Townsville and District Beekeepers Association (Inc.)

www.beesnorth.com.au

PO Box 1115, Aitkenvale QLD 4814

Newsletter No 2 March 2017

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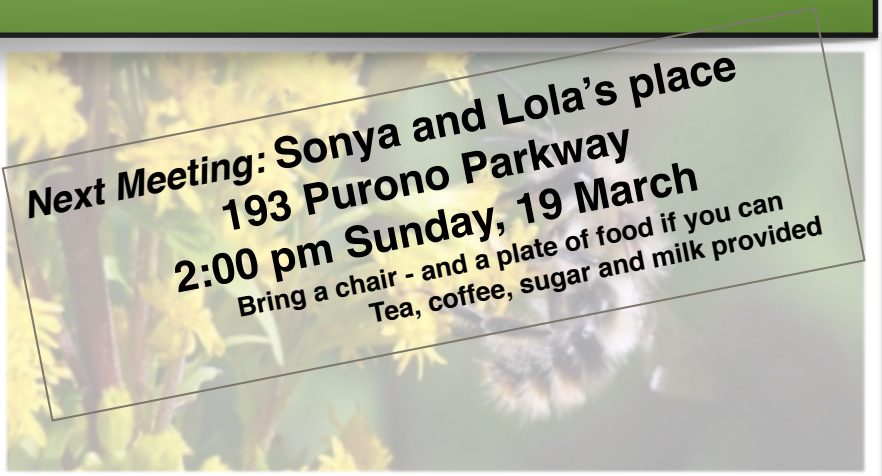
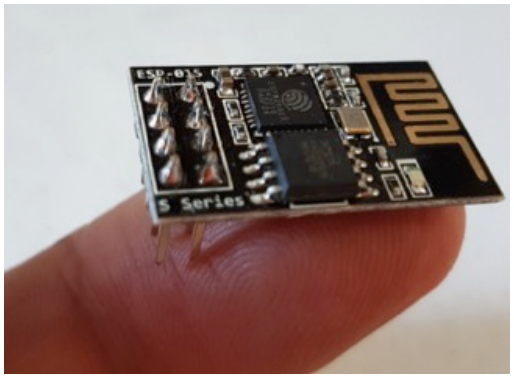


Bees on the Internet!

If you thought we were heavily embedded in the internet, the word is: "you ain't seen nothing yet"! We are on the cusp of a new era of internet connectivity which is being referred to as the "Internet of Things" (IoT). If you haven't heard about this yet, remember: You heard it here first!!

So what is the IoT? Well, in short, it refers to every gadget, appliance, or thing that you will soon buy buy that is capable of connecting to the internet. Indeed, this IoT revolution is already happening. Think of the internet home security systems, wifi solar inverter readings, Fitbit personal fitness monitors, I even saw the humble air-conditioner as "wifi connected" at Bunnings the other day! In the next 5-10 years virtually every gadget, small and big, will be able to connect to the internet. I mean everything, from your coffee machine to your garage door, yes, even your letter box will be on the 'net'. Why? So you can have your coffee ready just as you wake up, close your garage door after you leave home and check to see if the mail man has been, ... all without leaving the couch! Indeed, it is going to be hard for us to comprehend here and now how much life will change in the next few years! For the youngies, it will be all for the better. For us oldies.... well, mmmm..., maybe, maybe not! We'll see...!

Anyway, in the last few months I've been thinking and tinkering a bit to see what an IoT beehive might look like and what it might do for us beekeepers. Well, the first thing I discovered was that the electronic hardware has come a long way in the last few years. It turns out that the Chinese are not just followers; they are also trend-setters in the electronics world. One company, ExpressIf, has produced a wifi module which essentially does all the things your home modem does and it is no bigger than the first digit of your finger! Moreover, it costs <$3 on eBay!



