



Victorian Apiarists' Association
 Recreational Beekeepers Conference
 Melbourne, Saturday 9th March 2024

Are you ready for varroa?

Successful Beekeeping in Challenging Times

Join us for this one day seminar with the latest on varroa treatments from the AgVic team plus updates on the national management plan. Hear from international experts on honey bee viruses, resistance breeding and disease detection. With live hive and practical demonstrations to explain, reinforce and entertain. Hurry, early bird discounts end soon!

Session 1: Improving your beekeeping skills

The 4 seasons of beekeeping
 Feeding bees
 Splitting Hives
 Flow Hive tips and tricks

Session 2: Tackling biosecurity today

Integrated Pest Management and varroa treatments
 Breeding varroa resistant bees
 Viruses of the honey bee
 AFB/EFB testing
 Honey testing

Master of Ceremonies

Ally Driessen
 Former AgVic Bee Biosecurity Officer and well known beekeeping identity, Ally will be chairing proceedings and ensuring a lively atmosphere and full engagement for everyone.

Trade Displays

Bee equipment retailers will be represented and generous discounts for purchases on the day have been negotiated!

Keynote Speaker

Prof Madeleine Beekman
 Madeleine is Professor Emerita at the University of Sydney where she studied behaviour and evolution of social insects and particularly honeybees. Her special interest is in the role Varroa plays in vectoring honeybee viruses and she has embarked on a set of experiments to disentangle the role of Varroa on the spread of the deformed wing virus.

Keynote Speaker

Prof Travis Beddoe
 Prof Beddoe is Head of the Department of Animal, Plant and Soil Sciences at La Trobe University (Bundoora campus) where he leads the Agriculture Bio-Solutions laboratory. His research program focuses on field deployable diagnostics, the molecular understanding of disease pathogenesis and sustainable treatment solutions (vaccines). His research team have developed rapid in-field assays for EFB and AFB.

Keynote Speaker

Dr Jody Gerdtz
 Dr. Jody Gerdtz is the founder and Director of Bee Scientifics, a Benalla, Victoria-based company that specialises in honey bee breeding and apicultural research. Jody's interest in breeding bees for varroa resistance has been supported through two prestigious fellowships: International Specialised Skills Institute and Veski Fellowship providing opportunities for international travel and collaboration with some of the world's leading experts.

Tickets: Members \$150 (early bird \$120) Non-members \$200 (early bird \$170)
 Catering including lunch, tea and coffee supplied.
 Location: Victorian Croquet Centre, 65 Nobel Banks Dr, Cairnlea VIC 3023

Organising Committee: John van Weeghel, Andrew Wootton, Adam Maxwell
 Enquiries: rec_conference@vicbeekeepers.com.au
 Website: www.vicbeekeepers.com.au/events

