



Next meeting | Wednesday 4th July 2018

Where | Main Hall, Johnsonville Community Centre, Moorefield Rd

Topics for June meeting

Beginners session in the upstairs meeting room 6.45pm start
Topic: Types of hives and hive building - PK and John Burnet

Main Meeting in the main all at 7.30pm
Annual General Meeting
Making skin cream using beeswax

Contents

- 2 Frank Lindsay – a note from the President
- 3 Photo competition
- 4 Viv Harris demonstrates the making of Galens skin cream
- 5 Bayer buys Monsanto
- 7 Eden Park- a hive of activity
- 8 How honeybees keep warm in winter
- 9 Rats in the bee shed
- 10 Beehive air inhalation... Really!!
- 11 Apiculture NZ Update
- 12 WBA AGM Agenda
- 13 Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2017
- 15 Things to do in June
- 16 Who can I speak to?



Frank Lindsay – a note from the President



Some councils are now insisting that ‘all’ hives be placed 40 metres back from road boundaries following a few complaints from the public. As an industry we wouldn’t want to see this implemented countrywide as this could rob us of valuable sites, especially in the steep backcountry.

We should consider the public and place hives out of site from roads, behind hedges or a suitable barrier so that the principle of ‘out of sight, out of mind’ prevails. It’s also healthier for the bees if they are placed in a sunny, warm sheltered spot, close to a water supply. Perhaps we need to instate a code of ethics that includes best practices.

The hobbyist starting off faces the same predicament: ‘Can I have a hive in the garden?’ Councils generally will allow you to keep bees provided they do not create a nuisance.

Check with your neighbours to see if they are allergic. Most people will say they are allergic as they swell with bee stings, but this is a normal reaction even if a whole limb swells. The person we have to be conscious of is the one who carries an epinephrine auto-injector (epipen) and needs adrenaline immediately after being stung. If this is the situation then you will need to find another spot to locate your hives.

Place hives in a sheltered, sunny spot in the garden at least four metres away from the boundary. Again, the general rule is ‘out of sight, out of mind’. Perhaps plant runner beans on a trellis to take the neighbour’s focus away from seeing the hive. If bees are forced to fly over people’s heads, they are far less likely to



come into conflict with humans. Face the hive so the bees' flight path is away from the neighbour's washing line. Provide a water supply for the bees – we don't want them visiting a neighbour's swimming pool. Put in a small pond with water lilies or hyacinth before you take possession of a hive.

The only spot you may have could be on a balcony or carport roof. Supers of honey are heavy but there are ways of managing this by putting frames of honey in nuc boxes and carrying these down safely.

Some of you might not be able to have your own hive but you can still enjoy bees by planting a garden and teaming up with a beekeeper close by.

It takes about five years to learn to be a beekeeper. There are so many aspects to beekeeping that you never stop learning.

Photo competition

Remember to bring your photos to the July meeting. Make sure they comply with the Photo Competition Rules which can be found on the www.beehive.org website. The photos will be judged and displayed at the August meeting.



Good Luck Everyone.



Galens skin cream recipe

INGREDIENTS

- 100ml Olive Oil
- 100ml Almond oil
- 40g Beeswax
- 2 pinches (approx 1/8-1/4 tsp) Borax
- 150ml Rosewater or Lavender water
- Essential oils (I used Lavender and Spearmint, 20 drops of each)

Viv Harris will show us how to prepare this wonderful cream at the July meeting.

PREPARATION

- Melt the beeswax in 100ml of oil (in a double boiler) then take off the heat and stir in the rest of the oil
- Also heat in separate double boiler, (until hot to touch) Rosewater or Lavender water
- Add Borax (dissolve in the Lavender or Rosewater by stirring)
- Using an electric stick beater, gradually add the OIL to the WATER (this absorbs best into the skin)
- If the mix separates, allow to cool a little then keep beating
- When it's the consistency of condensed milk, add the essential oils of your choice and pour into sterilized jars. (Spray the jars with meths and allow to evaporate **or** boil). Don't put the lids on until completely cold or condensation will form and allow bacteria to grow.

This cream doesn't have a long shelf life so keep in the cool and use within 2-3 months. If mould grows on the surface during this time, throw out and make a new batch!