The ESP8266 has set the electronics world on fire. Soon it (or something equivalent) will appear in nearly every gadget you buy

I bought a few, tested them, then bought more, then some more – these modules are truly amazing! Essentially the module (once programmed and connected to your sensors of interest) sends data to a pre-configured website via your home wifi system. Once the data are on the web, they can be further manipulated, interrogated, graphed, etc prior to displaying the data and sending alerts where appropriate. Viewing the data can be done via any device connected to the internet, including your mobile phone. So far, I have a fully operational, internet connected weather station at home, multiple soil-moisture sensors around the garden which send me email alarms when things get a bit dry, as well as a beehive which reports temperature, humidity and hive weight once every 10 min (http://rberkelm.wixsite.com/mysite). I can't wait to add more hives (European and native hives!) to the monitoring system.

Club Member Ray B relocated to the Gold Coast to build a house and set up his new beekeeping fixation. He remains an active member of the Club, and is our Honorary IT/ website manager. As well as mentoring many Newbees and contributing to the running of the Club, Ray set up our "beesnorth.com.au" website and sourced or contributed most of the info on there.

Ray's fascination with bees obviously goes well beyond the collection of honey and chasing swarms, and some say he should just leave the bees alone and let them do their thing without so much scrutiny…..read on…

Article and all research by Ray B

Informative and tasty Club meeting at Sonya's on 19 Feb 2017

Great to see so may members at Sonya V's place where Graeme Smith received his Honorary Membership. Many thanks to all who contributed to the copious afternoon tea snacks, the extensive equipment display with explanations, fabulous honey tasting (12 different honeys available), Shop sales running hot, —and what a treat! - icy cold mead on tap!! Sonya also opened a couple of hives for members to take a look inside and discuss the contents with Newbees. Thanks Sonya and helpers for putting such an informative and tasty day together.

Photos from 2016 Rotary Club Garden Expo at Riverway Gardens

DAF, Biosecurity and TDBA members talked to many people about the recent AHB and Varroa incursion to Townsville.

Shazza D and son on her trusty "B mobile"

"Isn't that someone famous ??" I heard all the visitors say. Well, yes it's The Ed in a bee suit….oh….and someone called Graeme Ross from some TV gardening show.
The DAF Biosecurity display was alerting the attendees to the AHB incursion and associated Varroa mites that had recently been detected in Townsville.

Poor season for Manuka honey in NZ

By Mark Peters, Alan Harman, “CATCH THE BUZZ” website, FEBRUARY 6, 2017
http://www.beeculture.com/catch-buzz-new-zealands-manuka-honey-season-wasnt-true-manuka-finally-identified/
Modified article by The Ed

Poor Manuka nectar flow this season in NZ is expected to result in a 70 to 80 percent drop in Manuka honey production. With this industry there is a lot of long-term storage of Manuka honey, though. Storage improves the honey’s UMF (unique manuka factor) over time.” Manuka honey is generally stored, not as a contingency in the event of a low-yield season, but to optimise the product’s UMF potential, says Mr Stewart.
The build-up to spring was promising but late spring brought a lot of cold, wet weather during flowering time, adversely affecting nectar flow. Another factor is the native Manuka beetle, which appears for a few weeks in late spring/early summer and feeds on Manuka and Kanuka flowers and leaves. It has done considerable damage to its host plant this season.

Manuka active factor finally identified

https://www.dreamstime.com/stock-photo-honey-bee-manuka-flower-gathering-pollen-white-image59583100

Some of the unique factors in Manuka have been identified after five years of research by New Zealand’s Unique Manuka Factor Honey Association with UK-based Fera Science in response to reports questioning the integrity of some manuka honeys. It’s popularity and limited availability has led to more honey being labeled as Manuka than is actually produced.
Unique signature compounds have been identified that allow a test and verify the authenticity of Manuka honey” Fera Science biochemist Adrian Charlton tells New Food magazine. The research found more than 200 signature compounds that in combination, are unique to Manuka honey. At the top of that list is a compound called Leptosperin, which is not only stable over time, but is very complex, making it near impossible to synthetically manufacture and is therefore only present in genuine Manuka honey.

What to plant to attract native bees ????

