Magazine: <http://www.bee-culture.com> MAY 12, 2018  
<http://www.bee-culture.com/catch-the-buzz-new-cover-lets-in-only-red-light-and-keeps-small-hive-beetles-out/>

The article describes how red perspex lids keep SHB away from the hives and do not upset the bees, as they cannot see red light. Is anyone prepared to give this a try???

I am a little dubious as to whether this just keeps the SHB down in the brood box in the dark away from the light, or whether this actually forces the beetle out of the hive completely???

Worth a try anyone?? It could be a pretty cheap and easy way to at least annoy SHB.



Robber bees in action after the feeder was removed



RHS steel bar blocking the entrance



## Club website is worth another look!

From our IT Manager on the Gold Coast - Ray B.

The Club has had a website since mid-2012. (**Ed:** Ray instigated this website - and got it up and running when he resided in Townsville- the Club's first entry into the modern world of websites. He remains our IT Manager while living on the Gold Coast - Thanks Ray.)

Over the years the website has seen many incremental changes to improve resources for members as well as to help others to find us. For those who don't visit our website often, some of these changes are worth highlighting.

We now have a "Members Only" area (<http://www.beesnorth.com.au/pages/wsonly.htm>)

It contains various club publications including a near-complete collection of club newsletters since 2011. These are a veritable treasure trove of information on beekeeping and club activities that are well worth a read! To get access to this area you need to register and, once approved, you can log in with your chosen password. Check it out! Do you have newsletters not up there? I would love any missing ones!

We also have a comprehensive flowering calendar for the Townsville area - with details notes on the importance of trees and plants as a honey source, pollen source, as well as colour and taste of the honey produced from them. If you care about your bees, you will care about what there is for them to eat and thrive. By implication, also what they might leave for you! These pages deserve to be added to your "Favourites" for ready reference. <http://www.beesnorth.com.au/pages/Floweringcalendar.htm>

Did you know - we also have our own honey and wax recipe book, produced by one of our members <http://www.beesnorth.com.au/faqs.htm>?

And,... that we have four demonstration hives fitted with wifi monitoring systems that show hive weight, temperature and humidity in near real-time (<http://www.beesnorth.com.au/pages/HiveMonitoring.htm>)?

Even if you can't monitor your own hives day-to-day, there might be some insights from these data on how your hives might be doing?

Speaking of website visitation, I had a look at our web traffic recently. We have a healthy and growing interest in our site which is good to know. We always come up #1 on web searches for 'bees', or 'beekeeping' and 'Townsville' which is even better to know. But the really interesting thing is our visitation took a massive dive when we changed our domain name from "beesnorth.org" to "beesnorth.com.au" in mid-2015. In fact, it has taken 3 years to get to the same level of traffic we enjoyed just prior to the change! Mmm... perhaps a message there....

Anyway, our club website is there for you - use it!

Ray B

## New phone app that listens to the buzz of bees might tell you if they are happy

From Bee Culture Magazine: <https://goo.gl/2dxtBi>

Sent in by Miles F.

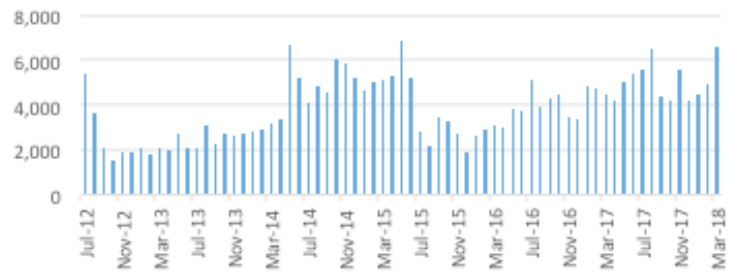
It seems like there is no quiet corner that you can go to anymore to escape from the hubbub of life and from those incessant mobile phones; not even for the bees. And now researchers have developed a software program that can analyse the sound of the buzz of a bee hive, and determine if there is something wrong with the hive. Rather than produce a stand-alone device, the research group developed a system which could be used on a smartphone. The resulting app, which is called Bee Health Guru.

