

BEE NEWS

September 2024

Issue 151

Monthly newsletter of the Sunshine Coast Beekeepers Inc.

www.sunshinecoastbeekeepers.com.au



Photograph of bee by Graham Gibb

President's Report

Happy Spring everyone! With the change in weather there are many things to do in our hives. At our monthly meetings we have been highlighting the increase in early swarms this year. It stands to reason that

this indicates a busy early season is upon us. I would encourage all beekeepers to check their hives now and regularly for signs of overpopulation or crowding. Things to consider include; harvesting honey, checking for queen cells, splitting hives, or adding an extra super. Remember that you can discuss any concerns with your hives at our monthly meeting, or any Saturday morning if you want to stop by the club to chat. Our club's main goal is to learn from one another and build our community on the coast. Don't ever be afraid to ask and learn.

A few years ago, Alby Taylor and I met with a group of enthusiastic beekeepers from Bundaberg. They had heard about our club and were keen to create their own group. We shared our mission and values with their team, and they created a really productive group of their own. We have seen them since, but recently their club had to fold. The club donated their funds to us, and I wanted to share

NEXT MEETING

Saturday, 28 September 2024 at the Club House, 43 Farrell Street Yandina.

Morning tea and catch up starts 9.30am, BYO plate of food to share. Meeting to start at 10.00am.

Speaker - Grant Eisenmenger

Demonstration using a nucleus hive and also on moving hives

our gratitude with our community.

At our August meeting, we crossed live to Vice-President Grant in India. Grant selflessly tasted a variety of mead produced in the country. He then reported to us which one was his favourite. What a guy! Let's hope there is any left for us to taste when we see Grant next!

The committee are working hard on our Christmas party plans for November. If you have any items you or your company could contribute to our much anticipated raffle, please come chat with us.

Have a great Spring everyone.

Katie Livock

President

Biosecurity Update

Biosecurity Workshop Update - A notice was sent out by DAF to all registered Beekeepers in Qld about the workshops.

The topics to be discussed at the Workshop are:

- Understanding varroa mite and its impacts;
- The importance of monitoring and treatment thresholds;
- Integrated pest management and varroa mite;
- Chemical treatment options including organic options;
- Brood location, frame rotation and management; and
- Best practice record keeping.

If you cannot attend the Maroochydore Workshop, there will be workshops in other locations in due course.

An attempt will be made to make contact with all past members to inform them about varroa mite and the workshops

Checking for Varroa Mite

Not enough people are registering their Varroa checks to 123bees. More need to register and more beekeepers need to check their hives.

Scan this QR code to report your hive surveillance tests.



Feel free to contact me with any questions or advice on biosecurity matters.

Remember it is important to check your hives for varroa so that the true Qld situation is known.

John Baker.

Workshops for New Beekeepers

Our last Beekeeper's Course for 2024 will be held on the following date:

- 12 October 2024

Booking is essential.

Book online at:

www.sunshinecoastbeekeepers.com.au/workshops.



* Freepik

The Club Online

To save our members time searching online, the Club's website has links to the best beekeeping information and websites we can find.

www.sunshinecoastbeekeepers.com.au

Also, check out our Facebook page for more Club news.

www.facebook.com/pg/sunshinecoastbeekeepersaustralia/posts/?ref=page_internal

Fence Securing Members' Parking

Thank you Evan for erecting our new fence. Evan will put some yellow chain from Bunnings across it to make it look more permanent and Graham was asked to make a new sign – “Beekeeping Parking Only”.

Garden Working Bee at the Shed

The grounds are now looking tidy thanks to Steve Watkins who mows the lawn and a group of volunteers who assisted last Sunday 15th September – Bryan O’Neill, Scott Cavanaugh, Stephen & Teresa Smith, Bill Spencer and Russell Cook.

Winter / Spring Swarm Season

Anyone interested to become trained as a swarm catcher and volunteer please contact the Secretary.

