



Monthly Newsletter

Issue 199 August 2021

Upcoming Events and Notices

This Club Day: 7th August

Next Club Day: 4th September

Whareora Hall 10.00am

What to bring:

- Your **Membership card** to show at the door
- **Cash** for the produce table
- **Produce** for the produce table
- **Library books** you have borrowed
- **Bee suit** (Club has some for members to use also)

Directions:

From SH1, turn off to *Kensington*. Turn left onto *Mill Road*, then right at *Whareora Road*. Keep on this road until it joins *Pataua North Road* and carry on for a few more minutes.

The hall is on the right. Please **do not** park on the road, use the paddock adjacent to the Hall when the car park is full.

Election of Officers

WE CAN NOT CONTINUE LIKE THIS!
Two months after the AGM, we are still yet to receive any interest in taking on the roles of President and Vice President.

The committee will now work through its options regarding the future of the Whangarei Bee Club.

August Club Day

Our guest speaker will be Kim Kneijber with a talk covering the following. Bee Prepared:

- What have you got in your beekeeping kit?
- Are you prepared for your hive management?
- Can you read your bees?
- Are you prepared for a problem with your bees?
- Are you prepared for an exotic?

Kim is a former President of Auckland Bee Club, and now co-President of Rodney Beekeepers Club.

Club Day Duty Roster

Set Up Hall From 9am	Melva & Hilton Ward
Set up in Kitchen 9am and Set up Lunch	Sue Young
Wash up Kitchen from Lunch	Sue Young
Pack up / Clean Hall From 12-30	Ann & Clive

All of these jobs are easy and require very little time and effort, please sign up on the roster at Club Day. A big "THANK YOU" for your help.

News from last Club Day

Club Day Summary 3 July 2021

The annual Apiculture New Zealand (ApiNZ) conference was held in Rotorua from June 24th – 26th. Paul attended and noted the following:

- Varroa research from the US has seen varroa mites getting larger and maybe contributing to miticide resistance as more chemical is required to be effective
- Deformed Wing Virus (DWV) in the US has mutated to a more virulent strain and can kill bees without varroa as a host vector
- Robbing screens reduced varroa
- Bee movement between hives spreads varroa – more drift bees equate to more mite numbers
- Theoretically varroa mites cannot reproduce above 38C. The bee brood can survive that hence heat treatment devices have been trialled. Randy Oliver is not convinced they work.
- Randy is using dish detergent instead of alcohol washes to determine mite numbers. Cheaper and easier to use (SCIENTIFICBEEKEEPING.COM).
- For us we need mite numbers to be < 1 mite / 100 bees to avoid fast mite build-up over summer.
- Heritability of varroa tolerance is poor. A great queen only imparts half her genes to the brood, so very slow progress.
- Formic acid – provides a good fast mite knockdown but the bees do not like it so do not do it at dusk as the bees will stay out front. MiteAway Quick Strips work on the first day. Repeat after 10 days.
- Oxalic acid – 25g in two cellulose sponges (4mm thick) work well. Greater surface exposure area gives better results. For a single brood box, he recommends using a staple to increase bee contact, rather than a pad/towel on top of the frames. Oxalic has almost been approved for use in the US. Not resistance seen yet. Still unsure how it works, possibly crystallises, and blocks the mite's pores.
- Hopguard (Hop volatile acids) has recently been introduced in the US, but still not proven to work.
- NZ Bee Pathogen Program - Nosema ceranae has been found in 2/3 of North Island hives. Nosema apis has been found in all hives. Most prevalent in Spring. Dysentery causes Nosema. Lotmaria was found in all hives and was most prevalent in Autumn.
- Pollen samples from more than 1000 apiaries in the US showed 82% had manufactured chemical residues. Possibility this chemical loading contributes to Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD).

Nic Nacs

Paul talked about Hawkeye for wasp control. There is Wasp Lure and Wasp Bait – for details click [HERE](#)

David & David

David P is still seeing frames of brood. Possibility of swarming before the drone's hatch.

David H has 2 box hives and will be feeding soon. Whangarei hives look better than his Waipu ones.

Possibility of varroa bombs from abandoned hives. There is a feeling there will be a lot of hives for sale this season. There was a discussion on whether it is sensible to buy second-hand hives or not. Possibility of undetected AFB.

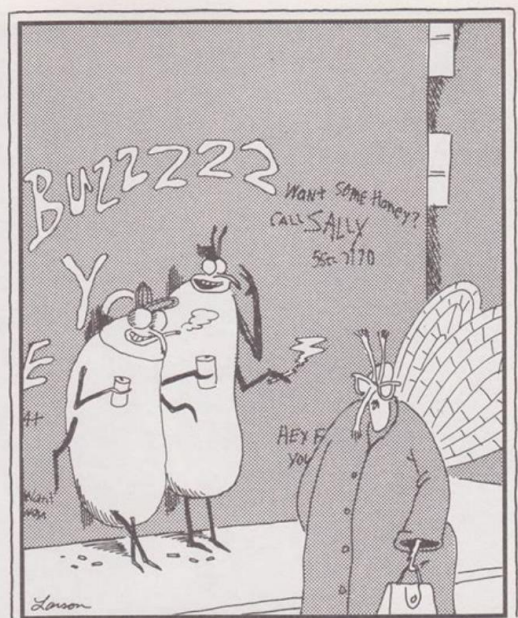
David P is still using oxalic towels in his hives. No resistance seen yet.

Nosema ceranae maybe still around – expect to see it in Spring if at all.

Next month (around the 20th August normally) expect to see a big increase in bee numbers.

