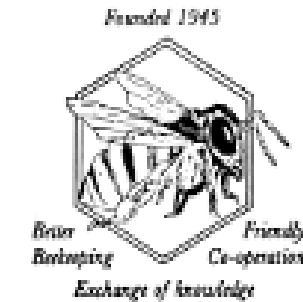


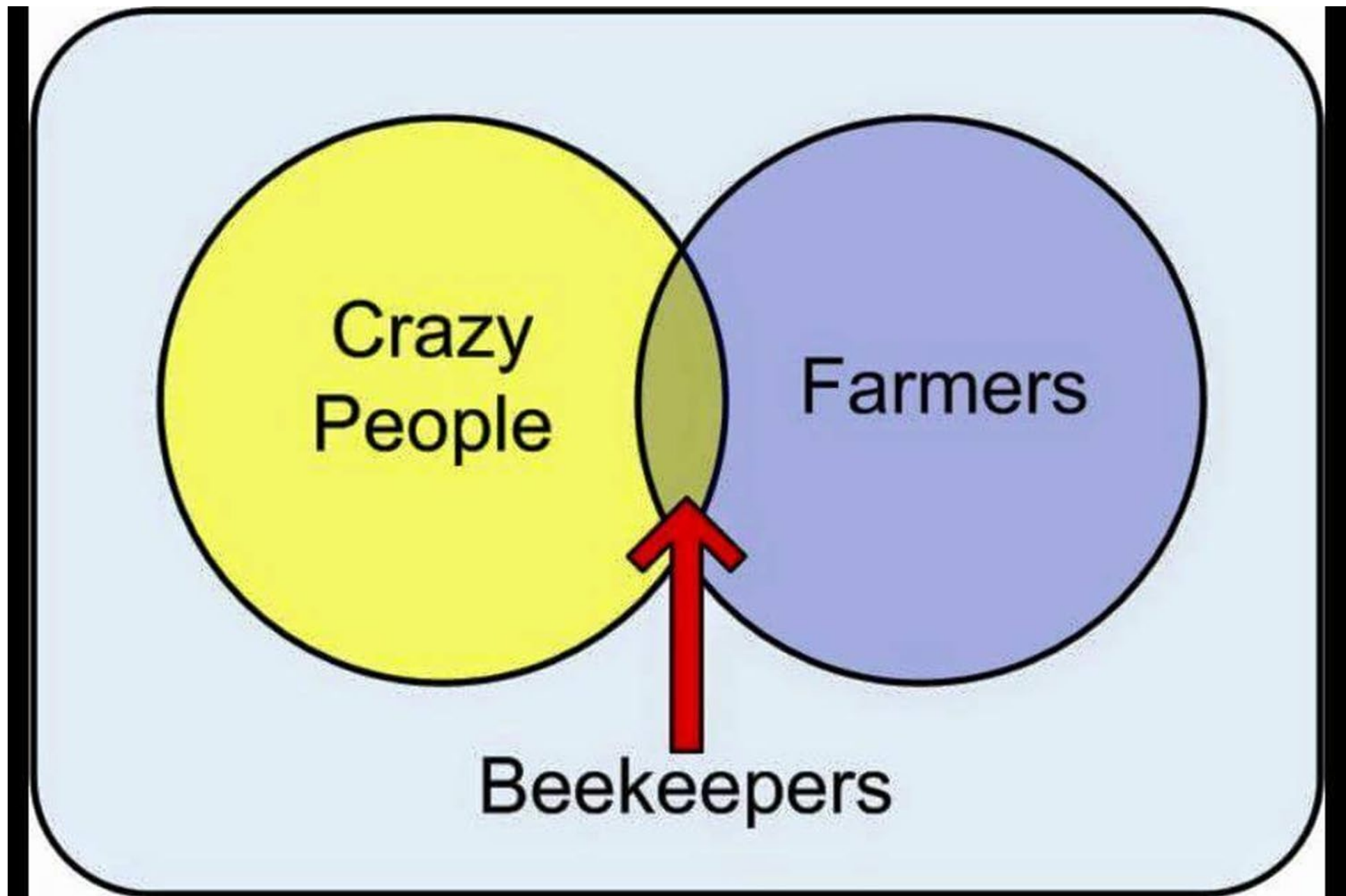
Pollination Supply Issues

Ben Hooper



South
Australian
Apiarists
Association







Issues





Australian Government
