



Honeybee Industry Strategic Plan Implementation Committee

LUCERNE AUSTRALIA POLLINATION SYMPOSIUM

16TH SEPTEMBER
KEITH

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

GERALD MARTIN
INDEPENDENT CHAIRMAN HISPIC



Honeybee Industry Strategic Plan Implementation Committee

HISPIC MEMBERS

GERALD MARTIN

IAN ZADOW
TREVOR LANGLEY OAM
LEIGH DUFFIELD
IAN ROBERTS
ALLAN COTTON

MICHAEL STEADMAN
JACK VAN WIJK



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Biosecurity – BeeSMART plus

The place to start

Quality Management –

QA for everyone

Education – world best practice



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Communications

the decision makers, beekeepers, pollination industries, government, packers & the community.

RESOURCE SECURITY

PROFITABILITY



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OUR WORK PROGRAM

POLLINATION AUSTRALIA
IN CANBERRA

MEETINGS WITH POLLINATION INDUSTRIES

INCLUDING LUCERNE AUSTRALIA

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE'S

HONEY PACKERS MEETING

2 DAY WORKSHOP AND
INDUSTRY FORUMS



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THE FORMATION OF POLLINATION AUSTRALIA

A GREAT MOVE – LONG OVERDUE

LOCAL POLLINATOR MEETINGS – BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS AND PREPARING TO WORK TOGETHER.

BIG ISSUES IN THE ADELAIDE HILLS
FERAL BEES NOW DOING MOST OF THE POLLINATION



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GOOD MEETINGS WITH MINISTER'S

Mc EWEN AND CAICA

VERY KEEN TO HELP US RAISE A NUMBER OF ISSUES WITH STATE AND FEDERAL COLLEAGUES

- IMPORT CONDITIONS
- UPDATES TO BEE LEGISLATION
- IMPORT RISK ASSESSMENT
- NATIONAL INDUSTRY ENQUIRY
- LOCALLY – ACCESS TO STATE FLORA
- FUNDING
- INDUSTRY ADVISORY BOARD



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HISPIC MEETING WITH SA HONEY PACKERS

- BUZZ HONEY
- CAPILANO
- SPRING GULLY
- GILBERTS
- PANDA
- BEERENBERG
- APOLOGY FROM BEECHWORTH



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HISPIC MEETING WITH SA HONEY PACKERS

UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT WITH PACKERS TO HAVE ALL HONEY PRODUCERS IN A FULL QA PROGRAM

REALLY IMPORTANT TO BRING ALL APIARISTS TOGETHER- WORKING WITH THEIR PACKER AND THEIR SEED OR FRUIT PRODUCER

THIS WILL BE THE WAY FORWARD
TAKING ON OUR OWN RESPONSIBILITIES



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THE APIARY INDUSTRY CHALLENGES

- Current disease & hive health issues
- Increasing demand for pollination
- Relatively low honey prices
- Low industry funds
- Lack of cohesion
- Low support levels from governments
- Not enough young people entering the industry



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THE GOOD NEWS IS THE INDUSTRY IS STARTING TO TAKE ON THE CHALLENGES

- The way the pollination industries & beekeepers have united in Pollination Australia
- SA beekeepers recently voted to take their levy from 40c/hive to \$1/hive
- Lucerne Australia not only committed to Pollination Australia but holding these sort of information days



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Pollination Industries are committing to the challenges

- Your own Lucerne Australia lead by a great you team really working on their future issues
- Many fruit and nut sectors really looking to get a handle on exactly what they need for pollination
- More research being undertaken into pollination and the best ways to maximise yields with the least amount of bees
- Learning from countries that have recently had to deal with the arrival of the Varroa mites







BeeSMART

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The BeeSmart Program A comprehensive management program

-  We are looking for commitment for all beekeepers to monitor and test for AFB
-  AFB testing has been at reduced costs to try to encourage more to be involved
 -  Response from the active sector has been good
 -  But much more needs to be done to really get on top of AFB



Hive strength! (cont...)

HISPIC



Hive strength! (cont...)

HISPIC





Hive Strength!

- Estimation using area of brood and No. bees/ hive:
 - Criteria:

2 storey hives - full depth frames:	Min.	Ideal
Equiv. frames with ≥ 75% brood, of which ≥ 25% is unsealed	5 FD's	7 FD's
Equiv. frames each covered in bees	9 FD's	12 FD's
Contains a young viable, laying queen	√	√
Is free from notifiable diseases,	√	√
Bee-proof condition – access only via entrance	√	√
Frames of honey	2 FD's	2 FD's
Sufficient empty frames for > brood laying and honey storage until next visit	√	√



Lucerne Seed Grower

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- To protect both yourself and responsible apiarists, growers are encouraged to:
 - Ensure minimum standards are met, by:
 - Using independent consultants/ brokers/ industry guidelines,
 - Requesting results of independent disease testing relevant to supplied hives, eg. BeeSMART AFB Program Honey Test Results,
 - Verifying apiarist participation in industry QA eg B-Qual,
 - Using current Lucerne Seed Pollination Contract,
 - Consult with existing apiarist(s) before sourcing additional hives.



Lucerne Seed Grower

(cont...)

HISPIC

- To protect both yourself and responsible apiarists, growers are encouraged to:
 - Monitor standards during pollination:
 - Use Independent consultants/ brokers,
 - Undertake ute checks (in vehicle/ windows up/ no dogs on back/ time 10:00-15:00 hrs/ temp 20-35°C):
 - **Get apiarist to open hives and demonstrate random hive strength, and/ or**
 - **Drive thru' apiary and note flight activity in/ out of:**
 - Hive entrances and other gaps in hives - between boxes/ holes/ under lids,
 - Other material on site - extraction van/ stacks of boxes/ honey containers/ barrows,



Lucerne Seed Grower

(cont...)

HISPIC

- To protect both yourself and responsible apiarists, growers are encouraged to:
 - Monitor standards - post pollination:
 - Where hives/ equipment are left in-situ post-pollination, they should be attended to by apiarist at least every 4 weeks to:
 - Prevent die outs/ robbing,
 - Attend to stock/ wind damage.
 - If these standards are not being met, growers can contact PIRSA, particularly if you are concerned about dead/ diseased/ exposed hives or material.



Hive Strength

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