

THE WAGGLE

Newsletter of the Gold Coast Regional Beekeepers Inc.

'Furthering knowledge in Beekeeping by assisted learning and practical experience'

www.gcrb.org.au

Edition: March 2021

<p>President: <i>Greg Foster</i> Mob: 0409 279 164</p> <hr/> <p>Secretary: <i>Drew Maywald</i> Mob: 0414 717 716</p> <hr/> <p>Treasurer: <i>Peter Handy</i> Mob: 0448 195 020</p>	<p>Gold Coast Regional Beekeepers Inc.</p> <p>E: gcrb.president@beekeepers.asn.au</p> <p>E: gcrb.secretary@beekeepers.asn.au</p> <p>E: gcrb.treasurer@beekeepers.asn.au</p> <p>E: gcrb.membership@beekeepers.asn.au</p> <p>E: gcrb.editor@beekeepers.asn.au</p>	<p>Your voice in local beekeeping</p> <p>PO Box 389, Nerang, Qld, 4214</p> <p>Next Meeting: Sat 20 Mar 21</p> <p>08:30am - Hive Inspection / Rob and Extraction Demonstration</p> <p>11:00am - Record Keeping with Kevin Finn</p>
--	--	---

What is **flowering**
in the **region**

For Sale

What Is Bee Propolis and Why Is It So Great for Skin?

Slovenian Hive Construction

Hive
Report

LIFTING FLOW
FRAMES

Rare Australian bee rediscovered after nearly a century



- 3 - Presidents Report**
- 3 - Hive Report**
- 4 - What's Flowering**
- 5 - Rare Bee rediscovered**
- 6 - Lifting Flow Frames**
- 6 - Slovenian Hive Construction**
- 7 - What's on the Website**
- 8 - What Is Bee Propolis and Why Is It So Great for Skin?**

The Waggle is the journal of the Gold Coast Regional Beekeepers Inc. It is distributed to members monthly. The editor will consider adverts from businesses relevant to beekeepers to run free of charge where they contain a discount or special offer to GCRB members. Please email gcrb.editor@beekeepers.asn.au

From the Editor

Greetings all to my first edition as the editor. Hopefully I won't make too much of a mess of it.

A couple of the areas I would like to get contributors for are the different hives that are found in the club, i.e. Langstroth, Flow, Top Bar, etc, and a section on Native Bees which a number of members are keeping in conjunction with the European Honey Bees.

Additionally, with the approval of the Committee, the newsletter will also start a 'For Sale' section for members to advertise the sale of beekeeping related equipment or excess honey. The disclaimer for this new section will be that the Club will take no responsibility for the items being advertised, i.e. if the product does not work the way the buyer expects then that is an issue between the buyer/seller and the Club will not get involved.

I also hope to inform members of what can be found on the Club Website.



If anyone wishes to contribute any articles to the Waggle related to beekeeping please send them through to me. I am happy to take funny stories about what has and hasn't worked for you. You can change the names to protect the guilty; the only thing I ask is you check with other parties that they are happy for you to submit the article. I will assume if you send it to me they are happy for me to print.

So please enjoy this edition and if you have any criticism, either good or bad, please let me know at gcrb.editor@beekeepers.asn.au.

Yours Aye

Windy

Presidents Chat

A club can only survive by the contribution of its members. I encourage you to get involved in your club, we have a great mix of people from all walks of life that join together with the common interest of Beekeeping. We have an extensive knowledge base in that field spread throughout our membership, who are more than happy to share their lessons learnt for all our benefit.

I'm grateful for our new committee members stepping forward at the AGM and playing a part in growing our club.

Thank you to Drew for taking on the Secretaries role, his professionalism has already caught a few of us off guard.

I'm impressed with the fresh new look of our club newsletter thanks to Windy for adding the "Waggle" to your club IT portfolio, we will all benefit from it.

Don't forget our club Honey Purchase offer for members, on our next club day.

There is a rumour in the winds that we have a Bunnings fundraising BBQ on the agenda, keep an eye out for more information on that as we will need your help.

Going back to my first paragraph, I hope to see you next Saturday the 20th for our monthly club morning, for an informative few hours where we can all learn something new in the company of like-minded people.

Greg

"The Appy Apiarist"



Bee Hive inspection Report Saturday 20th February 21



Prior to the annual general meeting Mike and a number of club members inspected the clubs hives at the Vets. Once again the hives never let us down and we took off 27 frames of honey.