Department of Agriculture
and Water Resources
ABARES

Australian honey bee industry: 2014–15 survey results

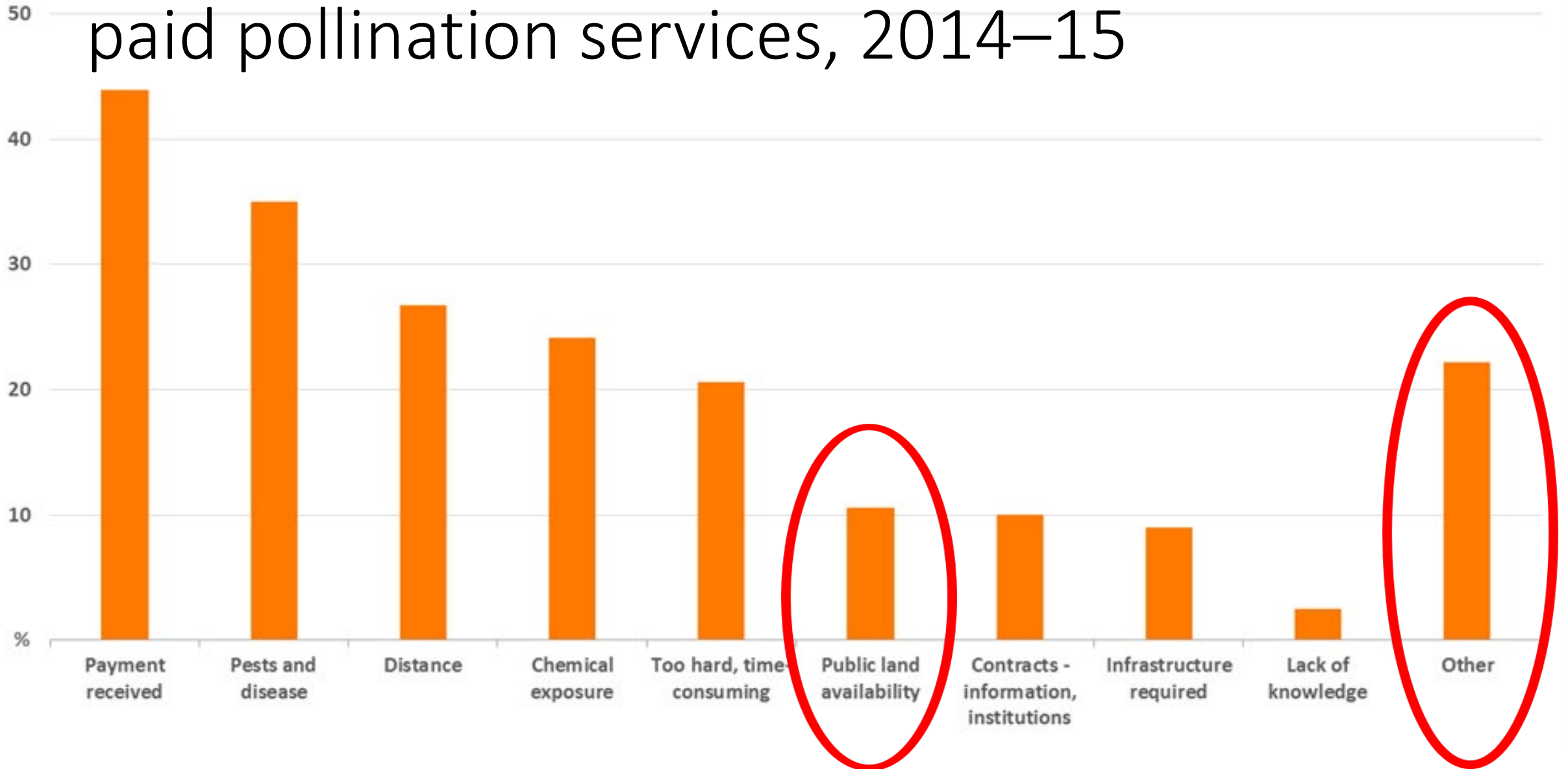
Jeremy van Dijk, Jay Gomboso and Caroline Levantis

