CRC for HBP

Collaborative Research Centre for Honey Bee Products

Research programs:

1. The honey bee product program will add value to the industry through developing honeys from known floral sources for the export market. The CRC has all the expertise from chemistry through to clinical trials to discover novel attributes of each honey.

2. The hive site program will provide more quality hive sites, protect existing sites and inform bee hive movement. Australian Manuka honey will be developed and protected.

3. To contribute to honey bee health, the CRC will work towards future-proofing the bee. By establishing an international network, the CRC will develop a catalogue of disease markers. We will build the capacity to translate these against diseases not yet present in Australia.

4. The last program, training and marketing will use all the information from all the programs to develop a Chain of Custody and a training program.

CRCHBP
FOR HONEY BEE PRODUCTS

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CRCHBP
FOR HONEY BEE PRODUCTS

Adding value to the honey bee industry

Australian Government
Department of Industry, Innovation and Science

Business
Cooperative Research Centres Programme

THE HONEY BEE INDUSTRY IS UNDERVALUED IN AUSTRALIA

HONEY BEE PRODUCTS ARE PRESENTLY VALUED AT $125 MILLION. WHAT IS OFTEN OVERLOOKED IS THAT 52 OF OUR FOOD CROPS RELY ON HONEY BEE POLLINATION WHICH ADDS AN ADDITIONAL FARM GATE VALUE OF $6.5 BILLION.

Challenges faced:

1. **Undervalued:** Australia has barely moved its value proposition for honey bee products in the last 5 years, whereas New Zealand, Europe and China vastly increased their profitability through different marketing strategies.

2. **Migration:** Beekeepers are always chasing the next flowering event to keep their bee hives alive and healthy, and maintaining a honey bee product output.

3. **Hive management:** Agriculture in Australia is dependent on honeybee pollination. If you took the bees away, immediately Australia would produce 25.8% less food produce. We need more managed bee hives and skilled beekeepers.

4. **Bee hive sites:** Native bush bee hive sites are critical for the health of bees, and we are losing them for various reasons. Climate change, especially the extremes we are now experiencing more frequently, bring fire and flood. Land use and policy changes block beekeepers from many of their sites. We have to find a way to protect and create new hive sites to keep our bees healthy.

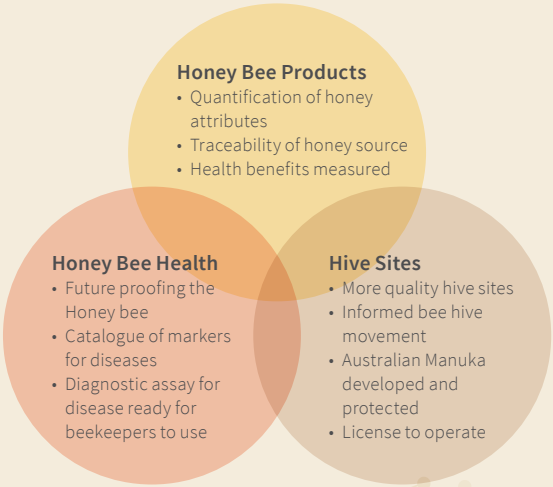
5. **Bee health diagnosis:** Another critical factor to bee health is a rapid diagnosis and response to diseases. We need tools for rapid and accurate identification in the field and to help the new beekeeper generation to up-skill in disease control.

6. **Beekeeping career:** Lack of an entry pathway to beekeeping to create a new generation of beekeepers has been identified as the limiting factor.

Research solutions:

This CRC has a five year delivery plan to make beekeeping an attractive business by:

- adding value to the honey bee product;
- reducing the risks;
- re-tooling the industry for greater efficiency;
- training the next generation of beekeepers.



Collaboration team:

- Bee Industry Council of Western Australia Ltd
- Capilano Honey Limited
- ManukaLife Pty Ltd
- Greening Australia (WA)
- The University of Western Australia
- University of the Sunshine Coast
- Rural Industries Research & Development Corporation
- The Western Australian Apiarists' Society (Incorporated)
- Department of Parks and Wildlife
- Chemistry Centre (WA)
- Manageering Pty Ltd
- ProBiOz Pty Ltd
- Djilarup Manuka Pty Ltd
- Spring Gully Foods Pty Ltd
- Gather By Pty Ltd
- The University of Adelaide
- New Orion Investments Pty Ltd & St Andrews Private Estate Pty Ltd
- Agrisolutions Australia
- Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences
- University of California Riverside

New members welcome