Do you want to attract native bees to your garden but are not sure what to plant? Well, you could do a lot worse than planting some humble old Portulaca says Ray B from the Gold Coast. Take a really close look at the flowers opposite and see that Ray’s native bees are all over these flowers.

How to Grow Portulaca Plants Portulaca flowers tolerate many kinds of soil but prefer sandy, well-drained soil and love the full sunlight. These plants are excellent for high heat and drought tolerance, and will seed and spread themselves very well. Some control methods may be needed to keep Portulaca plants from becoming invasive to areas where they are not wanted. These wonderful plants do spread easily and very well.

You do not need to water often for proper Portulaca care. The cylindrical foliage of the portulaca flower retains moisture very well, thus, regular watering is not needed. When they are watered, just a light watering will do, as their root zone is very shallow. When planting the Portulaca seeds, it is not necessary to cover the seed at all and, if covered, only very lightly as they need the sun to sprout and grow. The seeds planted in the gravel mulch in a rose bed can be scattered by hand over the gravel and the gravel lightly rocked back and forth by hand to help the seed reach the soil below

Read more at Gardening Know How: Portulaca Flower: Tips For Portulaca Care https://www.gardeningknowhow.com/ornamental/flowers/portulaca/portulaca-plants.htm

Portulaca comprises about 40-100 species found in the tropics and warm temperate regions. They are also known as moss roses. One species, Common Purslane (*Portulaca oleracea*) is widely considered an edible plant, and in some areas an invasive type of weed. Some Portulaca species are used as food plants by the larvae of some Lepidoptera species including the Nutmeg (Hadula trifolii).

Purslane can be eaten raw or cooked, and lends itself to salads and lightly stir-fry dishes. When harvested early in the morning, the leaves and tender stems have a pleasant, mildly sour taste due to the overnight accumulation of malic acid, which is produced via CAM photosynthesis (a type of photosynthesis used by arid plants like cacti) . It is relatively easy to grow in warm climates. it grows very well in hot and dry summer months: the plant's switch to CAM photosynthesis and nightly malic acid production is a response to drought stress.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Portulaca

Large Hive Beetle (LHB) could be lurking in the cow poo with the dung beetles

Species of Large African Hive Beetle have the potential to become invasive and highly damaging to the worldwide beekeeping industry, according to Australian researchers. Large African Hive Beetle (LAHB) can cause significant damage to honey bee colonies and is widespread in Africa.

https://www.honeyflow.com/media/docs/Pests_Large_Hive_Beetle_2015_11_11.pdf

Currently the pest is regarded as 'low risk', but the Australian first research review – led by Professor Ben Oldroyd from the University of Sydney – recommends that the current biosecurity risk assessment be changed to 'high'. While the pest is yet to spread to Australia, the risk assessment has identified the potential danger of importation of eggs, larvae or pupae in dung should be considered 'medium, and that the likelihood of establishment after importation is high. The beetle lives in rotting vegetable matter and herbivorous animals "pats".

"Since 2002 we have experienced the incursion of Small Hive Beetle here in Australia, and prior to the threat, the industry was not prepared, or informed to deal with, for such a biosecurity breach," he said.

For more information, read the project summary at: https://rirdc.infoservices.com.au/items/16-054

Bees make a "whoop" noise when they bump into each other and say "excuse me"

Researchers have known that bees make various noises in the hive,"Piping" describes a noise made by virgin and mated queen bees during certain times of the virgin queens' development. Fully developed virgin queens communicate through vibratory signals: "quacking" from virgin queens in their queen cells and "tooting" from queens free in the colony, collectively known as piping. A virgin queen may frequently pipe before she emerges from her cell and for a brief time afterwards. Mated queens may briefly pipe after being released in a hive.
Piping is most common when there is more than one queen in a hive. It is postulated that the piping is a form of battle cry announcing to competing queens and the workers their willingness to fight. It may also be a signal to the worker bees which queen is the most worthwhile to support. The piping sound is a G♯ (aka A♭). The adult queen pipes for a two-second pulse followed by a series of quarter-second toots.[4] The queens of Africanized bees produce more vigorous and frequent bouts of piping. (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Queen_bee).

