

Tocal Beekeepers' Field Day

Saturday 10 October 2026 | Tocal College, 815 Tocal Rd Paterson

Topics	Speakers
9.00 am Welcome and Acknowledgment of Country	Darren Bayley (Director Education, Tocal College)
9.05 am Under the scope: a search for non-reproductive mites in real time	Elizabeth Frost (Technical Specialist Honey Bees, NSW DPIRD)
9.20 am Tocal Honey Competition winners' presentation	Max Rae (Central Coast Amateur Beekeepers)
9.30 am Resistant mites	Emily Noordyke (Varroa Development Officer, NSW DPIRD)
9.45 am Breeding queens	Col Wilson (Hunter Valley Apiaries)
10.00 am Understanding the role of male bees as pollinators in Australian systems (Native bees)	Georgie Brennan (The University of Sydney)
10.10 am Managing 100 hives and IPM	Glenn Locke (Mt Coramba Apiculture)
10.25 am MORNING TEA	
10.40 am In the Beezeebo 1: Meet the Queen - the hive and its workings	Kelly Lees (Education Officer Honey Bees, NSW DPIRD)
11.15 am Introduction to Mead making - the ancient beverage	Michael Syme (North Shore Beekeepers Assoc)
11.35 pm Ground Nesting Bees: Floral Resources and Nest Architecture (Native bees)	Matt Cunningham (Western Sydney University)
11.50 pm Honey bee viruses	Emily Remnant (The University of Sydney)
12.10 pm Test your knowledge bees general knowledge quiz	Amateur Beekeepers Australia
12.30 pm LUNCH	
1.10 pm In the Beezeebo 2: Monitoring and inspecting for pest and disease	Doug Purdie (Bee Biosecurity Officer, NSW DPIRD)
1.45 pm Monitor, Monitor, Monitor.	Rod Bourke (Bee Biosecurity Officer, NSW DPIRD)
2.00 pm Goldfields Honey — a snapshot	Sam Lockwood (Lockwood Beekeeping Supplies)
2.15 pm Presentation of the Col. Pulling Award and Bruce White Shield	Vince Schnyder (President, Amateur Beekeepers Australia)
2.25 pm The changing face of pollination	Dr Madlen Kratz (Honey Bee Industry Development Officer, NSW DPIRD)
2.40 pm Q and A session	
3.00 pm Close	

Demos: 10.00 am, 11.00 am, 1.00 pm | Honey extracting demonstration | North Shore Beekeepers Assoc.

Stalls: Pender Beekeeping Supplies, Lockwood Beekeeping Supplies, Hornsby Beekeeping Supplies, Hunter Valley Apiary Supplies, Coffs Beekeeping Supplies, Jeometry Beewear Australia, Michelle Blyme creations, Arthur Garske— Author, Tocal publications and education, Frog in a Sock Pottery, Hunter Valley Amateur Beekeepers' Association, Central Coast Beekeepers, Varroa Controller Australia, NSW Varroa Development Officers, NSW DPIRD Honey Bee Officer, NSW DPIRD Farm Business Resilience Program

This event is supported by:

