



February 2025 Newsletter

Beekeeping conference, WHS regulations and other news and updates



Contents

Recreational Beekeeping Conference 2

 Where: 2

 When..... 2

 Program and speakers 2

 Inclusions..... 2

 Pricing and discounts..... 2

WHS regulations – importance and compliance..... 3

 Ensuring the Safety of Beekeepers 3

 Legal Obligations and Financial Implications In Australia 3

 Enhancing Environmental Sustainability 4

 Conclusion 4

Minimising RISK with Fair Work and WorkSafe Claims against your Business 5

 Getting support..... 5

 How does it work?..... 6

 Additional resources for review 6

 Get in touch for details and to sign up 6

Join B-TRACE QA and Food Safety Program: 8

 What is B-TRACE?..... 9

 Why Join B-TRACE? 9

 Benefits of Effective Record Keeping..... 10

Notices 11

 B-TRACE Audits. 11

 B-QUAL Self Assessments..... 11

 B-QUAL and/or B-TRACE logos. 11

 Members section of websites. 11

Our Sponsors: 12

Contact details..... 12

Newsletter disclaimer: 12

Recreational Beekeeping Conference

Better Beekeeping Basics to Biosecurity

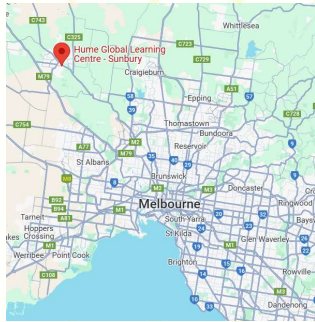
Where:

[Hume Global Learning Centre](#)

44 Macedon St, Sunbury VIC 3429, Australia

When

Saturday 29th March 2025



Program and speakers

Subject	Speaker
Honeybee viruses	Emily Remnant (via zoom)
Molecular testing for AFB	Olivia Ducommun-Dit-Verron
Varroa update	Elizabeth Frost
Speech-to-text record keeping	Liz Barbour
Chemistry of honey	Liz Barbour
Sweet distinction: Elevate your honey brand	Jessica Locarnini
Winning Honey Competitions	Peter Adams
Food Safety and Compliance	Angelique Drew
How honeybee swarms relocate	Tino Corsetti
Winter welfare for your bees	Stephen Davey
Reliable Requeening	Andrew Wooton
Generate income from beekeeping	Tony Wilsmore

Inclusions

- Beekeeping trade stalls
- Lunch included

Pricing and discounts

Early bird fees are in effect

VAA Members: \$120

Non-Members: \$170

WHS regulations – importance and compliance

The Importance of Complying with Work Health and Safety Regulations for Australian Beekeepers.

Australian beekeepers are vital to agriculture and biodiversity, aiding in crop pollination and ecosystem support, however, their work involves risks, including handling aggressive bees and using heavy equipment.

To safeguard beekeepers and their businesses, compliance with Work Health and Safety (WHS) regulations is essential.

Here I'll highlight the importance of adherence to these regulations, focusing on safety, legal obligations, and environmental impact.

Ensuring the Safety of Beekeepers

Compliance with WHS regulations prioritizes beekeepers' safety. The physical demands of beekeeping pose risks such as bee sting allergies and injuries from equipment. WHS guidelines help identify these risks and mandate the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) like gloves and veils to reduce hazards. Regular training on safe handling also prepares beekeepers to respond to incidents, fostering a safer work environment.

Legal Obligations and Financial Implications In Australia

WHS compliance is a legal requirement under the Work Health and Safety Act 2011. Beekeepers must ensure their workers' health and safety, providing necessary training and safe conditions.

Non-compliance can lead to fines, penalties, and financial losses due to increased insurance costs and compensation claims.

By investing in WHS adherence, beekeepers protect their operations and financial stability.

Enhancing Environmental Sustainability

WHS compliance also promotes environmental sustainability. Safe beekeeping practices often align with eco-friendly methods that benefit bee populations, such as responsible pesticide use and sustainable hive management.

By ensuring safe operations, beekeepers support biodiversity, enhancing the industry's reputation and market access for their products.

Conclusion

In summary, complying with Work Health and Safety regulations is vital for Australian beekeepers, impacting their safety, business sustainability, and environmental stewardship.

By prioritizing safety, fulfilling legal obligations, and adopting eco-friendly practices, beekeepers can protect their health, ensure financial viability, and positively influence agriculture and biodiversity in Australia.

A commitment to WHS compliance will enable beekeepers to thrive sustainably, benefiting both themselves and society.



Minimising RISK with Fair Work and WorkSafe Claims against your Business

Every business in the country reports to at least 3 regulatory authorities:

- The ATO.
- Fair Work and
- WorkSafe.

The ATO is the easy one. The Accountant puts it in place and we follow the bouncing ball.