But……Listen to this audio file; it almost sounds like…..Ooooops, as in "oops, excuse me, didn't see you there".
https://soundcloud.com/new-scientist/honeybee-whooping-signal

Also, read the full story at the link below; it sounds like worker bees communicate with each other
http://www.sciencealert.com/bees-make-a-ridiculously-cute-whoop-noise-when-they-re-startled?utm_source=ScienceAlert+-+Daily+Email+Updates&utm_campaign=c651139756-MAILCHIMP_EMAIL_CAMPAIGN&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_fe5632fb09-c651139756-365465125

Bees on the move - contact Biosecurity about any swarms

With the recent rainfall in North Queensland, there has been a notable increase in bee activity and swarms.

The National Varroa Mite Eradication Progam is calling on beekeepers and members of the public in the Townsville area to report new bee swarms and feral nests so that they can be examined for the presence of varroa mite.

If you see any swarms, or feral bee nests in the Townsville area, please contact Biosecurity Queensland immediately on **13 25 23.**

Native bee hive wanted to buy

Enquiry from Andrew who wants to buy a hive and box of native bees. Does anyone have a hive to sell??
Phone Andrew: 47739114

A spoonful of "mad" Nepal honey causes adverse reaction - - and does not " make the medicine go down".

http://www.beeculture.com/catch-buzz-mad-honey-nepal-not-good/

Story by Alan Harman, "The Buzz", FEBRUARY 21, 2017

A 61-year-old resident of Hong Kong was being treated for a rare case of mad honey poisoning after eating honey from Nepal. The man was hit by weakness, numbness, chills and shortness of breath about 45 minutes after eating just a spoonful of the honey, the Centre for Health Protection said. He sought treatment at the emergency unit of the Prince of Wales Hospital and was admitted. He was discharged the next day in a stable condition.

The South China Morning Post newspaper reports grayanotoxins, a group of closely related toxins found in rhododendrons and other plants from the same family, were later detected in his urine sample and the uneaten honey. The honey produced from the nectar of such plants can sometimes contain the neurotoxins, and is then known as "mad honey". Although grayanotoxins are hallucinogenic and rumored to be potentially lethal, the locals who harvest the mad honey in Nepal believe that it has medicinal qualities in small doses. But eating it can quickly lead to symptoms including nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, dizziness, weakness, excessive perspiration, hypersalivation and pins and needles. In severe cases, hypotension, a slow heart rate or shock may occur. An investigation by the Centre found the honey involved was brought from Nepal by a friend of the victim.

Hong Kong authorities said the public should buy honey from a reliable source or apiary, and to discard it if it had a bitter or astringent taste, as honey containing grayanotoxins could cause a burning sensation in the throat. Travelers to areas such as the Black Sea region of Turkey, North America, Korea, Japan, Nepal and New Zealand should pay special attention as there have been reported cases of grayanotoxin poisoning that were attributed to honey from these areas. The Centre tells the newspaper that in September last year and May 2014, it confirmed two cases of mad honey poisoning, affecting a 50-year-old man and a 49-year-old woman. They were hospitalised and the woman required intensive medical care before she was stabilised. In August 2013, three related people suffered from mad honey poisoning. All these cases involved honey from Nepal.

Ed's Note: Check out the article in a back copy of this Newsletter about "mad" honey and a link to a fascinating doco on how the Nepalese collect this honey from the world's largest honey bee (*Apis dorsata laboriosa).*
Check out the excellent short doco on You Tube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y_b2i_FvYPw

Varroa Mite Eradication Program update - We (DAF and Biosecurity) want you!

Since the beginning of the Eradication Program, volunteers have played a key role in program activities and particularly the Managed Hive Program. Thirty two bee keepers from Interstate have participated in the Program so far and have completed:
185 visits
199 hives inspected
42 bottom boxes handed out for sticky mat testing
74 sticky mat tests
53 alcohol washes
65 drone uncappings
95 sugar shakes
All samples tested negative for varroa mite.
Volunteers will start participating again in late March and we are looking for local beekeepers to take part in our volunteer program too. Please call 0472 864 724 or email varroa@daf.queensland.gov.au to express your interest.