Research by the Australian Bureau of Agricultural
and Resource Economics and Sciences

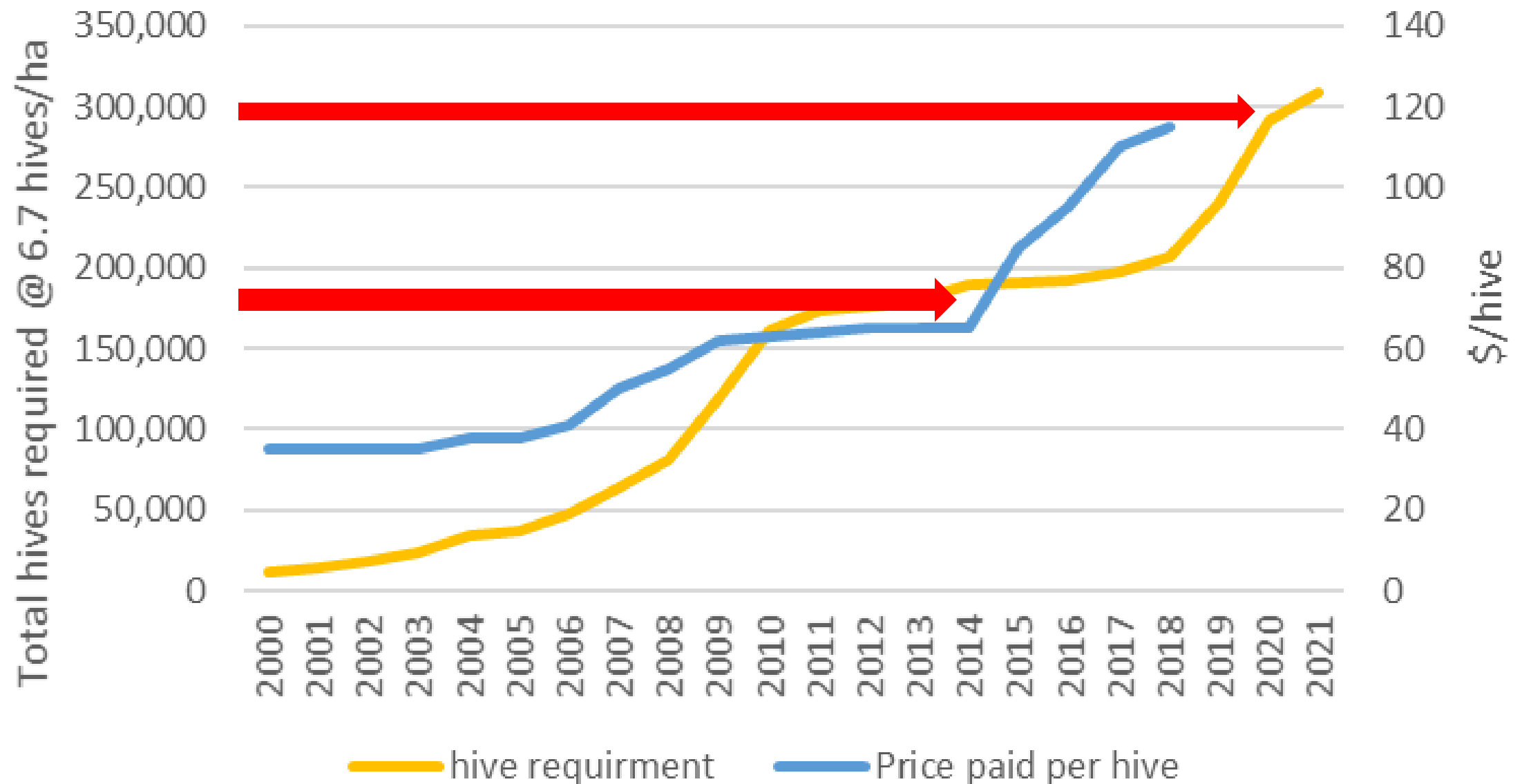
ABARES research report 16.18
December 2016



