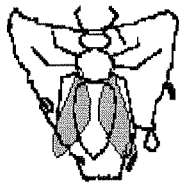


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*Tasmanian Beekeepers' Association  
Incorporated*

**Submission to the  
Inquiry into the Future Development of the  
Australian Honey Bee Industry**

**House of Representatives  
Standing Committee  
Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry**

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## Executive Summary

- The Tasmanian Beekeeping industry is a substantial contributor to Tasmania's economy. The Industry provides employment for people in rural areas. Associated industries are using apiary products for specialized products with niches markets. Tasmania's "clean and green" image is a valuable marketing advantage. However the potential introduction of genetic modified (GM) crops threatens this status. There is market potential within the beekeeping industry and related industries that needs development e.g. packaged bees.
- Tasmanian Apiary industry demographic issues - ageing population and leakage of skills and culture. Potential for skill loss due to aging workforce and lack of training programs
- There is a looming shortfall in registered hives for pollination due to Leatherwood access and availability constraints. This will put future agricultural and horticultural crops at risk.
- Beekeepers in Tasmania are very reliant on Leatherwood as it is the only reliable flora resource available in the State. Therefore beekeepers must have input to Forestry planning to ensure long term resource security. This should include appeal rights;
- There is a need for strengthened quarantine facilities to protect the viability of the Industry. Tasmania being an island state is more at risk.
- Tasmania is home to a colony of the original English bee, *Apis mellifera*, *mellifera*. The protection of the reserve is critical to maintain this unique genetic pool;
- There are significant land management issues including excessive clearing of Leatherwood, Blue Gum and ground flora. The resources available to beekeepers continue to reduce due to changes in regulations and land use practices;
- There are significant Research and Development needs to support this industry. The Tasmanian Beekeepers Association is currently funding research projects to establish appellation. There are other research projects urgently needed by the Industry however as a small organization the TBA is unable to fund this research.

# Introduction

The Tasmanian Beekeepers' Association Inc. (TBA) is the peak body representing the Beekeeping Industry in Tasmania. The aim/objectives of the TBA are listed in Appendix A.

Its state affiliated associations include:

- Northern Branch Tasmanian Keepers' Association;
- North West Branch Tasmanian Keepers' Association;
- Southern Beekeepers' Association Inc; and
- Tasmanian Crop Pollination Assoc. Inc.

The Associations' strategic plan is currently under review. We would welcome advice from the Standing Committee about assistance for TBA with strategic planning and implementation in order to achieve optimum outcomes in line with national developments.

Nationally, TBA works with the Australian Honey Bee Industry Council (AHBIC) and Federal Council of Australian Apiary Associations (FCAAA).

Currently in Tasmania there are around 12,000 registered hives however the actual number of hives is estimated at around 18,000. Two thirds of registered hives are managed by 6% of the total number of registered beekeepers. The registered Beekeepers are an aging population. There are no new major investors in the industry nor are there incentives to invest.

With current farm gate prices the gross industry value of honey and beeswax is in excess of \$6.5 million per annum (see Appendix B). In addition, the bee-dependent pollination industry has been estimated to be worth \$200m per annum to the State's economy<sup>1</sup>.

Leatherwood honey production underpins the industry and is part of Tasmania's multiple use forest industry. The industry has a short harvest season. Leatherwood honey is an iconic product which is produced no where else in the world.

The TBA acknowledges the work undertaken by the Standing Committee in its report *Skills: Rural Australia's Needs February 2007*, and believes a number of recommendations are relevant to the TBA and to this current Inquiry.

In particular the recommendations to better utilize the knowledge and skills of older workers in rural industries are very relevant in Tasmania and are further examined below under *Honey bee industry current and future prospects*. As well, the call for increased research and educational funding and strengthened quarantine measures is strongly supported by TBA for the long term health of this industry.

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<sup>1</sup> Sunday Tasmanian, Page 19, 12 December 2004.

# Honey bee industry current and future prospects

## *Economic issues*

The Tasmanian bee keeping industry currently employs approx 150 people<sup>2</sup> and supports the horticulture and fruit growing industries that employ approx 3100<sup>3</sup>. The Industry lacks skilled workers. There is a need to reduce the red tape to enable visas for skilled workers or trainees from overseas to work in Australia.