Think 6 weeks ahead i.e. one generation of bees. Look for any damaged queen (physical damage) and replace her if needed. Check for swarm cells.

Trevor noted there is still lots of AFB around and this is unusual between seasons.



Killer bees are generally described as starting out as larvae delinquents.

Set up for spring

After a long, cold winter spent huddled inside, everyone is looking forward to spring – bees included. For your hives, spring is a time of intense activity. Egg-laying, brood-raising, and nectar-gathering all start to ramp up after being almost non-existent in winter.

Read more [HERE](#)

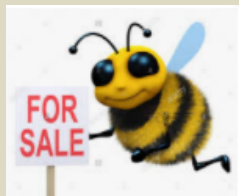
Free lids and bases

Richard Kidd from Marshwood Apiaries in Warkworth has surplus bases and lids that are free to a good home if anyone at the club is interested. He would prefer to let them go on groups of 10 or more as collection of single bases and lids are too time consuming to make work for the business.

Please call or email Richard for further information.

richard@marshwoodapiaries.co.nz

021501128



Danny Vendt may still have mated Queens for sale. Pre orders can be picked up from Pat at the hall on club day.

Ph Danny 027 487 9802

Mike Fox: Selling Bees, Queens and Honey

Get your order in early for next season's queens
0211651283 or 094396001
mike.fox.mybuzz@gmail.com

AFB checks: Trevor Clifton is available (0.72 cents/ km and \$20 / hive).

Email: puwerahoney@gmail.com

Ph: 4329511 or 0274330155

What to do in July

- Re-wax frames if necessary.
- Continue feeding sugar syrup and supplement if necessary.
- Check stored gear and secure from rodents and pests.
- Make up new equipment for replacement or increase of hives.
- Clean up hiveware and equipment for coming season.
- Begin feeding pollen supplements.
- Maintain apiary surroundings.

Farmlands Card

Just a reminder that Whangarei Bee Club is a shareholder at Farmlands, so all members get the shareholder discount on all their products - not just bee related items.

You will need to show your WBC membership card and quote our Farmlands Account Number: 610123531

They currently stock 400mL square jars and lids



APICULTURE
NEW ZEALAND

[APICULTURE NZ Website](#)

[Conference Takeaways](#)

With around 1000 delegates and 60 trade displays filling the Rotorua Energy Events Centre, the Apiculture New Zealand (ApiNZ) National Conference acted as a three day show of positivity for a struggling beekeeping industry, June 24-26.

At its peak the national conference drew closer to 1500 delegates, but, given the drop in non-manuka honey prices experienced over the past three years, this year's turnout could be seen as a healthy one for ApiNZ. Chief executive Karin Kos agreed, saying she was pleased with the support given to the event by beekeepers.

Click on the title to read more.

Click [HERE](#) to access video presentation from the conference

[Apiarist's Advocate](#)

Apiarist's Advocate first published in August 2019 and has done so every month since. It is produced by Patrick & Laura Dawkins, beekeepers in sunny Marlborough at the top of the South Island. Along with a team of freelance writers and contributors, Patrick assembles a range of stories pertaining to New Zealand beekeeping and apiculture each month, which are published via the eMagazine and on their site.

Click on title to view site.

Click [HERE](#) to view July e-Mag

[BUZZ OFF, BEES. POLLINATION ROBOTS ARE HERE.](#)

Advances in artificial intelligence are helping some startups develop another way to pollinate plants, which could increase yield compared with insects and human workers.

Click on the title to read more



[New Zealanders taking up beekeeping in record numbers.](#)

Despite a host of challenges facing bees and their keepers, the number of registered hives in New Zealand climbed from 500,000 in 2014 to 869,000 in 2020, according to data from the Ministry for Primary Industries.

Click on title to read more.

[The 'cut-throat' industry of New Zealand beekeeping](#)

A veteran beekeeper has barely made enough profit as he watches prices of New Zealand honey continue to plummet.

John Berry, a third generation Hawke's Bay apiarist, with more than 50 years' experience with bees, has had an "OK" season, but is doubtful he will make a profit this year from clover or bush honey.

Click on title to read more.

Financial Statement

Whangarei Bee Club Incorporation

Opening Bank Balances as at 20 June 21

Operating Account	28,399.01
Savings Account	404.99
Total Funds	28,804.00

Plus Income From

Membership Fees-New x4	535.00
Renew Membership	2,705.00
	3,240.00
	32,044.00

Less Expenditure

Bank Fees	10.60
Xero Fees - Six Months	329.89
Web Site - OnLine designs	42.55
Whareora Hall Hire	80.00
Pizza's & Milk, Biscuits, Coffee,	334.22
Refund Double Payment	115.00
	912.26
	31,131.74

Total Balances as at 20 July 21

Operating Account	30,726.75
Savings Account	404.99
	31,131.74

Other News and websites to check out

[New treatment could make honey bees immune to pesticides](#)

[Honey bees are still dying at high rates](#)

[MPI is working with beekeepers to improve productivity, support marketing and export opportunities, and control pests and diseases.](#)

[Introducing NZ honey varieties](#)

[Watching out for Wax Moths](#)

Call for contributions

All you budding writers out there, we are looking for contributions to the monthly newsletter. It can be a one-off article or an ongoing piece. If you have something to add, then please email it to wbccommunication@gmail.com



Thanks to all contributors of the Newsletter



Thanks to our sponsors for their support of the Honey Competition at Whangarei Bee Club:

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[Golden Bay Cement](#)

[Farmlands](#)

[PGG](#)