To check on the health of a colony of bees it is usually necessary to open the hive, a procedure which involves using smoke to pacify the bees. That is a time-consuming process for commercial beekeeping operations, some of which may have several thousand colonies to take care of. With the app, all a beekeeper need do is to hold their smartphone near to the hive's entrance for 30 seconds while it analyses the sound of the bees. The app then lists any health problems which it detects. Seven different disorders will at first be checked, These include the presence of hive beetle (SHB), a serious honeybee pest, parasitic mites (Varroa) and "foulbrood" (AFB), a bacterial infection which can destroy bee colonies.

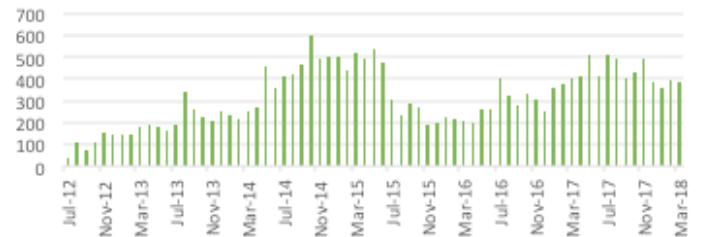
The results might also point to early signs of CCD, which is now regarded as being caused by a combination of problems rather than one particular disease. Dr Bromenshenk and his colleagues found that a bee virus and a fungus from a species known as Nosema were often prevalent in collapsed honeybee colonies, and that it was likely the two working together were more lethal to bees than either pathogen alone.

**Ed:** Personally, I would just call up the head worker bee and ask her "how are things going, luv??. Talk to the source I always say.

Website 'Hits'



Unique visitors



Hello Telstra??  
There seems to be a  
buzzing sound on the line!!



## • **5 QUESTIONS TO ASK BEFORE CATCHING A SWARM**

<https://www.keepingbackyardbees.com/5-questions-to-ask-before-catching-a-swarm/>

Sent in By Frana M. Modified by The Ed.

Catching a swarm is one of my favourite parts of beekeeping. Even though my phone rings off the hook in spring with live bee removal requests, I still feel a thrill when someone calls about a swarm. Most beekeepers love to catch swarms because they are docile and easy to remove. But even the most experienced beekeeper can run into trouble when they aren't properly prepared. I have found that asking the right questions before going out to catch a swarm will save time and trouble. Here are some vital questions.

### **1. How long have the bees been there?**

This is the most important question to ask when someone calls you about a swarm. The general public refers to any grouping of bees as a swarm, but in the beekeeping world, only a newly arrived colony meets the criteria for the name. If the bees have been in one location longer than a week, they will have built some comb. Once the bees build comb, they are no longer a swarm and they are more challenging to remove. It not only takes skill to remove an established colony, it also takes certain tools and materials. You will need rubber bands or string to attach the combs in your frames, for example. You may also need a bigger hive or a container for leaky honey. Established colonies are also going to be more defensive than a swarm would be. Removing an established colony is not something a new beekeeper is normally equipped to do by themselves, especially on the fly! I used to be caught off guard all the time when I first started removing bees. I would show up expecting a swarm and find an extremely large colony ensconced in a wall. You can usually avoid being surprised by this situation by asking the question above, but beware, many people will tell you when they first noticed the bees and this isn't necessarily on the same day that they landed. Some people coexist with bees in their yard for months before realizing they are there. If you are experienced with bee removal, come prepared for both scenarios. If you are new, be ready to walk away if the situation is over your head. An established colony of bees is not going anywhere. Give yourself time to find help, to research and to acquire the proper equipment before taking on the challenge.

### **2. What are the bees in?**

Before going out to catch your swarm, try to get a detailed description of where they are. This may affect what you bring with you to do that job. I often ask: What are the bees in? Are they hanging from a tree or are they inside of something? If the bees are hanging from a tree, you may only need your box and your bee suit, but you may also need plant clippers or a ladder. Be sure to ask how high up they are and how deep in the bush or tree they are! If they are inside of something, find out how big the cavity is and what it's made of. You may need to bring tools to take it apart or cut it open. Be wary of swarms that have moved inside of a cavity, there is a good chance they have been there longer than your caller has realized and may be an established colony.