Future growth of related industries is limited due to limited supplies of apiary products. For example a local cosmetic company has experienced 30% growth per year over the last 15 years. However the future production is dependent on supplies of organic bees wax. The medical and therapeutic industries have long incorporated apiary products into treatments and recent research is producing new products such as apitherapy<sup>4</sup>. Locally several brewers are now producing well regarded specialty honey products such as James Boags Honey Porter and Taveners' meads.

Tasmanian honey like other Tasmanian products currently has a clean green image. This image maybe challenged with the potential introduction of GM crops. The State Government is reviewing the prohibition of GM crops in Tasmania. Bees are very sensitive to the environment. Colony Collapse Disorder, CCD, is an epidemic sweeping the bee populations of Europe and America. It has resulted in beekeepers incurring huge losses of stock and reduced production. As yet the cause is unknown; GM crops are one of the many suspected risk factors under investigation

Using the current farm gate values for honey and wax, the industry is currently worth in excess of \$6.5m and once external benefits such as pollination are taken into account, in excess of \$200m annually to the State's economy.

A key economic issue facing Tasmania's agriculture and horticultural growth prospects is the predicted shortfall of some 4500 hives in Southern Tasmania to cover the minimum stocking rate per hectare for various crops. This shortfall is largely due to the diminishing access to the prime resource base of Leatherwood trees from current logging practices and increasing access restrictions in other areas. The effects of this shortfall are explained below in *Honey bee role in agriculture and forestry*

## *Cultural issues*

Beekeepers are an aging population with the estimated average age of Beekeepers being greater than 54 years, a number are in their 70's and 80's. Most beekeepers have no formal training yet the level of knowledge older beekeepers would certainly have earned them a PhD in academic circles. The Beekeeping industry has a vast unwritten cultural history. Pioneers in the industry have an intimate knowledge of the environment, and its impact on hive management.

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<sup>2</sup> Tasmanian Apiary Industry Profile 2004

<sup>3</sup> Department of Treasury and Finance, Sectors of the Tasmanian Economy: Agriculture – December 2005.

<sup>4</sup> Refer website <http://www.apitherapy.com/>

A key cultural issue is the loss of industry knowledge and skills through an ageing population and no formal process to transfer these skills and knowledge. With less and less younger people entering the industry there is no mechanism to pass down this knowledge.

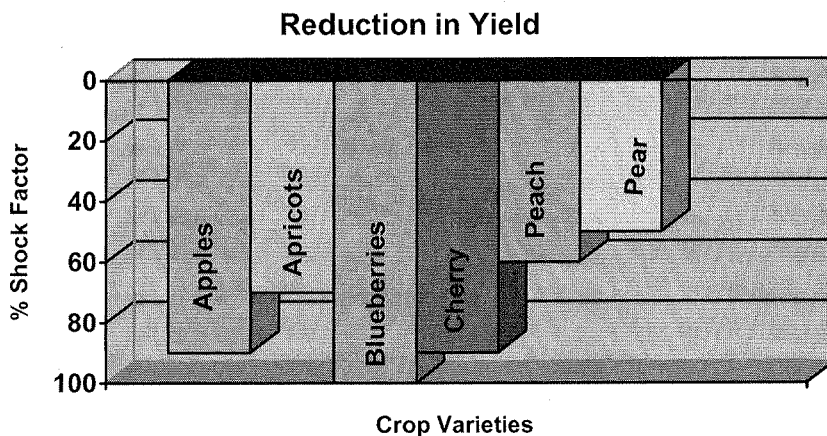
Young people are not attracted to the beekeeping industry. This is not dissimilar to other agricultural industries. Specific reasons in the beekeeping industry are the high cost of setting up business, the heavy workload (especially during the summer season) and the lifestyle commitment that must be made.