Impediments to commencing or expanding paid pollination services, 2014–15



Hive requirments and historic price paid/hive



- Highlight issues of public land access
- Why its important to beekeepers
- How is a limiting factor for hive supply



- Throughout Australia nearly every commercial operation will rely on public land access.
- These protected areas are the richest source of nutrition
- Particularly in Autumn and Winter
- Crucial for supply to almond pollination



Public Land Availability



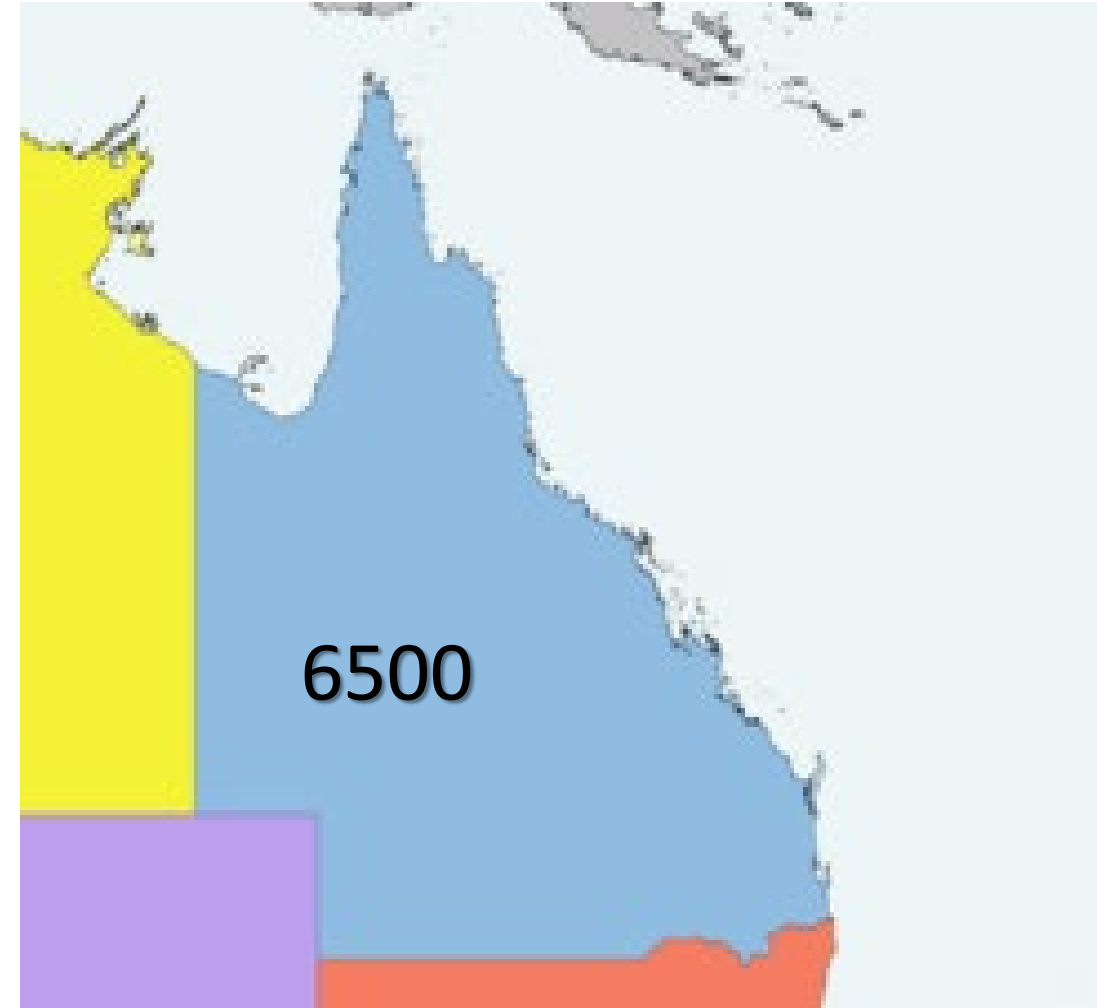
Queensland

Increasing supply from the north

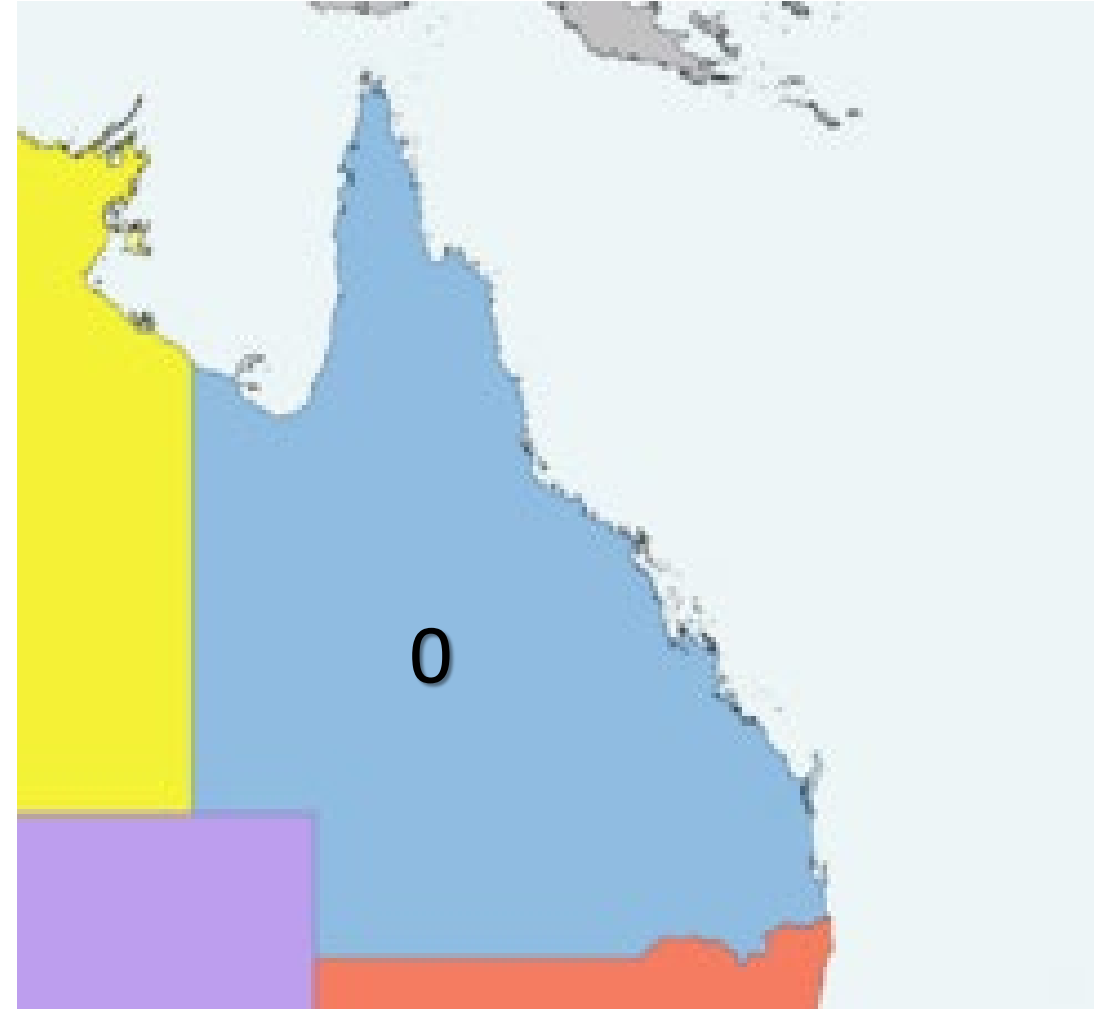