### **3. How big are they?**

This is an important question because it will help you determine how big of a box you need. I like to bring nuc boxes for swarm retrieval because they are easier to carry and lift, but if the swarm is big, you may need a full-size hive box. This question can also reveal that your caller is actually calling about a wasp nest (a common mistake). Honey bee swarms are usually larger than a football, while wasp nests are typically smaller. I like to use sports equipment analogies to help people describe the size of what they are seeing. Is the group of bees the size of a softball, football or basketball?

### **4. Can you send me a picture?**

These days, most everyone has a camera on their cell phone. I always ask them to send a picture of their swarm because it sometimes reveals vital information. Maybe the swarm is hanging from a tree that is on a steep slope, for example. You will need a plan for how to secure your ladder. Maybe the swarm is spread out on the ground, a sign that something might be wrong with it. They could be poisoned or without a queen. A photo is also a good way to make sure you are not wasting your time on a misidentified wasp nest.

### **5. Have you done anything to the swarm?**

Unfortunately, homeowners sometimes attempt to get rid of the bees themselves before they call a beekeeper. Often they spray swarms with water in an attempt to get them to leave. This usually has the reverse affect. The poor, soggy bees end up crawling all over the ground, unable to fly. This, too, can result in a dead or damaged queen and it may be more challenging to get the bees to gather in your box. You may want to bring a swarm attractant with you to do that swarm catch. Worse, the homeowners may have sprayed the swarm with poison. If this is the case, I often refuse to come out at all. A poisoned swarm is unlikely to survive.

No matter what situations you encounter chasing swarms, remember to have fun! Something that is much easier to do when you are properly prepared for the task at hand.

## ***Swarm Contact List:***

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

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

Grant Whiteford, **Cranbrook** - 4728 3051

Sharene Dougall, **Bluewater** - 0415426903

Daniel Horne, **Bushland Beach** – 0437540473\*

Ronelle White, **Alice River/ Rupertswood** 0417752622

Tito Parigi, **Magnetic Island**

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.

## New Latvian 5 Euro "Honey" coin celebrates bees

From Bee Culture on-line magazine: <https://goo.gl/YBNP9g>

On Tuesday, 22 May, Latvijas Banka is issuing a collector coin dubbed the "Honey Coin" which won the first prize in the competition for the best design of an innovative collector coin.

The competition was announced in January 2017 to search for ideas to create an innovative coin in terms of its motif, design or technical solution. Overall, 42 works were submitted and were evaluated by the Coin Design Commission of Latvijas Banka. The first prize was awarded to designer Artūrs Analts' work "Honey".



## Meetings and activities around the region

TDBA members volunteer to give talks, demonstrations, and workshops to promote beekeeping. The workshop on the right has already been held. Raise your hand at the next meeting if you would like to either help out, or just go along to observe how TDBA engages and educates interested groups.

Some National conferences are also detailed below.



## 2018 PINEAPPLE FESTIVAL to be held at Rollingsstone NQ Saturday 8th September 2018

Call out for people interested in being a stall holder or to sell their produce.

Call or email Rhonda for further information 0431637980, 47707813,

[schwarzee1959@gmail.com](mailto:schwarzee1959@gmail.com)

Pace Park - Community Crescent Balgal Beach. Saturday 8th September 2018



Hosted by the  
Australian Honey Bee  
Industry Council Inc

3rd **Australian**  
**BEE CONGRESS**

Pollination &  
Beekeeping for the  
Future

**27th - 30th June 2018**  
RACV Royal Pines Resort,  
Gold Coast, Queensland

## 1st AUSTRALIAN Native Bee CONFERENCE

01+02 JULY 2018

GOLD COAST • QUEENSLAND

Integrating beekeeping, crop pollination, hive products and research Beekeepers, farmers, industry leaders and researchers are invited to share knowledge at the first Australian Native Bee Conference. We will discuss issues required to increase understanding and unlock the potential of our native bees, a valuable but under-utilized natural resource.

To register, submit an Abstract, find out about the program, trade show and field trip, or to contact us, go to: [australiannativebeeconference.com.au](http://australiannativebeeconference.com.au)

**Where:** RACV Royal Pines Resort, Gold Coast, Queensland

**When:** Sunday 1 July 2018, 8:30 AM – 5 PM

Note that the Australian Bee Congress, which focusses on honey bees, will host two symposia on native stingless Bees the day before, Saturday 30 June 2018, at the same venue. We encourage attendees to also consider attending this event.