Hive 1 had 6 frames removed,

hive 5 and 6 both had 9 frames removed each and the flow hive had 3 frames.

Hive 2 which is the NUC that was installed on the 21st November had a full depth super added. The NUC is a bit slow in developing compared to the performance of the other hives so we will be keeping an eye on its development over the next few months and will have a look at the brood in the near future.

Hive 6 had a new Queen installed 4 weeks ago and she seems to have got straight to work and the hive is producing well.

We have had requests from members for us to go through the extraction process so during the next hive inspection we will be extracting as well. We have been getting some good support from members during the hive inspections who are gaining valuable experience and having a number of their question answered. Members with any level of experience are welcome to join in.



See you next meeting

What's Flowering on the Coast

Buckinghamia Celsissima



Buckinghamia celsissima, commonly known as the ivory curl, is a species of trees, constituting part of the plant family Proteaceae. They are endemic to the wet tropics rainforests areas of northeastern Queensland, Australia.

Melaleuca Quinquenervia



Melaleuca quinquenervia, commonly known as the broad-leaved paperbark, paper bark tea tree, punk tree or niaouli, is a small- to medium-sized tree of the myrtle family, Myrtaceae.

It grows as a spreading tree up to 20 m tall, with its trunk covered by a white, beige and grey thick papery bark. The grey-green leaves are egg-shaped, and cream or white bottlebrush-like flowers appear from late spring to autumn.

Corymbia trachyphloia (syn. Eucalyptus trachyphloia). brown bloodwood



Tree to 25 m high; bark persistent, pale brown or yellow-brown, tessellated.

Juvenile leaves disjunct, elliptic to ovate, glossy green, peltate at early stages, with simple hairs. Adult leaves

disjunct, narrow-lanceolate, 7–12 cm long, 1–1.5 cm wide, green or grey-green, glossy, discolorous, penniveined.

Cassia fistula (Golden Shower Tree)



A medium sized semi-deciduous tree which during summer gets an abundance of long cascading yellow flowers which usually get to 30 or 40cm long. A hardy and drought tolerant tree once established.

Note: If any quantity of Tea Tree honey is gathered it will candy fairly quickly. Bloodwood honey does need to be 100% capped or there is a fair chance it will ferment.



Rare Australian bee rediscovered after nearly a century



The recently rediscovered Australian masked bee *Pharaohylaeus lactiferus*. (Image credit: James Dorey Photography)

It hadn't been seen since 1923 and was thought to be extinct.

An extremely rare species of bee that hasn't been seen for nearly a century and was thought to be extinct has been rediscovered by a lone researcher in Australia.

This rare "masked" bee, known as *Pharaohylaeus lactiferus*, is native to Australia and is the only species in the genus *Pharaohylaeus*. It is similar in size to the invasive European [honeybee](#) (*Apis mellifera*). Only six individuals have been previously identified in Australia and the last one was reported in 1923.

But the bee was recently rediscovered by James Dorey, a doctoral candidate at Flinders University, while completing fieldwork in the state of Queensland. After the chance rediscovery, Dorey conducted a larger survey of Queensland and New South Wales dedicated to searching for *P. lactiferus*.

"I never really expected to find any," Dorey told Live Science. "But we have caught many times more bees now than we did back then."

His research on the bees suggests that deforestation and forest fires could be putting them at risk of extinction, for good this time.

Searching for bees

The rediscovery of *P. lactiferus* was a lucky accident for Dorey.

"Knowing that *P. lactiferus* hadn't been found for so long meant that I was keeping an eye open for it as I sampled my way up the coast," Dorey said. "Once I managed to find the first specimen I had a place to start and the opportunity to look for more."

After the discovery Dorey spent five months surveying 245 sites across Queensland and New South Wales in search for more of the masked bees. Dorey focused his efforts on certain flowering plants that were similar to those where he found the first individual. The sampling involved a combination of both watching flowers to see if the bees visited them and "general sweeps" with a butterfly net above the flowers.

The survey revealed three geographically isolated populations of the masked bees across Australia's eastern coast. Each population lives in patches of tropical and subtropical [rainforest](#) with a specific vegetation type. Dorey thinks that the bees are particularly dependent on firewheel trees (*Stenocarpus sinuatus*) and Illawarra flame trees (*Brachychiton acerifolius*).

Under threat

The survey has identified more individuals of *P. lactiferus* than ever before. But due to poor historic records there is no way of knowing if the masked bee populations have increased or decreased over time, according to Dorey.