Swarm collection kits

With the recent rainfall in our region bee keepers will have noticed an increase in bee activity and swarms. The National Varroa Mite Eradication Program is calling on beekeepers to notify them about swarm collections within the Varroa Mite Area of Interest (Townsville), throughout the Area of Freedom phase of this program, i.e. until August 2019.

The NVMEP would like a small sample of bees from any feral swarms within the 10km zone and has a free Swarm Collection Kit it can provide to bee keepers. Beekeepers are requested to contact the Surveillance team on the on call number 0427 864 724, within 24 hours of identifying/ collecting a swarm.

Swarm "call-out" list update for TDBA members

An update of the list of people prepared to attend to bee swarms (native, European, Asian and false alarms) is underway. If you would like to be on the list, please send me your name, phone no, and suburb. This list will be forwarded to TCC, pest exterminators, be listed on the website (beesnorth.com.au), and available to the public.
BUT: if you do put your name forwards, some conditions need to be considered.

Some of these are:
1. you must be available to attend within hours of the call - not several days later, as swarms do not always stay still
2. you must be properly equipped, competent and/or experienced to deal with a swarm, e.g. transport, ladders, assistants, tools etc
3. you must have a "swarm collection kit" from DAF (see article above) and agree to notify Biosecurity of the swarm location, and to submit samples.
4. you must be polite and considerate of the property owner/notifier, despite some people not knowing the difference between paper wasps, stingless native bees, honey bees, or being "insect paranoid".

Let me know at :trottlindsay@gmail.com

Bio insecticide that is safe for bees and other beneficial insects has secured funding to ensure its production remains in Australia

A regional Australian company is behind a game-changing development in the insecticide

Innovate Ag from Wee Waa in northern New South Wales has spent 15 years developing Sero-X, a pesticide using peptides from the butterfly pea legume as its active ingredient. Last year the product was used under permit on macadamia crops and the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority recently registered it for use by cotton growers. The company this week announced a partnership deal with the Belgium based Biological Products of Agriculture (Bi-PA) to help commercialise its invention and distribute it globally.

Bee deaths due to insecticide drift
The largest commercial honey bee pollinator in one of Australia's key food bowls claims he can no longer base his 2,000 hive operation in the region because of chemical use by the emerging cotton industry. Bi-PA's chief executive officer Johan De Saegher said it would develop and register Sero-X outside of Australia and New Zealand but the product would be manufactured at Goondiwindi in Queensland. Mr De Saegher said partnering with Sero-X would help Bi-PA address international markets' needs for safer agricultural products and would speed up development.
Sero-X could be transformative for beekeepers like Harold Saxvik, who claimed he could no longer base his 2,000 hive operation in NSW's Riverina because of chemical use by the emerging cotton industry. In 2013, he lost 500 hives to insecticide spray drift which he believes came from nearby cotton farms. Since then he has been moving his bees to avoid any risk but he said it had become unworkable.

"The secret behind this innovative product comes straight from nature itself in the form of cyclotides," Mr Watts said. "Cyclotides are peptides, or mini-proteins, that are naturally found in plants and have a range of biological activities, including insecticidal and antimicrobial." They also have great pharmaceutical potential. "Footy players have given peptides a bad name, but they are fantastic, potent natural compounds that can perform all sorts of functions," Mr Watts said.

Sero-X is already shaping up as a game changer in the macadamia industry which relies on honey bees for pollination but is susceptible to heavy losses from insect pests. Until now, growers could lose up to 50 per cent of their crop if they did not use broad spectrum synthetic pesticides, Macadamia Industry Board agronomist Neil Innes said. "There's more reliance on less specific, more broader spectrum synthetic pesticides which have a lot more affect on our pollinators," Mr Innes said. "There's three basic pesticides and they all have major constraints and it's a big juggling act to not damage pollinators, moving hives around lots of growers have had issues with bee kills."