Swarms

Southern: Ian Meyers, 0412 694 058.

North Coast, Sippy Downs: Grant Eisenmenger, 0401 720 004.

Buderim: Tom Cowburn, 0418 143 206.

North and central areas: Alby Taylor, 0418 882 282.

Maleny and surrounds: John Baker, 0418 791 149.

Sale, Purchase, Swap

A separate sheet is attached to the newsletter each month headed “ Sale Purchase Swap”. This will be for the information of members only and will not be downloaded onto the website with the newsletter.

If you would like to list anything could you please send an email with photograph if required to the Newsletter Editor at the following email address: lindaeb6081@gmail.com by the Friday the week prior to the meeting each month. This will coincide with our committee meeting when any additional inserts to the Newsletter are discussed. This provides me with a deadline.

Saturday Rosters 2024

We would like to thank all the members who volunteered to work at the Club over the preceding months.

SEPTEMBER

28/09/24	General Meeting	Ian and Gillian Meyers	
----------	-----------------	------------------------	--

OCTOBER

05/10/24	Open	Joanne Brayshaw Ron Hulm	Lynne Hulm
12/10/24	Course	Alby, Tom, Graham, Evan Catering - Mary Spencer	Katie Livock
19/10/24	Harvest	Fran Burns Rob Questrel	Tom Cowburn
26/10/24	General Meeting	Stephen and Chris Partleton	

NOVEMBER

02/11/24	Open	Griffin Pengelley Kylie Aalbers	Grant Eisenmenger
09/11/24	Open	Jason March David Macklyn	Kathleen March
16/11/24	Open	Damien Casserley Ken Harrison	John Baker
23/11/24	Harvest	Tony Minto	Graham Gibb
30/11/24	Christmas	Christmas Party	

DECEMBER

07/12/24	Open	Dioanna Bannick Ron Button	Paul Bonner
14/12/24	Open	Willis and Gerry Hannan	David Lee

Club closed from 14/12/2024 to 04/01/2025

If the rostered dates don't suit OR you are unable to attend please email Lynne Hulm - secretarysbees@gmail.com

Honey Extraction Dates

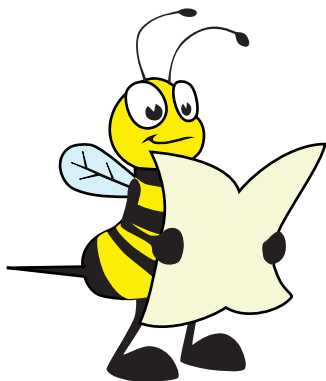
NOTE - all members wanting to use the Club facility for extraction of honey must first book with Lynne Hulm the Secretary to make sure we are not overbooked. You must let Lynne know how many frames that you want to extract honey from.

- **19 October**
- **23 November**

Please ensure that you assist with the cleaning up following extraction of honey.

Borrowing the Clubs spinners to extract honey at home:

- The spinners have been bought for the use of all members.
- Contact the Secretary Lynne Hulm to place your name on the list to borrow a spinner.
- The Spinner must be returned to the club by 9:00am the following Saturday cleaned and ready for the next member to borrow.



BEES IN THE NEWS

Bees 'starving' for pollen as native flowers fail to bloom: ABC Landline August 21024,

By Andrew Chounding

In the sandy hills of the Yanchep National Park, Anton Esterhuysen is on the hunt for flowers.

The native bushland on Western Australia's central coast would normally be bursting with springtime blooms but after four years of increasingly dry winters, only a handful of plants are starting to bud.

Western Australia has the

Update of the Website

Kathleen has updated the website for a direct link to register your hive and also to house the latest roster.

Lynne to ask Kathleen to put on our Home page - a direct link to 123Bees to register our Varroa Tests to make it simple for everyone.

Used Battery Returns

Now that the scheme has become more widely known, people can drop their used batteries into Bunning's, Office Works, IGA, and most Coles and Woolworths stores. Lions have done their best to raise the awareness but don't have the resources to go it alone.

