

Whangarei Bee Club INC

Newsletter



July 2016, Issue 139

Plant-of-the-Month *Contributed by John Beauregard*

Fourth in a series of short articles of interest to Northland beekeepers, especially non-commercial beekeepers



Image from www.teara.govt.nz

Five-finger (*Pseudopanax arboreous*, formerly *Neopanax arboreous*) is one of the most common native shrubs or small trees of the New Zealand bush and of bush margins. The branching habit and rapid growth make it a very suitable specimen in the garden and is very forgiving of soil type as well as exposure. In the bush, five-finger frequently climbs harmlessly on other plants – and epiphyte.

The large deep-green leaves are often in groups of five but any number between three and seven is common. The plants are either male or female, and are a very reliable source of nectar and pollen from highly aromatic flowers from July onward into springtime. Male flowers are pale green whilst female flowers are variable in colour but often white or pink. Walsh describes the honey as having a bitter and oily aftertaste.

<http://www.terrain.net.nz/friends-of-te-henui-group/trees-native-botanical-names-m-to-q/fivefinger.html>

"Nectar and Pollen Sources of New Zealand," RS Walsh, published by the ApiNZ, is a principal source of information. The club's library holds a copy of this very useful booklet. The web references provide excellent photographs, some of which are from proprietary sources such as plant shops. The writer has no connection to any of these sources.

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Upcoming Events and Notices

This Club Day

2 July 2016

Same place, same time

Check out page 2

Next Club Day

6 August 2016

See you there☺



pī·ā·ora

BEES GIVING LIFE

APICULTURE NEW ZEALAND
Congratulations to Paul Martin

for being elected as the Non-commercial board member on the Apiculture NZ board



Congratulations!



Call for contributions

If you would like to make a contribution to this newsletter, we invite you to email your submission to

wbccommunication@gmail.com

Club Day

Whareora Hall
10.15am

Bring:

- Cash for the produce table
- Produce for the produce table
- Your loyalty card to show at the door
- Bee suits

Directions

From SH1, turn off to *Kensington*. Turn left into *Mill Road*, then right at *Whareora Rd*. Keep on *Whareora Rd* until it joins *Pataua North Rd* and carry on for a few more minutes. The hall is on the right. Park on hall side of road.

Financial Information

Whangarei Bee Club Incorporation

Bank balances as at 20 May 2016

Operating account	3,272.43
Savings account	6,420.78
Total funds at 20 May 2016	9,693.21

Plus income from

Membership fees	2,095.00
Book sales	225.00
Interest received	10.92
Hive sales	600.00
Postage	12.00
	2,942.92
	12,636.13

Less expenditure

Hall hire	65.00
Licences	47.44
Club day provisions	119.10
Club shirts	296.01
Stationery and postage	156.84
Bank fees	2.40
RWT on interest	3.60
	690.39

Total balance at 20 June 2016	11,945.74
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Made up of

Operating account	5,517.64
Savings account	6,428.10
	11,945.74

News/sites to check out

Urban beekeeping

<http://www.odt.co.nz/news/dunedin/388038/urban-beekeeping-growing-apiarist>

Going in to bat for the bees

<http://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/SC1606/S00053/going-in-to-bat-for-the-bees.htm>

Time for tree planting

<http://gisborneherald.co.nz/environment/2346302-135/planting-trees-for-healthy-bees>

How to breed a queen bee

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/life-style/home-property/nz-gardener/74105901/How-to-breed-a-queen-bee>

Thank you

John

**for this month's
contribution**