BAYER buys MONSANTO



Originally, it was just a name — Olga Monsanto's name, to be precise.

Around the turn of the 20th century, she married a man named John Francis Queeny. He named his artificial sweetener company after her. And over decades, that company expanded from the sweetness business into agri-chemicals, where it began to dominate the industry.

These days Monsanto is shorthand for, as NPR's Dan Charles has put it, "lots of things that some people love to hate": Genetically modified crops, which Monsanto invented. Seed patents, which Monsanto has fought to defend. Herbicides such as Monsanto's Roundup, which protesters have sharply criticized for its possible health risks. Big agriculture in general, of which Monsanto was the reviled figurehead.

And soon Monsanto will be no more.

Bayer, the German pharmaceutical giant and pesticide powerhouse, announced in 2016 it would be buying Monsanto in an all-cash deal for more than \$60 billion. Now, as the merger approaches, Bayer has confirmed what many suspected: In the merger, the politically charged name "Monsanto" will be disappearing. The combined company will be known simply as Bayer, while product names will remain the same.

The move is not exactly a surprise — it makes sense that Bayer might want to weed out some of the intense negative associations associated with the



Monsanto brand. In a way, it's an indication of how successful anti-Monsanto protesters have been in shaping public perception. In the company's latest statement, Bayer implicitly acknowledged how hostile debates over genetically modified crops and other agricultural products have become.

"We aim to deepen our dialogue with society. We will listen to our critics and work together where we find common ground," the chairman of Bayer's board of management, Werner Baumann, said in the statement. "Agriculture is too important to allow ideological differences to bring progress to a standstill. We have to talk to each other. We need to listen to each other. It's the only way to build bridges."

NPR's Charles has reported extensively on genetically modified organisms. As he has noted the political and social impacts of Monsanto's disappearance might reverberate not just in the U.S., but in Europe. In the U.S., one question is whether protesters who have joined "Marches Against Monsanto" will "still march if there's no Monsanto," he says.

Meanwhile, in Europe, there has long been broad opposition to genetically modified crops. After Bayer acquires Monsanto, "suddenly, the leading seller of GMOs [will] be European, rather than American," Charles writes. "Would that matter? It's hard to say, but it seems possible."

Bayer's acquisition of Monsanto is part of a larger trend of consolidation in the agriculture industry — already dominated by massive corporations. Once the merger is complete, on June 7, one of the world's largest pesticide producers will be combined with the world's largest seed company.

By any name, it will be the world's largest seed and ag-chemical company.

Bee Culture

The Magazine of American Beekeeping



Eden Park – a hive of activity



Photo / Getty Images

Eden Park will be a hive of activity at the All Blacks vs France game tonight - thanks to 120,000 bees that moved in this week.

Two beehives have been placed in the Gate A lot (behind the ticket office), and another two at the eastern end of the P5 parking lot.

The number of bees, which travel up to 3km in the winter and 5km in summer to search for pollen, is expected to grow from 120,000 to 360,000 in the summer months.

The Eden Park Trust worked with a group called BeezThingz to bring the initiative to the stadium, in the hope of eventually producing Eden Park honey.

Trust chief executive Nick Sautner said the project reflected the trust's commitment to sustainable and community initiatives at Eden Park.



How bees keep warm in winter

The Honeybee Cluster



The honey bee workers form a cluster around the queen and brood to keep them warm. They keep their heads pointed inward. Bees on the inside of the cluster can feed on the stored honey. The outer layer of workers insulates their sisters inside the sphere of honey bees.

As ambient temperatures rise, the bees on the outside of the group separate a bit, to allow more air flow. As temperatures fall, the cluster tightens, and the outer workers pull together.

As the ambient temperature drops, the worker bees actively generate heat within the hive. First, they feed on honey for energy. Then, the honey bees shiver. They vibrate their flight muscles but keep their wings still, raising their body temperatures. With thousands of bees shivering constantly, the temperature at the centre of the cluster will warm up considerably, to about 33° C!

When the workers on the outer edge of the cluster get cold, they push to the centre of the group, and other bees take a turn shielding the group from the winter weather.