Thank you for your participation.

world's largest collection of wildflowers, with more than 12,000 species bursting into bloom each year, but as the seasons become dryer that number has declined.

Bee antidote to deadly pesticides shows promise: Phys Org September 2024, by Krishna Ramanujan, Cornell University

Scientists may have found an antidote to pesticides that are directly and indirectly killing bees, according to

a new paper published in Nature Sustainability showing promising early results in common eastern bumblebees.

The findings are critically important, as bees provide essential pollination services for close to 80% of the world's crops, but annual losses of managed U.S. honeybee hives averaged up to 44% between 2017 and 2020. Dozens of studies have documented regional and global declines of wild bees, according to the paper.

The proof-of-concept study on bumblebees describes the use of tiny ingestible hydrogel microparticles—5 microns in diameter and only visible under a microscope—that physically bind to neonicotinoids, a class of pesticides banned in Europe and still in limited use in the U.S. Once absorbed, the pesticides and microparticles pass through the bee's digestive tract and are excreted.

Pesticides in combination can have unexpected effects on the development of honeybees: Phys Org

September 2024 by Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg

Honeybees are social insects. Their colony only survives as a community, and healthy new generations are very important. It is therefore not surprising that honeybees invest significant care and resources into their offspring: nurse bees feed the young larvae food made from nectar and pollen.

However, pollen, in particular, can contain residues of various insecticides and other pesticides. It is therefore very likely that bee larvae are exposed to a complex mixture of chemicals.

The effects of pesticide combinations at low environmentally relevant doses have otherwise been rarely investigated. "As our study shows, this is urgently needed because the agents can interact and reinforce each other's effects.

The combined effects found by the researchers could have an impact on the entire bee colony as their next generation

could be harmed. In addition, solitary wild bees could be particularly affected due to the more direct pesticide effects, whereas honeybees in their large colonies could buffer the effects of pesticides to a certain extent.

Providing blooms all season long may be key to attracting pollinators, no matter what landscape is near your garden: Phys Org September 2024 by Public Library of Science

The authors worked with four types of garden: three planted solely with plants from just one family—Asteraceae (daisies), Fabaceae (legumes), or Lamiaceae (mints)—and one garden composed of a mixture of plants from all three families.

The authors add, "We often wonder how the area surrounding our gardens affects the pollinators visiting our flowers. In our study, we found that the number and types of flowers in the garden itself mattered more to pollinator abundance and diversity than the surrounding local or landscape context."

2024 Executive and Committee

President	Katie Livock	presidentscbees@gmail.com	0414 843 342
Vice President	Grant Eisenmenger	vicepresidentscbees@gmail.com	0401 720 004
Secretary	Lynne Hulm	secretaryscbees@gmail.com	0421 720 628
Treasurer	Paul Bonner	treasurerscbees@gmail.com	0403 432 952
Newsletter Editor	Linda Blackwell	lindaeb6081@gmail.com	0409 848 466
Facebook/website	Kathleen March	kathleenmarch00@gmail.com	0409 449 904
Biosecurity	John Baker	mail@johnbaker.com.au	0418 791 149
Committee	Graham Gibb	graham@signedbyme.com.au	0414 288 814
Committee	Tom Cowburn	tjcowburn@bigpond.com	0418 143 206
Committee	David Lee	leesbees@lisco.com.au	0414 757 220
Committee	Evan Sanders	katiemary70@yahoo.com.au	0419 764 421

Club Patron: Alby Taylor

Life members: Merv Wruck, Chris Johnson, Bill Spencer, Ken Evans

* Images and artworks are designed by Freepik www.freepik.com

Disclaimer

The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Sunshine Coast Beekeepers Inc. The Sunshine Coast Beekeepers Inc accepts no liability for the consequences of any actions taken on the basis of the information provided in this newsletter.