Gympie based grower James Thomas was the first farmer to use Sero-X last year. "Well I can spray when I want exactly where I want and if the bees are still feeding during the day I can still spray when the optimum conditions are needed," Mr Thomas said. I can just spray exactly when I need it to get the best use of the product and the bees will continue to feed and pollinate the flowers." He said the product had proven just as effective as chemical pesticide but was safe to use. "I don't need to wear safety gloves because it's so benign to use, so it's an easy choice to make for us if we've got to use a spray when the bees are out feeding and pollinating, it's sort of a no-brainer," he said.
Research into the peptide based bio insecticide was started by the cotton industry 15 years ago, but Mr Watt and his agronomist father Kerry continued working on it when interest waned.


Bees are crucial for pollinating billions of dollars worth of Australian food crops. Supplied: Elizabeth Saxvik

In recent years, they have partnered with researchers from the University of Queensland's Institute for Molecular Bioscience. The institute's group leader, Professor David Craik, and his research team studied natural cyclotides (mini-proteins) and engineered new cyclotides that could be used as insecticides or to treat human diseases. "We've been working with Innovate Ag to understand which cyclotides in the extract are active and how we can optimise the harvest of the plant so that the extract is more potent," Professor Craik said.

Innovate Ag currently produces from a pilot plant in Goondiwindi and is aiming to commission a new production facility this year with an initial production capacity of 10,000 litres a week, with room to triple this as demand grows.
Article from:
http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-02-19/bee-friendly-bio-insecticide-secures-sero-x-funding-deal/8276856

Biological function of Cyclotides
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cyclotide

The stunting effect of cyclotide kalata B1 on growth and development of *Helicoverpa punctigera*, a caterpillar from the Lepidopteran (see pic on right) order. Cyclotides have been reported to have a wide range of biological activities, including anti-HIV, insecticidal, anti-tumour, antifouling, anti-microbial, haemolytic, neurotension antagonism, trypsin inhibition, and uterotonic activities. An ability to induce uterine contractions was what prompted the initial discovery of kalata B1

The potent insecticidal activity of cyclotides kalata B1 and kalata B2 has prompted the belief that cyclotides act as plant host-defence agents. The observations that dozens or more cyclotides may be present in a single plant and the cyclotide architecture suggest that cyclotides may be able to target many pests/pathogens simultaneously.

Eds Note: Almost sounds too good to be true, but only time will tell if resistance to these new compounds pops up. Pests and diseases (aka Nature) have an amazing capacity to outsmart the best of well laid plans by mere humans. This is a fantastic development, however, and great to see some Aussie ingenuity staying around to get some benefits.

TDBA Inc General Meeting Minutes from 19/2/2017 at Sonya V's place

Welcome by President: Alan Z.

Present / Apologies: As per attendance book

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Taken as read Moved : Dave B, Seconded: John M

Treasurer Report: In Newsletter

Shop Report: For large amounts, a list of items is required to give to Chrystal and Dan as Club does not hold enough stock

Librarian Report: Library available should anyone wish to borrow, see Kirsty S.

Newsletter Report: All good

Special Business:

Sonya V presented Graham Smith with Honorary Membership to TDBA with a history of his time in Townsville since 1962 being provided by Steve K.

New members were asked to identify themselves, new members are announced in the Newsletter.

General Business:

Sonya V gave an introduction to her hives located in her yard with 400kg of honey being sourced from hives in 2-3 years. Honey tasting and honey mead available for after the meeting.Lots of equipment displays with helpfulMembers explaining how to use equipment. New keepers will be shown through Sonya's hives after the meeting, and to check for small hive beetle (SHB)

Introduction of new secretary Anne Stanley.

Rob Stevens from Biosecurity gave a Varroa mite update, no Asian honey bees have been located since November 2016 and no mites since August 2016. Checking is still underway and as there has been nothing found for 6 months it is scaling down. A request for more involvement from the club, 20 kits to give out, also want to be involved in risk assessment to show feral hives are not infected. Kits to be given to people on swarm list so tests can be done at time of capture to ensure bees are free from disease. Registration form to be given to volunteers for testing of managed hives. It is encouraged when testing is done to send the results to Biosecurity to help keep the funding in the north.