# Honey bee role in agriculture and forestry

## *Agriculture*

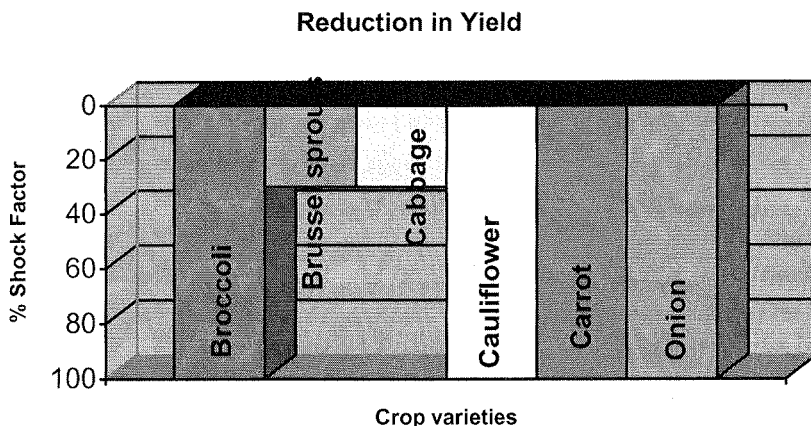
Tasmanian Beekeeping industry plays a crucial role in supporting horticultural and agricultural industries with pollination services. Two major issues must be considered. Firstly if pollination services are not available it will have a major impact on both seed production and crops in Tasmania. This is shown in Tables 1 and 2 below which illustrate shock factors (ie the percentage reduction in yield which could be expected if the crop in question were totally isolated from insect pollination) for various fruit and seed crops.

**Table 1: Percentage of shock factors – Orchard fruits**



*(Proceedings of Pollination Services Seminars - 1989 – Department of Primary Industry Tasmania)*

**Table 2  
Percentage of shock factors – Seed crops**



*(Proceedings of Pollination Services Seminars - 1989 – Department of Primary Industry Tasmania)*

In addition the depletion of reliable nectar resources will reduce the number of hives available for pollination. Further evidence of the impact of the shortfall discussed in *Honey bee industry current and future prospects* above is illustrated in Tables 3 and 4 below.

**Table 3: Total Tasmanian fruit crop hive requirements - current (2005) and predicted (2010)<sup>5</sup>**

2005	2010
7165 hives	12165 hives

Table 3 illustrates that an additional 5,000 hives are needed to cover the minimum stocking rate per hectare for fruit crops Statewide. Please note that Appendix 3 has a more comprehensive coverage of the crop predictions, area, and production.

**Table 4: Southern Tasmanian pollination requirements for all crop types - current (2005) and predicted (2010)**

	2005	2010
Fruit and seed hives required	6200	9600
Registered hives (est.)	4630	4630
<b>Shortfall</b>	<b>1570</b>	<b>4970</b>

Please note that the 2005 registered hives is an estimate based on 2003 beekeeper registration statistics from the Department of Primary Industry and Water (DPIW) (see Appendix 4). The 2010 registered hive estimate is based on the no growth trend for the period 2003-2007 in the data gathered by the DPIW (see Appendix 5). This is largely due to Leatherwood access and availability constraints.

Table 4 illustrates that there is a current and likely looming shortfall in the minimum number of hives to meet Southern Tasmania's fruit and seed agricultural growth requirements. This shortfall is mitigated to some degree by multi crop pollination from individual hives in years with favourable climatic conditions to maintain hive health and strength.

Of concern to the industry is the impact of pesticides on honey bees, especially during pollination. The impacts have been identified by the Department of Primary Industry and Water<sup>6</sup>. Since this research new styles of chemicals have come onto the market, (Neonicotinioids and microencapsulated sprays), and the TBA would like research into the honey bee impacts from these new styles of sprays. TBA would also like increased awareness of the impact on honey bees from sprays.

<sup>5</sup> Based on statistics provided by Dr. Wayne Boucher, DPIW – 2005

<sup>6</sup> Proceedings of Pollination Services Seminars – 1989.



## *Forestry*

The Beekeeping industry is part of the multiple use forest system. Forestry provides access to the nectar resource but also destroys that resource as a result of harvesting timber.

In the most recent Community Forest Agreement it was stated that \$11.4m would be provided for roads to assist specialty timber and Beekeepers' access. This funding has not yet made significant outcomes for our industry. Road operations to Special Timber Management Units (STMU) may deliver access to leatherwood resource, but there is no guarantee. Leatherwood is not listed as a specialty timber. The leatherwood linked by the proposed roads may already be accessed through other sites. In addition the possibility of leatherwood being in the road areas and the potential hive carrying capacity is unproven. Leatherwood in higher altitudes flowers later and has a much shorter production season. In the south further investigation needs to be undertaken to assess whether bees are already accessing resource from existing apiary sites. In addition funds promised to repair existing access roads have not been applied. This is a serious failure to deliver an outcome.