Although the bees' may live in isolated populations because they strongly prefer certain habitats, Dorey also suspects that [deforestation](#) and increasingly severe and numerous wildfires could also be playing a role in their isolation.

"Where these bees have been found, that rainforest type has undergone habitat destruction and fragmentation," Dorey said. "This means that there is less of this habitat available," and that makes it "harder for [the bees] to move between what's left."

Unfortunately, rising temperatures caused by [climate change](#) will only worsen wildfires, and deforestation is only continuing, which means "these potential threats are likely to get worse," Dorey said. By [Harry Baker - Staff Writer](#)

"Smaller, and lower-quality fragments might make it more likely that *P. lactiferus* will go extinct in each fragment, and less likely that it will be able to recolonize from another," Dorey said.

Therefore, protecting these habitat fragments is key to their survival. However, protecting species is impossible without tracking the bees' numbers as well as changes in their habitats.

"Without it we have no idea what's going on in ecosystems," Dorey said. "If we did not go and look, then species declines would certainly go unnoticed and the protection of species would be impossible."

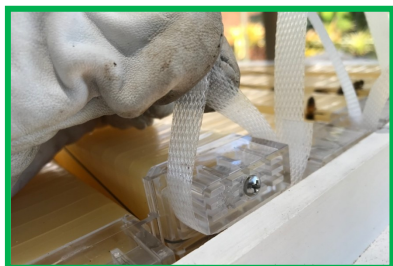
The study was published online Feb. 25 in the [Journal of Hymenoptera Research](#).

Lifting Flow Frames— by Drew Maywald

I have two flow hives and have found it difficult to lift the flow frames to check if they are fully capped, or remove them to do an inspection and brood inspection. My solution was to cut strips of plastic binding tape 200 mm long and put them at the front end of the frames as can be seen in the photo below.



Using a hive tool at the back of the hive, I now grab hold of the plastic strips and the frames come out easily.



After putting a plastic strip on each frame, I realised that I only need it on one or two as once I get one frame out of the honey super, the rest are relatively easy to remove. Now I can inspect every frame without struggling to lift them.



Slovenian Hive Construction - by Steve

'Windy' Hill

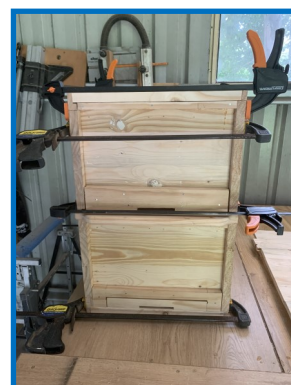
After a few months of procrastinating I have finally gotten to work and constructed my third Slovenian hive. Due to the hive requiring four 22mm and three 16mm panels, the first step I had to deal with was thickening all timber close to the final thickness, and then join all the boards to make the appropriate sized panels.



Once the panels have all been glued up, the next task is to sand all the boards smooth, and cut to size. Then the routing of the two side panels is done to accept the runner rods and the excluder rails. The double front panels, and the 22mm spacers in between, have to have the hive entrances cut out. I found it easier to cut the front panels into sub panels as the 22mm lifting handle needs to fit between the upper and lower halves. For this hive I did not route grooves into the lifting handle to take the upper and lower halves but I will be doing it for the next hive.

After completing all those tasks the next item is to nail the spacers to the inside of the inner front panel. This task is a lot easier to do before gluing up the carcass otherwise you are trying to hammer small nails 600mm away in a tight situation.

Finally, the carcass of the hive can be glued and screwed up. I prefer to use screws instead of nails as I consider it more secure. Of course you have to ensure the carcass is squared up or it may not fit into the opening in your bee shed. As the outer front cover goes on last you don't have to worry about it at this stage. At this stage you also need to install the 22mm fillers and entrances. These can simply be glued in as they will be 'wedged' between the two front covers.



Once the carcass is done the outer front panels can be glued and screwed on. From there it is time to put the hardware into the hive. This comprises the six by 8mm stainless steel bars, the queen excluder, bottom screen board and two back screens. To confirm that I have put the hardware in correctly I always put empty frames in to make sure my measurements were correct.

New

One of the final things is to construct the locking bars for the back screens. This includes making up the wooden screws which was proving to be a challenge until I was able to source a tool that I can easily cut threads into dowel.



The penultimate task is to affix the rear door. This is done by using Anuba hinges which allow the door to be lifted off if required. These hinges, unfortunately, need to be ordered from the USA.