More volunteers are required for the native bee workshop in March(??) which will include wax cleaning demonstration

Steve K makes nucs for new members.

Alan Z reported the Defence Force open day with Biosecurity was good, folks kept moving around with plenty of things to look at.

Dave B and Isobel B (DAF) reported the visit to the Grammar School went well with another visit on Tuesday and next week

Enquiry as to progress on having a banner made

Enquiry as to possibility of grants, held over until next meeting

EcoFest is coming up in June and more organisation and preparation is required to have more information available on both European and native bees, things to discuss

- Option to sell local honey
- Possibility to share stand with Biosecurity
- Need for more posters
- Open for peoples input as to ideas
- Dave B to set up working party for EcoFest and will need more support
- A list could be given out on where to buy local raw honey
- A swarm list included with phone numbers could also be handed out (it is available on the web page, Facebook and a list with Council), Lindsay T will update list

Next Meeting: 19/3/17 native bees, wax cleaning, European bees

Temporary TDBA Newsletter Editor required for second half 2017

If you have been hankering to test out your editorial and writing skills, here is your big chance - all for free!!

The current Ed will be away from 1 August to 20 Dec 2017 and needs a replacement.
This is a great chance to hone some writing and production skills - no previous experience required, but would be handy. Ability to use a word processing package on your own computer and access to email/internet is essential.
All interest in this temporary position will be greatly received. I can ease your way into it with some assisted lay-outs and advance articles.

Contact The Ed: trottlindsay@gmail.com (0409 789162), or editor@beesnorth.com.au

Next Club meetings will feature native bees and how to extract and clean wax

The next meeting is at at Sonya C and Lola's place at 193 Purono Parkway.19 March.
Last visit there Frana M showed how to split a native hive - and what a hive it was!!!

Will Sonya's hive have doubled in size again????

Come and check it out.

Welcome to our New Members

Nicholas P	SOUTH TOWNSVILLE	Marc A	KIRWAN	Andrew M	JENSEN	Timothy J	WOODSTOCK
Angela Z	MT KELLY	Dalwyn W	KELSO	Andrew Y	CRANBROOK		

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.

Annual Membership Fees

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 but soon to become $30

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, treasurer@beesnorth.com.au, editor@beesnorth.com.au , secretary@beesnorth.com.au

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

TDBA Inc Office Holders for 2016/2017

President:	Alan Ziegenfusz	alan.G.Ziegenfusz@team.telstra.com, or : president@beesnorth.com.au
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	Paul Payne	trapper4812@gmail.com
	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

Stop the spread

Protect Australian agriculture from varroa mites and report feral bees

Varroa mite (*Varroa jacobsoni*) have been detected on feral Asian honey bees (*Apis cerana*) in Townsville.

The mites have the potential to significantly damage our bee industry, disrupting both honey production and pollination services.

Biosecurity Queensland is conducting surveillance and control activities to detect and destroy Asian honey bees and eradicate varroa mites.

Asian honey bee nests can be found in tree hollows, in cavities in buildings and in letterboxes and garden sheds. Asian honey bees are smaller and less furry than the European honey bee and have more pronounced brown and yellow stripes.

Please report sightings of suspected Asian honey bees, feral nests or hives showing symptoms of exotic pests to Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23.

To stop the spread of varroa mites, a Prevention and Control Program is now in place for the Townsville City Council local government area.

The Prevention and Control Program imposes obligations on an occupier of a place where managed hives are kept. Anyone wanting to move live bees, bee hives, or any other item that may contain live bees out of the Townsville City Council area will need to notify Biosecurity Queensland by email at **varroa@daf.qld.gov.au** at least seven (7) days prior to the intended movement.

Anyone moving live bees through the Townsville City Council area, that have originated outside the area, must ensure the bees are packaged and sealed in a manner that prevents the escape of live bees while they transit through the area.

