… AND NOW FOR SOME OF OUR EXCITING GUEST SPEAKER ABSTRACTS

TRAIT SELECTION & TOOLS FOR BREEDING BEES

Abstract: Breeding bees is complicated. With most domesticated animals breeding is relatively straight forward – cross a male and female, both with certain traits, and the result with be offspring with a somewhat predictable mix of the two. With honey bees our unit of measure is not a single daughter or son – it is a colony (hive) the traits of which result from subsets of, and interactions between, sisters and half-sisters. Some traits are relatively easy to breed for using phenotypic criteria (those we can see) and that is where I have started. Other traits are very complicated, and this is where we may soon be able to utilise genetic tools to help breed our bees in specific directions.

Dr Otto Hyink, Scientist & Commercial Beekeeper, Otto's Bees, Dunedin

LIFE & DEATH IN BEEKEEPING

Abstract: Surviving in a beekeeping organisation, while being highly anaphylactic to bee venom. Also, on feeding nutrients to the hives, to help increase the bees' overall health and honey production rates while keeping costs low.

Stephen & Tracy Brown, Commercial Beekeepers, Springbank Honey Ltd, North Canterbury

ROTORUA HONEYBEE CLUB SUPPORTING MEMBERS WITH ONGOING EDUCATION & AFB INCIDENCES

Abstract: The role of the club or group in supporting the elimination of American Foulbrood can have a significant impact on the prevalence and outbreaks. Communication and developing a culture that support this are easy to achieve yet make a difference.

Kim Poynter, President, Rotorua Honeybee Club. Board Member AFB PMP

NEW DNA METHODS FOR RAPID SAMPLING & AFB QPCR TESTING

Abstract: AFB is of increasing concern to beekeepers, given the explosion in the number of hives and beekeepers – many who are unlikely to have seen clinical symptoms in a hive. Sampling can also be laborious, requiring removing honey supers to sample the nurse bees. Dnature has been working on alternative methods of sampling using a new DNA test developed in their lab. These new methods are very fast and show great promise for the rapid detection of hives that will show clinical signs upon inspection.

John Mackay, Technical Director, dnature diagnostics & research Ltd, Gisborne

APICULTURE NZ UPDATE & CONFERENCE & TRADE EXHIBITION 2020, ROTORUA

Abstract: Apiculture New Zealand's programme and latest initiatives, including an update on the 2020 annual Apiculture New Zealand conference being held in Rotorua, at the Rotorua Events Centre, from Thursday 18 June to Saturday 20 June. The annual Conference is a not-to-be-missed event on the New Zealand beekeeping calendar.

Karin Kos, Chief Executive, Apiculture New Zealand

THE SECRET LIVES OF BACKYARD BEE: MONITORING SEASONAL POLLEN SOURCES OF URBAN HONEY BEES

Abstract: To identify on which flowers backyard honeybees (Apis mellifera) forage, we collected pollen from approximately 20 hives located across Dunedin during the 2019/2020 season. Hives sites included residential, semi-rural, and town belt locations. Pollen samples were collected over a two-day window at three weekly intervals across the season using internal pollen traps. Pollen samples were identified and quantified using DNA barcoding and microscopy. We will present some early results from this

study, indicating the variation in the types of pollen collected across colonies, even from hives sited in the same location.
Dr Andrew Cridge, Senior Research Fellow, Department of Biochemistry, University of Otago & Dr Otto Hyink, Scientist & Commercial Beekeeper, Otto's Bees, Dunedin

GETTING THROUGH A TOUGH SEASON OR TWO!

Abstract: Assessing the qualities and viability of your business? Cashflow vs Profit / Budgets vs Forecasts? Focusing on short term vs long term realistic goals & strategies? Where is the best advice?
Russell Marsh, Commercial Beekeeper, Marsh's Honey, Otago

WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE HONEY MARKET?

Abstract: An update on market dynamics and the export landscape, as well as looking at the prospects for NZ honeys.
Sean Goodwin, Chief Executive, 100% Pure New Zealand Honey Ltd, Timaru

COMMON & EMERGENT LAB TESTS FOR HONEY

Abstract: When honey is sold or exported there can be a lot of laboratory testing required. The choice of these tests often depends on the market, and often it is unclear why they are chosen or what they mean. In this presentation some of the common tests will be discussed and explained, along with some of the emerging tests which are conducted in selected circumstances.
Dr Jacob Jaine, Research & Development Technologist, Analytica Laboratories Ltd

THE PATHWAY TO NEW CLASSICAL BIOLOGICAL CONTROL OF INVASIVE *VESPULA* (WASP) IN NEW ZEALAND

Abstract: The journey of searching for potential new biological control agents in the wasps' native range, the process of narrowing down the list of agents and finally how Landcare Research plan to seek approval for releasing the selected agents in New Zealand.
Bob Brown, Researcher, Biocontrol & Molecular Ecology Team, Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research, Lincoln

THE ELEPHANT IN THE HIVE: UNDERSTANDING MITICIDE RESISTANCE IN NEW ZEALAND TO *VARROA DESTRUCTOR*

Abstract: The New Zealand beekeeping industry relies on a narrow range of synthetic chemicals to control varroa. Varroa resistance to some of these miticides has been reported elsewhere in the world and during this session we will look at some of these experiences and consider the situation in New Zealand.
James Sainsbury, Scientist, The New Zealand Institute for Plant & Food Research Ltd, Ruakura

THE HISTORY OF PLASTIC FRAMES IN NEW ZEALAND

Abstract: An overview of the history of the design, manufacture and use of plastic frames in the New Zealand beekeeping industry from the perspective of a beekeeping supplier.
Brian Pilley, Owner/Operator & Hobbyist Beekeeper, Beeline Supplies Ltd, Dunedin

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