Given the tenuous state of the Beekeeping industry Tasmania wide, any destruction of the nectar resource must be avoided.

The industry has in excess of sixty years history of pursuing resource security with Forestry Tasmania; have continually requested Leatherwood resource not be destroyed during timber harvesting operations. Despite some isolated cases the nectar resource continues to be at risk in timber harvesting and appears always to be considered to be of less importance than the need to meet saw log quotas under the RFA.

In the last three year logging plan 2004-06 there was a estimated loss of Leatherwood resource – 25% or 450 hives in the Derwent (south) and 15% or 470 hives in the Murchison (North West).

The industry does not have the resource to carry out a detailed ground audit to accurately monitor the potential loss of resource arising from current and future timber harvesting activities.

The industry is currently in consultation with the forest practices authority to have included in the Forest Practices Code prescriptive/enforceable Leatherwood identification and protection provisions. The authority is currently reviewing the Regional Forest Agreement and the code as part of the five year review process. The industry needs input to Forestry planning for long term resource security.

## Honey bee biosecurity issues

There are a range of biosecurity issues threatening the viability of the apiary industry. The apiary industry is currently acknowledged as a livestock producer and therefore a member of Animal Health Australia. However the biosecurity issues for bees also affected by native flora and crops and as such the beekeeping industry is in negotiations to be recognized as a stakeholder with Plant Health Australia. A range of issues were identified at a Biosecurity Workshop held by Plant Health Australia the findings are yet to be released.

### *Quarantine facilities*

TBA strongly recommends more resources to be put in place to protect the state. Tasmania has already been the incursion point for European wasps and bumble bees and is a clear risk factor in the defenses against Varroa. The industry currently works with DPIW to monitor sentinel hives for disease detection at four main ports in Tasmania. DPIW is also trialing bait hive program at six ports around the State. The hives are set up with pheromone baits specifically to attract other varieties of bees that maybe brought to the state through shipping cargo. A recent example is the incursion of Apis cerana in Cairns Queensland. This is a state initiative and currently manned by volunteers.

TBA would like to have more people trained to undertake bait station surveillance, wider awareness of the issue, increased quarantine awareness; and plan of action.

### *Honey bee genetics*

Tasmania is home to a most unique genetic pool. The 'Black Bees' Reserve at Tarraleah is very important to the industry; the bees have a pure genetic link to the origin of the species, Apis mellifera, mellifera. This population is under threat from land management and at a far greater risk from pests and disease than the managed hive population. Awareness of this important population of Black Bees' needs to be increased and a management plan developed to protect it for worldwide research and development.

### *Fire Blight*

Of concern to the Beekeepers is the threat of Fire Blight to the horticultural industry. The TBA supports the efforts to stop the importation of New Zealand apples to reduce the risk of the introduction of this disease.

One of the main ways to transfer this disease is by insects. TBA understands the risk and is working with the horticultural industry to develop a management plan. The control measures required to stop potential outbreaks of the disease will unfortunately have a devastating impact on hives. Quarantined hives will be placed in cool storage for 21 days, this will put the hive in a close down situation reducing brood (bee) production and drawing on reserve stores. This treatment will render the hive ineffectual for the annual honey harvest.

# Honey bee trade issues

In 2003 the Farley Consulting Group was commissioned by the Department of Economic Development to look into value adding for Leatherwood honey.

Some of the key points in the report were:

- 60% of honey production is exported out of the State – a substantial part of this is exported outside of Australia. The result of this is that farm gate prices in Tasmania fluctuate with world prices which depend on the usual supply and demand issues; and
- There are several ways in which a value adding strategy to the honey produced can help identify Tasmanian Leatherwood honey having a higher value than other honey in the market place.

There are recognized trade opportunities in organics, value adding, and Leatherwood appellation. The TBA is currently funding research to assist in establishing appellation measures. However the Tasmanian Industry does not have sufficient skills or finance to both assess and implement all the report recommendations.

