

BeeAware Newsletter



Chalkbrood: BEE involved

A new Australian study will test how much bee behaviour changes chalkbrood infection levels within a hive. The project will investigate colony resistance to chalkbrood through hygienic behaviour as well as innate larval immunity to infection, and identify lines of honey bees that exhibit good hygienic behaviour.

[Read more](#)



Native bee propolis has medicinal properties

New research at the University of the Sunshine Coast has found propolis, a substance produced by Australian stingless bees, could change the way arthritis, inflammation and skin wounds are treated. While similar research has been undertaken in Europe, this is the first time Australian stingless bees have been studied for medicinal purposes.

[Read more](#)

Is there an Australian pollen signature in honey?

Research at the University of Melbourne, in collaboration with the Australian National University and industry partners, is underway to identify the pollen content of honey made from different plant species and regions. This project will develop baseline data which could be used in future to certify honey as 'Australian' and hence provide security and value to the industry.

[Read more](#)



Asian honey bees closet anarchists

A joint study by scientists from China and Australia has found Asian honey bees have anarchic tendencies – more so than their Western counterparts – and a colony can



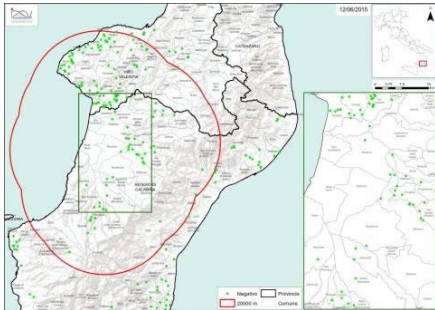
survive for months without a queen.

[Read more](#)

The National Bee Pest Surveillance Program under review

A recommendation from the recent senate inquiry into the honey bee and pollination industries was to review the National Bee Pest Surveillance Program, which aims to detect incursions as early as possible by setting up surveillance within a close proximity of potential incursion zones. This project will involve developing a statistical design that will propose a cost effective and sensitive combination of surveillance methods in an effort to enable early detection, and hopefully, an effective eradication program of an exotic bee pest.

[Read more](#)



Update on SHB incursion in Italy

Since the discovery of small hive beetle (SHB) in Italy in September 2014, measures have been underway to determine the extent of the outbreak, complete tracings and eradicate the pest. On 16 September 2015, nine months since the last detection, an infested apiary was confirmed within the existing 20 kilometre protection zone of the first detection. Both adult beetles and larvae were found in an apiary of 32 hives. Eight of the hives were infested.

[Read more](#)

Scientist calls for improved agricultural and remnant vegetation management for bees

Bee research scientist, Dr Saul Cunningham from the CSIRO, is calling for a different approach to land management to protect bee populations, including both the introduced European honey bee and native bees.

[Read more](#)



Australian wins international photography competition with bee photo

Australian photographer and former beekeeper Ralph Grimm has been awarded first place in the Small World Photomicrography Competition with a photo of dandelion pollen on a bee eye.

[Read more](#)

Crisis shift? Bees may not be facing apocalypse but what about beekeepers?

Scientists now believe bee populations may not be in decline. The focus has shifted from the pollinators to beekeepers, with concern that unless things change, the commercial beekeeping industry is in jeopardy.

[Read more](#)

Managed Pollinator Protection Plan seeks to reverse honey bee decline

A managed pollinator protection plan (MP3) is recommended to get every stakeholder on board to reverse the honey bee decline. The goal of an MP3 is to increase communication between beekeepers and applicators.

[Read more](#)

USDA making \$4m available to improve environment for honey bees

The US Department of Agriculture recently announced farmers, ranchers and forest landowners in Wisconsin and five other Midwestern states who are working to improve food sources for honey bees on their lands are eligible for \$4 million in federal assistance.

[Read more](#)

[unsubscribe](#) | [update preference](#)



© Plant Health Australia