The photo shows the heat of the cluster in the hive

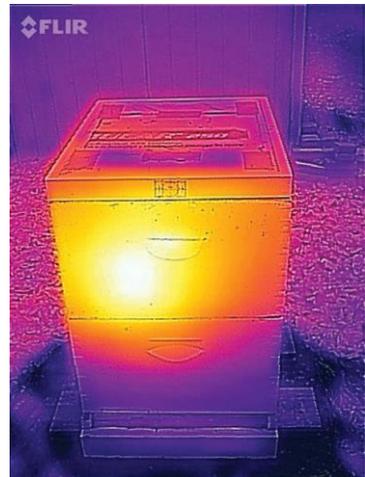


Photo: BeeCulture.com



Rats in the bee shed by Eva Durrant



At the end of the honey season, I placed my clears in the freezer for three days to kill off any wax moth larvae and eggs and then stored the frames in supers in the shed. The boxes were stacked crossways so that air and light could get into the frames thereby deterring any visiting wax moth that likes it dark.



However, I did not think about rats and mice. One morning when I went into the shed I found a real mess - about eight frames devastated by a rat (or two) and comb torn to bits. The floor of the shed was covered with shredded comb.

I had to buy some plastic snap boxes and put all the remaining intact frames in these. But the rats were still at large!



SOLUTION – My husband Barry attached a Good Nature 24 rat trap to the wall of the shed, and the Very Next Day, we found a dead rat and the Following Day we found another dead rat. Good catch by grandson Max.

A friend suggested that we could use old honey comb as a lure in other traps in use in Trelissick Park near our house. We will give it a go.



Beehive air inhalation...really!?!

In the actual beehive air inhalation new insights are made. A long list of illnesses exists which are noticeably improved after application of beehive air treatment. Among other things, the combatting of some types of pain has shown to be successful. Beehive air inhalation has proven to be very effective against respiratory illnesses, but the most effective has turned out to be the fight against immune disorders, such as allergies, susceptibility to infections, or chronic sinusitis.



The dependable efficacy of beehive air has by now caught the attention of noteworthy representatives from the medical research community. Presently, people from the whole of Germany and other countries are treated with beehive air and the decisive success of the inhalation draws people from beyond Germany, and even Europe. Because of its high compatibility, beehive air inhalation can be equally well prescribed to young people and to old people. Especially with respiratory illnesses like COPD, bronchitis, asthma or sinusitis the inhalation shows itself to be very efficient. With immune disorders like allergies, rheumatism, or neurodermatitis a marked improvement in the level of discomfort can be observed.



For clients the special website is also of interest, because it allows them to virtually estimate the extent and duration of their inhalation course in advance. In this sense beehive air inhalation provides reasons to be hopeful that in the near future an effective, natural, simple, cheap, and also very efficient inhalation for young and old will be available.

From <https://bienenluft.org>

Editor's Note: Take with a grain of salt.



APICULTURE NEW ZEALAND

From the CE, Karin Kos

Update: Friday 29th June. This week I caught up with some of the team from the New Zealand Institute of Plant and Food Research, as well as attending the Manuka Appellation Society's AGM in Hamilton. I caught up with Dr Mark Goodwin, Michelle Taylor, James Sainsbury and Nicolas Bordes from Plant and Food Research and heard about the projects they are working on around bee diseases like nosema and varroa, to pollination and bee health. I was impressed with the breadth of the work but also how their research is focused on delivering practical benefits for beekeepers, including increasing honey production.

As many of you will be aware, the New Zealand Institute of Plant and Food Research undertakes a lot of work for our industry, with Dr Mark Goodwin the acknowledged honey bee and pollination science expert. Mark is retiring from Plant and Food this week but will still be very much involved as a fellow of the Institute. He will continue to work with our industry and he will be attending Conference including presenting at the Science Workshop on Monday 23 July. We will be acknowledging Mark's contribution at Conference and also through the NZ Beekeeper Journal.