There are also problems with the international trade of bees. Tasmanian bee keepers are in the ideal position to take advantage of and value-add through the growing market for packaged bees in both USA and EU. The package bee industry has the potential income of around \$100 per hive or approximately \$2 million dollars per annum for the State. However due to restrictions placed on the movement of Tasmanian bees due to the Braula fly the bees can not be transshipped interstate prior to transport overseas.

Other issues include import tariffs. Australia is the only country “playing on a level playing field”. While no tariffs apply to imports, to Australia, exporters can be faced with sizable tariffs and quotas in countries such as European Union, South Korea and Lebanon.

In addition honey produced in Australia is subject to rigorous testing however imports from other countries undergo no testing and no standards apply to protect the Australian public. The high use of chemicals in other countries enables greater production and results in cheaper (but inferior) imports flooding local markets.

The changing retail landscape with the emergence of a duopoly of market control results in inequity in position and power when negotiating prices for apiary products.

Tasmanian beekeepers have high freight costs to get to the larger customer base external to Tasmania

## Honey bee - impact of land management and bushfires

Land management has a direct impact on nectar resource available for honey production. The most common reasons<sup>7</sup> for lost or diminished apiary sites are as follows:

- **Non leatherwood sites** have been lost/diminished due to clearing for agriculture, timber harvesting, change in farm practice, subdivisions, blackberry rust, and conversion to plantation;
- **Leatherwood apiary sites** have been lost due to timber harvesting (clearfelling and burning), diminished by logging to the point of being unviable, loss of access, and escaped regeneration burns.

Other impacts on the honey bee industry non Leatherwood sites; weed removal and bush fires. Some areas are relied on by Beekeepers for vital pollen and nectar stores to built hive strength; especially before and after pollination. The Farley Report provides a detailed analysis of the impact of weed management on apiary resources.

Beekeepers need vital sites identified, and a land management plan developed to protect and improve the resource.

### *Leatherwood (Eucryphia lucida and Eucryphia milliganii)*

Loss of Leatherwood is the primary concern of the industry (please see *Honey bee role in agriculture and forestry*). Leatherwood is the only reliable nectar resource available to the bee keeping industry in Tasmania. Leatherwood is only found in high rainfall areas. The trees are slow growing taking many years to achieve maturity. The trees are not commercially viable to the beekeeper until they are 60-70 years old. To maintain a reasonable production the bees require a least one acre of leatherwood per hive.

Protection of identified Leatherwood rich coupes is still needed. This is the ongoing focus of the Southern Beekeepers and the Beekeepers lobby group; Save Your Leatherwood Honey Association. At present this is substantially in the south where the Leatherwood is most at risk.

### *Blue gum (Eucalyptus globulus)*

Another major concern is the loss of native Blue Gum<sup>8</sup> resource which is the State's floral emblem. Currently, only remnants of Blue Gum are left on private land that is of use to Beekeepers.

Blue Gum was a major nectar source to the industry and under the right climatic conditions Blue Gums had a honey flow equal to that of Leatherwood. The Blue Gum does not produce every year like the Leatherwood. However pioneers in the industry relied on Blue Gum nectar to supplement to Leatherwood flow.

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<sup>7</sup> Tasmanian Apiary Industry Profile 2004

<sup>8</sup> Please note that no nectar is available from plantation Blue Gums.

Blue Gum honey is still sought after on the local market and has been exported in the past because of its international appeal as a high quality eucalypt honey. The TBA believes that, consistent with the findings of the report *Skills: Rural Australia's Need*, there is an opportunity to increase the awareness of this valuable resource and a plan is needed to increase the native Blue Gum resource.

The TBA considers there is potential to increase floral resource of high nectar producing species if the carbon credit system is introduced.

### *Land clearing*

Recent legislation governing land clearing on privately owned land has placed significant restrictions on land clearing. If these restrictions were mirrored in the forest harvesting planning process in State Forests then the impact of that harvesting on the Leatherwood resource would be reduced.