A copy of the Prevention and Control Program for varroa mite (*Varroa jacobsoni*) under the *Biosecurity Act 2014* is available at **www.daf.qld.gov.au.** Interested parties can also contact the National Varroa Mite Eradication Program to request a copy of the program at **varroa@daf.qld.gov.au.**

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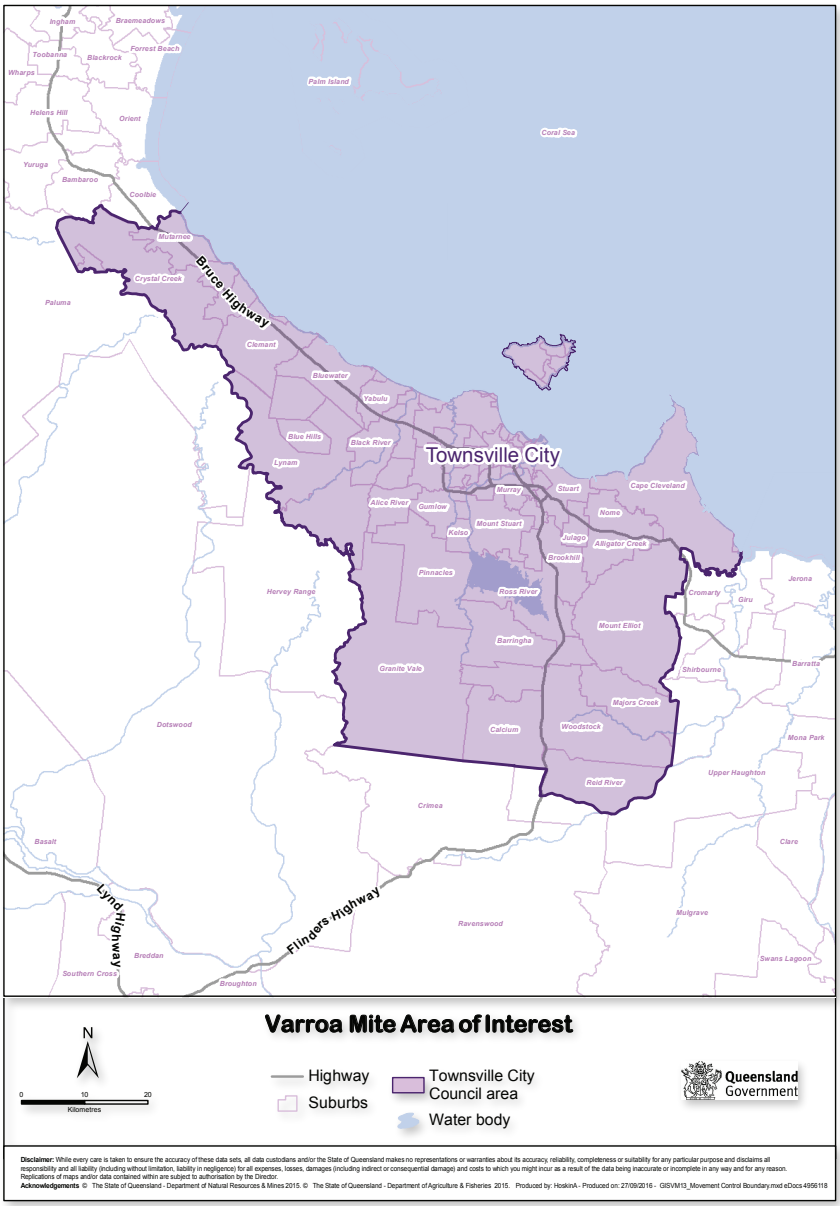

Actual length: Approximately 10 mm

(Illustration only, not actual size)

European honey bee (left) and Asian honey bee (right)

Photo by Paul Zborowski

CS6391 12/16

Club Shop Items - 2017 Price List

These prices are only available to current financial members

Item	Price $$
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

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THE AUSTRALIAN BEE-KEEPER MAGAZINE (ABK)

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LOTS-A-STINGS

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

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

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