*Photo At: the New Zealand Institute of Plant and Food Research, Ruakura, Hamilton
Left to Right: Dr Mark Goodwin, James Sainsbury, Karin Kos, Michelle Taylor, and Nicolas Bordes*



2018 Annual General Meeting of the Wellington Beekeepers Association

AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of previous AGM
3. Matters arising
4. President's Report
5. Treasurers Report
6. Election of Officers –
 - President
 - Treasurer
 - Secretary
 - Additional roles of -
 - webmaster
 - newsletter
 - librarian
 - general committee members
 - Bio-Security Officer
7. Membership Fee
8. AFB Fee and infected hive reimbursement
9. General Business



MINUTES OF THE WELLINGTON BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION 2017 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The meeting started at 7.50pm

Apologies

Jim Hepburn, Jane Harding, James Wittington

John Burnet moved that the apologies be accepted/seconded John Randall

Minutes of last AGM

Accepted as true record of the meeting. Moved James Scott/ seconded PK Tan

Matters arising

There were no matters arising from the previous AGM Minutes

Presidents Report

The 78th Annual Report of the WBA was presented by Frank Lindsay. Eva Durrant moved that the report be accepted/seconded Viv Harris.

Treasurers Report

John Burnet presented the WBA Financial Statements for the year ending 31 May 2017. John explained \$5 of each membership is put into our AFB funds which reimburse the cost of hive hardware to members who had burned hives which were found to have AFB.

Reimbursement was made for 7 claims at \$120 per hive.

John Burnet moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted/ seconded Stewart Turner.



Nominations for:

President

Frank Lindsay. Nominated by John Randall/ seconded James Scott

Treasurer

John Burnet. Nominated by Stewart Turner/ seconded Eva

Secretary

Jane Harding. Nominated by Eva Durrant /seconded Trish

Vice President

Call for nominations:

Sharon. Nominated by John Randall / seconded Eva Durrant

Committee members

PK Tan, Eva Durrant, Tony Coad, James Scott, John Randall, Viv Harris,

Librarian

Julia White. Tony Coad/seconded Eva Durrant (Julia is seeking a replacement for this position)

Membership fees

John Burnet spoke for an increase of \$5 to \$25 pa membership fees for the following year 2018/19

The cost of printing the newsletter next year will increase to \$25 plus postage.

Proposed John Burnet / seconded James Scott.

There were 7 claims for AFB infected hives @ 120 per hive approx. John Burnet proposed that the AFB levy stays the same for this year 2017. John Burnet/Mike Kea

Bio security officer

This will be a strategy policy role. The Bio security officer would become a training officer for the Club. Frank / Tony Coad to co-opt a person for this position.



Frank described the outbreaks of AFB in the Wellington areas. In future members will be notified by email when AFB is found within 3kms near you. Stewart Turner will ask Tony Roper for an area report from the AFB website.

Hive Beetle

Members were urged to check for hive beetle which may travel down the country to our region. Hive beetles like to use coreflute as a refuge. Frank advised to put a piece of transparent corflute on top of the crown board and check for hive beetle when opening the hive and report any sightings to him.

AGM closed 8.20

Things to do in July

- Sort out old combs and render them down.
- Purchase new frames. If you buy plastic frames do so early so that the plastic smell has time to reduce.
- Make up new hear (bases, roofs, split boards, feeders, etc, ahead of spring.
- Check honey stores by 'hefting' hives
- Feed sugar syrup if honey stores are low
- Keep the grass around the hives sort
- Winter is also the time to get a little education – find a good beekeeping book to read.





Who can I speak to?

President

Frank Lindsay (04) 478 3367 lindsays.apiaries@clear.net.nz

Treasurer

John Burnet (04) 232 7863 johnburnet@xtra.co.nz

Secretary

Jane Harding (04) 421 2417 janeh@xtra.co.nz

Best times to Jane by are evenings, and Friday/Saturday/Sunday

Newsletter editor

Eva Durrant (04) 470 7879 or 027 3118700 edurrant@xtra.co.nz

Committee Members

Viv Harris 4787521 vivharris@xtra.co.nz

PK Tan 0211093388 PK Tan pk.propserv@gmail.com

John Randall 4769959 westernbeeline@gmail.com

Richard Braczek 0210344311 ibraczek@paradise.net.nz

Meeting location

Johnsonville Community Centre,
Moorefield Rd, Johnsonville

