

Submission in response to the House of Representatives Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Committee inquiry into the future development of the Australian Honey Bee Industry.

My name is Murray Arkadieff. I am a 29yearold commercial beekeeper. I hold two degree; one in Economics and one in commerce. My Father and I run over 700 beehives. We are located in Rochedale south of Brisbane. We work the bees in a 700 km radius from Brisbane on private property, National Parks and state forests. We produce honey, wax, comb honey and carry out pollination. It is my intention to continue in the industry. I have kept bees with my father for over 20years.

The outlook of the Queensland beekeeping industry is bleak. The future challenges confronting the continued existence of the industry in Qld are;

- The forced exclusion of beekeepers, by the Beattie government from Queensland state forest under the Environmental Protection Act Encompassing National Parks in 2024. Without entry we have no way to keep the bees alive. 90%of our honey produced comes out of these parks:
- Poor public perception and understanding of the importance beekeeping in the food chain:
- Loss of places to put bees because of urbanisation;
- Poor price and rising costs:
- The divide between shop prices and producer prices.
- Aging workforce;
- Lack of industry knowledge by new entrants;
- Introduced Diseases
- Climate Change and an:
- Inability to get labour.

I ask that these comments be taken as evidence for the need of an inquiry into the Beekeeping industry in Queensland.

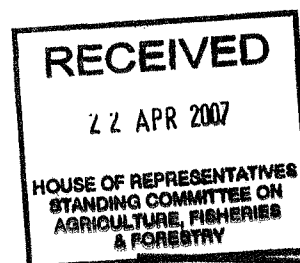
We are a forgotten industry that is misunderstood and whose importance is little recognised.

We are desperate for help. We need to keep young and educated beekeepers such as myself in the industry.

Your Faithfully

Murray Arkadieff

Murray_ark@hotmail.com
32 Binnalong St
Rochedale 4123
QLD



Submission No: 1

Date Received: 22/4/07

Secretary: *[Signature]*