The final task is to paint the exterior of the hive in the colour of your choice. I have painted this one a greyish colour as the hive it is replacing is the same colour. Hopefully the bees will take to it quickly. Of note though, many of the hives in Slovenia have mini murals painted on the 'face' of the hive which makes the beehouse a work of art. Unfortunately, I missed out on an artistic gene so my paint jobs are rather plain at the moment.

If anyone has any questions about the construction of these hives, or Slovenian hives in general, please do not hesitate to contact me.

What's on the Website

Over the last couple of months it has become apparent that the Website is not well understood and what resources can be found there. To help rectify the issue over the next few months, the parts of the website will be brought into focus so members can utilise some of the great material found there.

To start with, in this edition the main headings will be discussed, and then each subsequent issue will deep dive into what is covered under those headings.

So, starting with the Main Headings we have:

- * Home,
- * Events,
- * Newsletters,
- * Education,
- * Equipment Hire and Sales,
- * Gallery,
- * Flora Facts,

- * Membership and Contacts, and
- * Contact.

Of the Main Headings, only four of them have sub-headings at this stage which may change as the website is reviewed and adjusted. Currently, the sub-headings are found as follows;

- Newsletters - there are two sub-headings found here;
 - The Waggle Newsletter - previous issues of the Waggle can be found here, and
 - Other Club Newsletters - some newsletters from other clubs in our vicinity.
- Education - there is a lot of information under this heading including;
 - Attracting Bees,
 - Bees for Kids,
 - Code of Practice,
 - Common pests to bees and beehives,
 - Educational Beekeeping Videos, and
 - Honey Bee Facts.
- Gallery - this section is primarily for Club events and consists of;
 - Event Photos, and
 - GCRB Videos (currently empty).
- The final Main Heading with sub-headings is Membership and Contacts. The sub-headings here are;
 - Membership Handbook,
 - Membership Form,
 - Club Contacts, and
 - Industry Contacts.

Hopefully this quick introduction to the Website helps you find the information you are looking for. The web address is <https://gcrb.org.au>

For Sale

This section will be for Club Members to advertise any beekeeping equipment or honey for sale. Any For Sale or Wanted advertisements are to be sent to the editor no later than one week prior to the next club meeting. Please remember the Club takes no responsibility for any items that appear in this section and any disputes are to be resolved between the seller and the buyer.

What Is Bee Propolis and Why Is It So Great for Skin?

Experts explain the many benefits of bee propolis, a popular K-beauty ingredient that's sweeping the skin-care aisle.



The list of unexpected, animal-derived ingredients used in skin care is a lengthy one, featuring everything from bird poop facials to slug slime serums. The latest ingredient everyone is talking about? Bee glue — which, no, isn't honey. Technically called bee propolis, the ingredient has long been used as an herbal remedy in Eastern medicine, but, thanks to an increase in popularity in the K-beauty space, is now a major player in the mainstream scene. Ahead, top dermatologists explain why everyone is buzzing about propolis (pun intended), and what it can do for your skin.

What Is Bee Propolis?

A compound produced by bees, propolis best described as a sticky, brown resin that bees use to help build their hive, explains board-certified dermatologist Corey L. Hartman, M.D., founder of Skin Wellness Dermatology in Birmingham, AL.

"If you think of beeswax as the 'bricks' of the cell wall of the hive structure, the propolis is the 'mortar' that holds everything together," he explains. It's unique in that it's packed — and I mean *packed* — with a variety of minerals and nutrients. In fact, recent research suggests it contains over 300 active compounds, many of which can be very beneficial for your skin. This includes everything from antioxidants such as ferulic acid and flavanoids to vitamins C and E to zinc, says Robyn Gmyrek, M.D., a board-certified dermatologist at Union Square Laser Dermatology in New York City.

The Skin Benefits of Bee Propolis

As is the case with honey and royal jelly, the list of bee propolis benefits is long. First and foremost, propolis has great antioxidant properties, according to Dr. Gmyrek. Meaning, it can help neutralize oxidative stress caused by free radicals (harmful molecules that, in excess, can lead to cell and tissue damage), thereby decreasing inflammation, a key culprit responsible for signs of aging in skin. Antioxidants can also help combat the breakdown of collagen and elastin, the two proteins responsible for keeping skin looking firm, healthy, and youthful. In fact, a recent study found that propolis can help block the degradation of collagen caused by exposure to UV light.

What's more, propolis is anti-inflammatory and promotes wound healing, not to mention is naturally antibacterial, antifungal, and antiviral, adds Dr. Gmyrek.