# Open Day instead of General Meeting, Sunday 20/05/18 at HPSS

To celebrate World Bee Day and Honey Month in May, the Club held an Open Day to promote and educate on native and European beekeeping in Townsville.

It was an excellent day with a steady stream of visitors. We had native and European hives on display, hive openings, equipment displays, honey and wax for sale, books and information and volunteers speaking to interested visitors. The hive openings were a great success, with bees remaining quiet and respectful of the unsuited up visitors, even up to the fourth and final time.

A big thanks to Beryl S and Waldon for sausage sizzling, to Sonya V Michael O and Jon M for hive openings, Lindsay T for managing all the native bee enquiries, Darryl and Peter for their valuable assistance on set up and to Alan Z for pulling it all together.

Beryl S will be travelling to Slovenia this year to check out how the World Bee celebrations are going and visit a few local Slovenian beekeepers. We look forwards to hearing a few stories about how the locals have made beekeeping a national pastime.



## Jon and Frana's bees go overboard with a 5.4 kg honey frame

Must be some good honey flow out there in the western suburbs of Townsville. Read the extract from the Jon and Frana's entry on the TDBA Facebook page. The "super" frame is on the right.

And more good news about the recent honey flow:

"Checked some hives this morning - 31 fully capped very heavy frames from just two hives, or 36 frames in four honey supers. The ones we left behind were 80% capped. Think the honey flow is happening."

And a potential entry in the "Bee Blooper of the Month" competition"-

"Collected a large swarm 4 or 5 weeks ago. 10 foundation in the brood box and placed an empty ideal super to act as funnel. When you forget to remove that ideal..... all comb now transferred to frames and set up properly. No stings and saw the queen."



Yes Folks, that's 4-5 weeks of frameless burr comb construction, and honey storage that had to be removed from the empty box - doh!!

## No foundation?—No worries!!

From the Ed.

Remember the meeting where I showed Club Members my new foundation less frame idea using tongue depressors and satay sticks only as a guide for the bees - well here is a result worth waiting for after only 3 months. See the protruding sticks in the wax on the left. I have full foundation and some with capped honey after 3 months. I am told that wonky alignment and larger cell size is a normal outcome for free form foundation.



But take a look at the measly effort on plastic foundation on the right - from the same super for the same amount of time.

Pathetic, girls.

## 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.

New members will be reported on in some upcoming Newsletters

## Annual Membership Fees are due in June/July 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

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:        | Vacant                              |  |
| Secretary:             | Position open                       | or: <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>   |
| Newsletter Editor:     | Lindsay Trott                       | <a href="mailto:trott Lindsay@gmail.com">trott Lindsay@gmail.com</a> or: <a href="mailto:editor@beesnorth.com.au">editor@beesnorth.com.au</a>                                |
| Librarian:             | Kirsty Sugden                       | 0447 762 686   |
| Equipment Stewards:... | Alan Ziegenfusz and Frana McKinstry | <a href="mailto:info@beesnorth.com.au">info@beesnorth.com.au</a> .   |
| Webmaster:             | Ray Berkelmans                      | <a href="mailto:rberkelm@gmail.com">rberkelm@gmail.com</a>   |
| Publicity Officer:     | Sonya Verbrugt                      | <a href="mailto:sonyaverb@optusnet.com.au">sonyaverb@optusnet.com.au</a>   |
| Committee Members:     | Ron Rapson                          | <a href="mailto:Ronald.I.Rapson@team.telstra.com">Ronald.I.Rapson@team.telstra.com</a>   |
|                        | Paul Payne                          | <a href="mailto:trapper4812@gmail.com">trapper4812@gmail.com</a>   |
|                        | Sonya Verbrugt                      | <a href="mailto:sonyaverb@optusnet.com.au">sonyaverb@optusnet.com.au</a>   |
|                        | Paul Walsh,                         | <a href="mailto:Paul_shari@bigpond.com">Paul_shari@bigpond.com</a>   |
|                        | Norm McLeod,                        | <a href="mailto:norm@hendryfamily.net">norm@hendryfamily.net</a>   |
|                        | Wayne Zaverdinos                    | <a href="mailto:Wayne_Zaverdinos@hotmail.com">Wayne_Zaverdinos@hotmail.com</a>   |

