



**Amateur  
Beekeepers  
Association**  
NSW MID NORTH COAST

# The Bee Line

## Meeting Reminder

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## August 2022 Newsletter

### MNCABA President's Report

Hello Everyone,

Many thanks to Matt Connell for hosting this meeting. It was a beautiful, early spring day, warm enough to check a couple of hives.

The Varroa issue was the main topic of discussion. As there seems to be a lot of misinformation and changes, it is best to consult the DPI website for correct, up to date advice.

At the time of writing, Varroa testing is still ongoing in the red and purple zone in our area. Some of our members have volunteered to assist with testing. I did three days locally, plus a week earlier in the Hunter area. I found it to be a good experience, fairly physical and nice to think that I was able to do a little to help the cause. I would encourage you to volunteer if you can.

Matt and I demonstrated Varroa alcohol washes. Matt also demonstrated how to prepare a slide for sending to the Lab for disease verification.

Stan passed an interesting article on to me about some research which highlighted something which supports a theory that many of us have believed. A couple of quotes from the article: "... Old trees produce more flowers than young ones ... unlogged spotted gum forests could produce 10 times more nectar than recently harvested areas ... large numbers of native creatures are also dependent on nectar." In good flowering years, there is way more than can be utilised by all the feeders, including hives of bees. Thanks for sharing, Stan.

ABA and our Branch renewals can now be done. There has been a delay because of the extra work load foisted on to the ABA executive with the Varroa incursion. Our next meeting will be at Monica's, Urunga. See you there.

Regards,  
Allan

#### Next Meeting

**Date:** 11 September 2022  
**Time:** 10 for 10.30am  
**Host:** Monica Rich  
**Address:** 8 Melaleuca Place  
Urunga  
**Contacts:** Monica 0419 298 586  
Al Thomas 0428 712 587

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Club members participating in an alcohol wash and making a slide to send away for testing as part of a demonstration at the July meeting.





## FRANK'S HIVE HINTS No 18 //

Now that the cold weather is over you may do a bit more manipulation with the hive but take the precaution of not leaving brood out too long.

Bees may not be progressing in some hives. Check the population and brood pattern. Make sure the queen is present. If you can't find her look for eggs or young brood. Check if bees have stores of honey and pollen. Examine all brood combs for signs of disease.

Make sure strong hives don't become overcrowded or start queen cells. Sometimes bees are determined to swarm but much can be done to prevent it. Enlarge the entrance if it has been restricted. Give foundation as this is the time bees like to build rather than store honey.

This time of the year strong hives can be split but don't be too ambitious causing your strong hive to become weak. Consider the prospects for honey, pollen and the weather over the next few weeks. If nothing is coming in the hives won't prosper, bees won't build new comb and foundation will be chewed and warped. Be a good observer.

LOVE THOSE BEES.

*What do you call a bee that lives in America?*

*A USB!*

## CLUB SUPPLIES //

### *Foundation and Apithor*

Don Wood has our Club's supplies of Wax Foundation and Apithor SHB traps. Please contact him on pH: 0418 112 516 or by email: [rabbitrustrap2873@yahoo.com](mailto:rabbitrustrap2873@yahoo.com)

The price of foundation is \$2.60 per sheet. Apithor small hive beetle traps are \$6.50.

Don is also the guardian of our two hive extractors that are available for loan to club members.



## NEXT MEETING //

Date: Sunday 11 September

Time: 10 for 10.30am

Location: 8 Melaleuca Place, URUNGA

Hosts: Monica  0419298586

Cost: \$5

Raffle: Donations for the raffle table warmly welcomed

BYO: Chair, food, drinks, hat, bee protection gear, any **outstanding library books**



## Save the date // Total Beekeepers' Field Day // Saturday 15 October

Thanks to Merridy for the heads up for this event - speak to Merridy to find out more about this day as she has been to it and highly recommends the experience along with other club members who have also attended.