Who Should Use Bee Propolis?

In short, pretty much anyone. The antibacterial and anti-inflammatory properties make it an especially good choice for those with acne-prone skin, says Dr. Gmyrek. For one, because propolis contains enzymes that deliver a mild exfoliating effect. The antibacterial element is also noteworthy, given that most acne is actually caused by a bacterium known as *P. acnes*. Meanwhile, the anti-inflammatory properties of bee propolis can help tone down the redness and swelling often associated with blemishes while the exfoliation can help keep pores unclogged and the skin free of pimples going forward. (Battling breakouts? You might want to check out these best drugstore acne products as well.)

Dr. Gmyrek also says that bee propolis a good pick for those focused on anti-aging, given the strong antioxidant benefits. And Dr. Hartman agrees, adding that he also likes the ingredient for those with sensitive or dry skin. "It has a thick consistency and helps form a protective layer over the skin barrier, which aids the skin's ability to repair itself. A healthy skin barrier reduces the likelihood of skin irritation and helps lock in hydration," he explains. (FYI, even though it has a thicker texture, many of the products containing bee propolis are still very lightweight — but more on that soon.)

Is There Anyone Who Shouldn't Use Bee Propolis?

The biggest possible side effect of this buzzy ingredient is an allergic reaction: "There's a potential for allergic reactions, especially if you have lots of allergies to begin with or if you're allergic to bees or bee venom," explains Dr. Gmyrek. (BTW, bee venom is also a fairly common skin-care ingredient.) Steer clear if you have a bee allergy; otherwise, it's always a good idea to try any new ingredient by doing a patch test before applying it all over your face, cautions Dr. Hartman.

Here's how: apply a small amount to your inner forearm and look for any signs of redness, irritation, or itching over the course of 48 hours or so. If any of these pop up, then propolis is probably not the best skin-care ingredient for you. But if your skin remains free of any of these symptoms, then you should be okay to give bee propolis a go on your face. (That said, it's always a good idea to check with your dermatologist before swiping on any skin-care product.)

How to Use Bee Propolis

Depending on *why* you're using it, you can easily combine it with your existing skincare ingredients and products, says Dr. Gmyrek. Both dermatologists point out that there are no common skin-care ingredients known to have a negative interaction with propolis. (Just make sure you're applying your skin-care products in the correct order.)

If you're using it for acne, you could use a propolis-containing product in the morning for the anti-bacterial effects and a retinoid or salicylic acid at night to decrease oil production and help keep pores clear, explains Dr. Gmyrek.

Speaking of, Dr. Hartman says he especially likes pairing propolis with a retinoid; the former helps keep the skin hydrated and minimizes the likelihood of unwanted side effects that can come with retinoids, such as dryness and flaking. And if you're after the anti-aging benefits, again, a retinoid is great to pair it with; it can also be combined with other antioxidants, such as vitamin C, to boost the overall antioxidant potential, says Dr. Gmyrek. (Related: [The Best Vitamin C Skin-Care Products for Brighter, Younger-Looking Skin](#))

Another major pro is that you can find propolis in all kinds of product formulations, from serums to masks and everything in between. Ahead, a few dermat-recommended picks for propolis products.

By **Melanie Rud**

March 10, 2021

Welcome to our Newbees

The President, committee and members extend a warm welcome to our new members who joined GCRB Inc since January 2021:

Shae B,

Julia F,

Nadine M,

Bruce B,

Stephen L, and

Justin R



GCRB IS PROUDLY AFFILIATED WITH THE



The club would like to thank Rachael & Vern for their generous support

www.vsbees.com.au

V's Bee's
Beyond Beekeeping

Monday - Friday [8am - 5pm]
Saturday [8.30am - 12pm]

Beekeeping Supplies

Unit 3 / 90 Spencer Road
Nerang
Located Inside
Allied Bearings & Seals

0415 192 662
vsbeesqld@yahoo.com



2021 GCRB Committee

Position	Incumbent	Phone No	Email
President	Greg Foster		Gcrb.president@beekeepers.asn.au
Treasurer	Peter Handy		Gcrb.treasurer@beekeepers.asn.au
Secretary	Drew Maywald		Gcrb.secretary@beekeepers.asn.au
Membership	Julie Hewetson		Gcrb.membership@beekeepers.asn.au
Committee	Mike Hynes		m.j.hynes043@gmail.com
	Fiona Fernie		ferniefiona@gmail.com
	Roger May		Rogmay45@gmail.com