Fairwork and WorkSafe are the hard ones. With contains changes, the requirement for Policy, Process and Proof, it represents SUBSTANTIAL RISK for Business Owners.

If you would not dream of having an Accountant when these two regulatory authorities are the hard one, it is important to GET SUPPORT!!

Getting support

Considering the ever-changing HR and OH&S landscapes, it is important for Business Owners and Operators to stay ahead of the curve and understand the impact of legislative changes upon their business. It is also a statutory obligation for all businesses to have a compliant OH&S system.

It is our intention to both proactively and strategically protect the business owners and operators regarding HR and OH&S. It is important for us to assist our members in having the relevant Policy, Process and Proof to facilitate this.

That is why we work with you 24/7/365. It is also our intention that these systems assist with enhancing the return on investment from your labour fixed costs, which I personally feel more than covers the cost for this compliance.

We are here to take work off your table and provide you with the peace of mind and confidence that you are supported and protected as both a business and an individual.

We provide peace-of-mind and confidence.

Peninsula is “NOT” a Government organisation. We are a proudly independent company helping Business Owners proactively and strategically protect their businesses regarding HR and OH&S.

Let us take the load.

Peninsula will work with you to navigate and manage confusing workplace requirements. We are here to support YOU.

How does it work?

By advising, assisting and supplying robust Policy, Process and Proof, (record keeping systems).

We take a huge administrative component from your business. By customising and providing employment documentation including contracts, employee handbooks, employee letters and correspondence, performance management and disciplinary materials and a variety of other bespoke materials.

By providing 24/7 advice and support in relation to FairWork and Work Safe legislation, compliance, managing employment relations matters and holding difficult conversations. In fact, anything to do with Employment Relations and Work Health and Safety.

Providing access to our Award-Winning Legal Partner for legal representation.

Safeguarding our clients against the financial costs of workplace claims. This is subject to the terms and conditions of the attached PDS.

PLUS our BrightSafe and BrightHR Software Solutions, which can help you get on top of Work Health and Safety compliance, rostering, leave management, expense management and document management.

Additional resources for review

Please take a moment to view this short video clip.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y0hx9Qp4z6M>

Please also click on the following link for Trustpilot reviews. We have an excellent 4.8 stars out of five across over 1800 reviews.

<https://au.trustpilot.com/review/employsure.com.au>

With over 31,000 clients just like you, Peninsula is a brand you can trust at a price you can afford.

Get in touch for details and to sign up

Office: Phone: 07 4994 9820

B-QUAL email: admin@bqual.com.au

B-TRACE email: admin@btrace.com.au

Join B-TRACE QA and Food Safety Program:

“Accurate record keeping is the backbone of a successful food safety program.”



Food safety is crucial for maintaining health standards and ensuring that food doesn't cause harm to consumers. One vital aspect that everyone involved in food production, from farmers, food manufacturers, and beekeepers must focus on is strict record keeping. Joining the B-TRACE QA and Food Safety Program is one way to help achieve this goal and enhance food safety practices by using the B-TRACE hive management app.

The B-TRACE program encourages small medium enterprise beekeeping operators to put reliable, systematic practices in place to ensure that all aspects of food safety are handled correctly.

What is B-TRACE?

B-TRACE could stand for "Building Traceability Assurance for Compliance and Excellence." The program is designed to equip beekeepers with the tools and knowledge they need to ensure food safety from apiary to consumer.

The primary aim of B-TRACE is to enable operators to track and monitor every aspect of honey production. This includes gathering, processing, packaging, and distribution. Keeping accurate records allows businesses to pinpoint any problematic areas before they lead to significant issues.

Why Join B-TRACE?

There are several reasons why being a part of the B-TRACE QA and Food Safety Program is beneficial:

1. Enhanced Safety Standards:

By joining B-TRACE, you align your practices with industry standards that emphasize food safety and quality.

2. Improved Traceability:

With the use of the B-TRACE hive management app you can easily trace products. This is critical in the event of a food recall.

3. Better Consumer Confidence:

When customers know that a company is dedicated to safety, they are more likely to trust its products.

4. Regulatory Compliance:

Participating in B-TRACE helps ensure that your organization meets all industry standards and requirements for food safety and record keeping.

Statistics show that businesses with strong record keeping are less likely to experience safety violations. Keeping accurate records allows companies to identify trends and improve their safety protocols effectively. As part of B-TRACE, you will have access to templates and software designed to simplify this process.

Benefits of Effective Record Keeping

1. Liability Protection:

In case of illness reports or food recalls, having excellent records can protect your business legally.

2. Operational Efficiency:

When everything is documented, it becomes easier and quicker to find crucial information, thereby allowing for better decision-making.