### 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                    |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
|  | <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"/> |

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 - 2018 Price List

These prices are only available to current financial members

| Item                                  | Price \$\$   |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| Veil - Native Bee (camo)              | 5.00         |
| Veil - Native Bee (mesh)              | 3.00         |
| Veil - cotton                         | 20.00        |
| Veil - ventilated                     | 25.00        |
| Jacket - Cotton                       | 60.00        |
| Jacket - Ventilated                   | 80.00        |
| Full Suit - Cotton                    | 85.00        |
| Full Suit - ventilated                | 105.00       |
| Gloves                                | 22.00        |
| Replacement veil for ventilated suit  | 20.00        |
| Super - 8 frame                       | 25.00        |
| Super - 10 Frame                      | 28.00        |
| Super - Ideal                         | 25.00        |
| Super - WSP                           | 25.00        |
| Super -Nuplas Plastic                 | 40.00        |
| Lids (8 or 10 Frame)                  | 27.00        |
| Base - Ply (8 or 10 frame)            | 22.00        |
| Base - Mesh                           | 30.00        |
| Base 'Bluebees'                       | 35.00        |
| Lifting Cleats (Handles, pr)          | 5.00 pr      |
| Emlok - hive clamp                    | 12.00        |
| Corflute Nuc box                      | 28.00        |
| Corflute - Queen excluder             | 4.00         |
| Hive tool (S/S)                       | 15.00        |
| Smoker                                | 38.00        |
| Bee Brush - Natural bristle           | 10.00        |
| Queen Excluder - Wire (8 or 10 frame) | 22.00        |
| Queen Excluder - Plastic              | 7.00         |
| Frames - Full depth                   | 2.00         |
| Frames - Ideal                        | 1.50         |
| Frames - WSP                          | 1.50         |
| Foundation - Plastic                  | 2.10         |
| Foundation - Wax                      | 2.00         |
| Beeswax block                         | 15.00 per kg |
| Eyelets pkt 500/40gm                  | 10.00        |
| Awl (for fitting eyelets)             | 5.00         |
| S/S Wire x 500gm                      | 20.00        |
| S/S Wire x 80gm                       | 6.00         |
| Wire crimping tool                    | 12.00        |
| Queen Catcher                         | 3.00         |
| Frame Gripper                         | 10.00        |
| Frame Hanger                          | 20.00        |
| Bee Feeders                           | 2.00         |
| Spring clips                          | 2.00 ea      |
| Frame Nails                           | 6.00         |
| Mesh (for base construction)          | 15.00        |
| Gate valve                            | 10.00        |
| Gate valve - Parker                   | 26.00        |
| Gate valve O rings - Parker           | 6.00         |
| Cappings knife, serrated              | 15.00        |
| Cappings knife, electric              | 30.00        |
| Comb scratcher                        | 8.00         |
| Comb Roller                           | 22.00        |
| Strainer                              | 25.00        |
| Extractor - Plastic                   | Enquire      |
| Extractor - S/S                       | Enquire      |
| Honey jars 250gm                      | 0.70         |
| Honey jars 500gm - square             | 0.80         |
| Honey jars 550gm - squeeze            | 0.80         |
| Honey jars 1kg round                  | 1.00         |
| Honey Pails - 1 kg                    | 1.20         |
| Honey Pails - 1.5kg                   | 1.30         |
| <b>TRAPS</b>                          |              |
| Apithor trap                          | 7.00         |
| Silver Bullet trap                    | 7.00         |
| Apis sticky trap                      | 4.50         |
| <b>BOOKS</b>                          |              |
| Managing AFB                          | 0.00         |
| Australian Beekeeping Manual          | 2.00         |
| Australian Native Bee Book            | 25.00        |
| AFB test kits                         | 0.00         |
| Club Polo Shirts                      | 40.00        |

## **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: Club Shop Stewards: Frana M or Alan Z**

**[info@beesnorth.com.au](mailto:info@beesnorth.com.au)**



***TDBA is proudly supported by:***



**Fairway  
Group Townsville**

**Graeme Kent**  
Senior Accountant  
Business Consultant

Macarthur Dr  
Annandale QLD 4814

**M:0400 607 868**      **graeme@fwgs.com.au**

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