### *Planning*

The present planning process for timber harvesting is not subject to the normal planning process that is applicable to all other industries. The timber harvesting planning process is substantially overseen by the Forest Practices Authority which focuses only on outcomes for the timber industry. Beekeepers have no formalized enforceable input into that process. Negotiations are currently in place to have the Forest Practices Code amended, requiring all timber harvesting plans to have input from Beekeepers to help identify commercial leatherwood stands in all coupes dealt with by the harvesting plan. If this does not occur then the identification of the leatherwood resource in any coupe to be harvested will in many cases be too late to enable an amendment to the plan and the preservation of the resource.

### *Beekeeping impacts on land management*

Beekeeping leaves a very light ecological footprint on the environment. It does not destroy the nectar/pollen resource to obtain its harvest. A 4 year study<sup>9</sup> of impacts of honeybees on the Leatherwood has found:

- Little evidence of any quantifiable impact on native biota
- No evidence of any major impact on tree reproduction

## **Honey bee research and development needs of the industry**

Tasmanian industry members have this year attended national workshops in the area of biosecurity, pollination, and research & development needs of the industry. The TBA supports the key outcomes/recommendations of the Australian Government Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation Honeybee Industry Linkages Workshop April 2007 and would like to see these recommendations developed.

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<sup>9</sup> Stephen Mallick 2001, Pollination Ecology of the Tasmanian Leatherwood, PhD Thesis, UTAS'

TBA also supports the goals and objectives of the Australian Government Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation Honeybee R & D Plan 2007-2012.

Regional specific issues of importance to TBA are:

- Pollination research,
- Skills standards, and training, (including transference of existing skills & knowledge),
- Improved industry image,
- Encouragement of new people into the industry,
- Resource security,
- Strengthened quarantine and increased awareness of issues,
- Protection of 'Black Bee' reserve and genetic research,
- Improved trading, and
- Market developments; trade opportunities including packaged bee sales,

## Existing industry and Government work that has been undertaken for the honey bee industry

A key piece of work currently being completed is the Floral Resource Database funded by RIRDC. This will be a base reference document for the location of floral sources of importance to the Beekeeping industry.

A major piece of work was undertaken to map where Leatherwood would be expected to be found, The report published by Ziegler K.I. (1993) "Leatherwood nectar resource management report" was funded by Forests and Forest Industry Council, Tasmania. This is an excellent foundation work however it needs to be updated. In some areas the estimates or assumptions of resource availability are still to be corroborated by groundwork.

An economic study of the industry was undertaken by Darryl Gifford Economic Viability of Tasmanian Beekeeping Industry.

An important study on Tasmanian Leatherwoods was undertaken by G. Ettershank and J. A. Ettershank. (1993) *Tasmanian leatherwoods (Eucryphia spp.): floral phenology and the insects associated with flowers* Hobart: Tasmanian component of the National Rainforest Conservation Program

A study was undertaken into potential areas for value adding Leatherwood honey. Farley Consultation Group/CALM, Tasmanian Beekeepers Association – Leatherwood Honey Industry Value Adding Project, September 2003. Supported by funding from the Australian Government through its Regional Partnerships Program administered by the Department of Transport and Regional Services.

## Summary

- The Tasmanian Beekeeping industry is a substantial contributor to Tasmania's economy and has a well established industry network statewide and with national links;
- Tasmanian Apiary industry demographic issues - ageing population and leakage of skills and culture.
- The looming shortfall in registered hives for pollination due to Leatherwood access and availability constraints.
- The need for beekeepers input to Forestry planning for long term resource security. This should include appeal rights;
- The need for strengthened quarantine facilities to maintain vitality of the industry
- The need to protect 'Black Bee' pure genetic pool vital for international research and beekeeping use;
- There are significant land management issues including excessive clearing of Leatherwood, Blue Gum, ground flora and changed land use practices;
- There are significant Research and Development needs to support this industry;

## Invitation

The TBA would like to invite the Committee to meet with representatives and individuals of the Tasmanian beekeeping industry to discuss in more details the current and future prospects of the industry and any part of this submission. Further, we welcome any opportunity to address any Tasmanian hearings of the Committee and/or assist in field trips to observe our industry first hand.

Written thumbnail sketches detailing present and future prospects/expectations from Beekeepers of different ages, districts and business sizes are available on request.