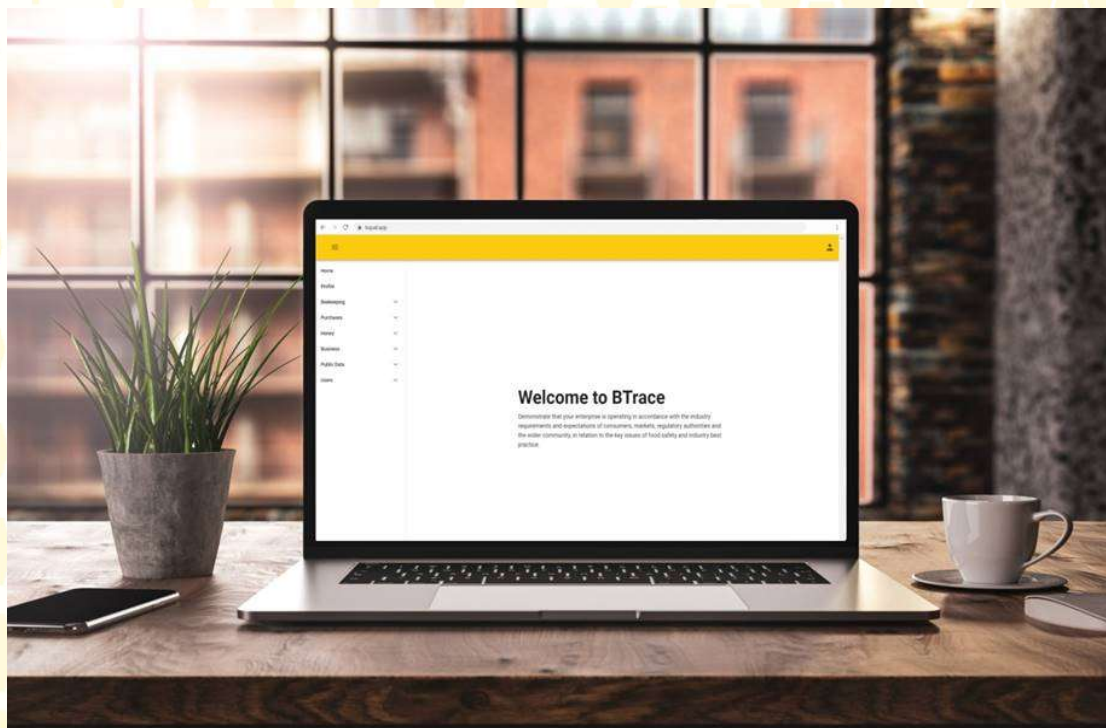
3. Employee Training:

Records provide a history of incidents and safety measures. They are valuable tools for training employees on food safety practices.

4. Quality Control:

Systematic record keeping can help identify areas for quality improvement.

Make the move now contact BTRACE via www.btrace.com.au or phone 07 4994 9820



Notices

B-TRACE Audits.

If you have not yet submitted your online audit for the current year, please do so to keep your accreditation up to date.

The online audit form is available in the members section of the B-TRACE web site or alternatively contact admin@btrace.com.au and we will email one to you.

Once completed email back to the office.

Allow 5-7 days for audit review and issue of the accreditation certificate.

Members section of websites.

To access the member section of the B-QUAL and B-TRACE websites you need to create an account.

To do this email the office requesting an account for either web site.

Once the account is set you will receive an email requesting to log in and change the initial password. Remember that you must have a separate account for the members section, your app or other passwords will not work.

B-QUAL and/or B-TRACE logos.

Pre-printed logo labels are available from the office.

B-TRACE 30mm lid labels full colour \$26.50/1000 (plus GST and postage)

B-QUAL 12mm jar labels full colour \$ 22.50/1000. (plus GST and postage)

If you are printing your own labels high Res artwork is available free of charge.



B-QUAL Self Assessments.

If you have purchased your Approved Supplier Manual but not yet submitted the self-assessments, you cannot proceed with further certification until self-assessments are submitted.

The assessments are in the first section of the manual. Complete both assessments and send to admin@bqual.com.au for review and certificate issue.

If you have any queries about assessments, contact admin@bqual.com.au for further assistance.

Our Sponsors:

We acknowledge and thank Steritech and the CMV Group for their valuable ongoing support of B-QUAL and B-TRACE which assists us to continue to participate in research and industry development works which we see as important to our industry.



CMV
TRUCK CENTRE



CMVFARMS



STERITECH
Protecting what matters

Please support those who support us.

Contact details

General enquiries for B-QUAL & B-TRACE:

Office: All enquiries. Phone: 07 4994 9820

B-QUAL email: admin@bqual.com.au

B-TRACE email: admin@btrace.com.au

Newsletter disclaimer:

Material and information published in the B-QUAL newsletter, is produced for general information only. Although published in good faith, the company and/or any officer of the company will not be liable for any loss suffered by any person for action taken on the basis of such information.