**Mr Julian Wolfhagen**  
**President**  
**Tasmanian Beekeepers Association Inc**

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## **Appendix A**

### Extract from the Tasmanian Beekeepers Association Inc Constitution June 2005

#### **4. AIMS/OBJECTS**

The objectives of our Association are:

- (a) To provide a means whereby the apiarists of this State may be represented through a common organisation for the welfare of the Industry;
- (b) To promote and further the craft of beekeeping through the TBA Inc. and Branch activities;
- (c) To protect natural apiculture resources and to prevent the unnecessary destruction of flora of value to apiculture;
- (d) To represent the State on the Federal Council of Australian Apiarists' Association (F.C.A.A.A.);
- (e) To co-operate with the Department of Primary Industry, Water and Environment and other Government Departments on all matters affecting the industry and to represent apiarists in all such matters;
- (f) Inform Government Departments on matters affecting the industry and make submissions and representations on behalf of the industry;
- (g) Take such steps from time to time, as the Executive or the Members in General Meeting may deem expedient, for the purpose of procuring contributions to the funds of the Association, whether by way of donation, subscription or otherwise; and
- (h) Subject to the provision of the Trustee Act 1898, invest moneys of the Association not immediately required for any of its objects or purposes in such manner as the Executive may from time to time determine.

## Appendix B

### Total Value Honey and Wax Harvest

The estimated annual honey harvest is based on average over 10 years.

#### Total value honey & wax harvest (Valued at 2006 farm gate prices)

Details	Kgs	@	\$/Per hive	Total \$
<b>Estimated value honey harvest</b>				
Registered hives/Approx 18,000				
Leatherwood honey-80kg/hive	1,440,000	3.50	280.00	5,040,000.
Other honey-20kg/hive	360,000	3.50	70.00	1,260,000.
<b>Total estimate of annual honey harvest</b>	<b>1,800,000</b>		<b>350.00</b>	<b>6,300,000.</b>
<b>Estimate value wax harvest</b>				
1 kg wax per 50 kg honey	36,000	7.30	14.60	262,800.
<b>Total estimate of annual honey &amp; wax harvest</b>			<b>364.60</b>	<b>6,562,800.</b>

## Appendix C

### Fruit crop predictions for 2010

Crop	Production in 2005			Anticipated production 2010			Min Hives required
	Area (ha)	Production (tones)	Min Hives required	Anticipated Production 2010	Area (ha)	Production (tones)	
Apples	2000	40,000	4000	Decline	1200	24000	2400
Cherries	400	1500	2000	Increase	1300	5000	6500
Apricots	200	800	400	Increase	1250	5000	2500
Other stone fruit	80	1000	160	No increase			160
Blueberries	45	125	135	Potential high increase			*135
Blackcurrants	100	600	200				200
Raspberries	35	210	105				105
Strawberries	55	380	165				165
<b>Total min hives required</b>			<b>7165</b>				<b>12165</b>

\*Potential high increase – no predictions available

(Based on statistics provided by Dr. Wayne Boucher, DPIW – 2005)

## Appendix D

### Summary of Tasmanian Beekeepers 2003

#### Statewide number of registered Beekeepers

Hives per Beekeeper	Number of Beekeepers	Total number of hives
200+	17	13015
101 - 200	13	2110
51 - 100	11	1001
21 - 50	25	887
11 - 20	35	609
5 - 10	43	338
1 - 4	116	298
<b>Totals</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>18258</b>

#### Southern Tasmanian registered Beekeepers

Hives per Beekeeper	Number of Beekeepers	Total number of hives
200+	9	2985
101 - 200	2	365
51 - 100	5	461
21 - 50	12	386
11 - 20	9	159
5 - 10	17	144
1 - 4	53	131
<b>Totals</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>4631</b>

*(Department of Primary Industry & Water)*

## Appendix E

### Summary of Tasmanian Beekeepers 2003 - 2007

These figures show the number of Beekeepers who have registered. The numbers show a trend of no growth in the industry.

**Summary of Tasmanian Beekeepers 2003 – 2007**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of Beekeepers</b>	<b>Total number of hives</b>
2003	260	18258
2004	156	13677
2005	154	15596
2006	154	17218
2007	131	12206

*(Department of Primary Industry & Water)*