Financial incentive – with capacity

Government enacted sunset clause

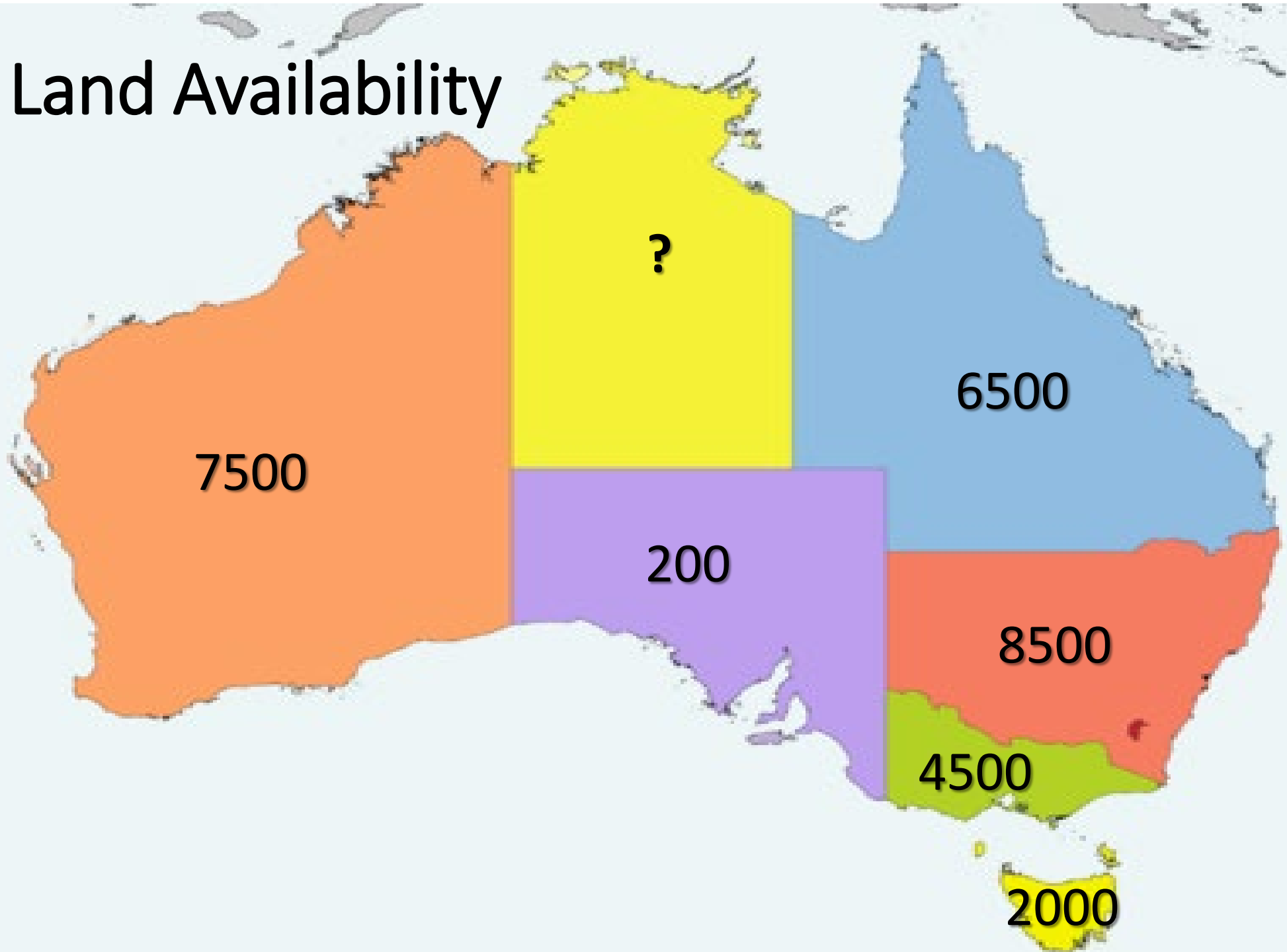
Removed 2024



- 12 years
- Lose 2800 of the national park sites
- Also forestry is banned from 2024
- Return country is to become national parks
- So they lose remaining 3700 sites

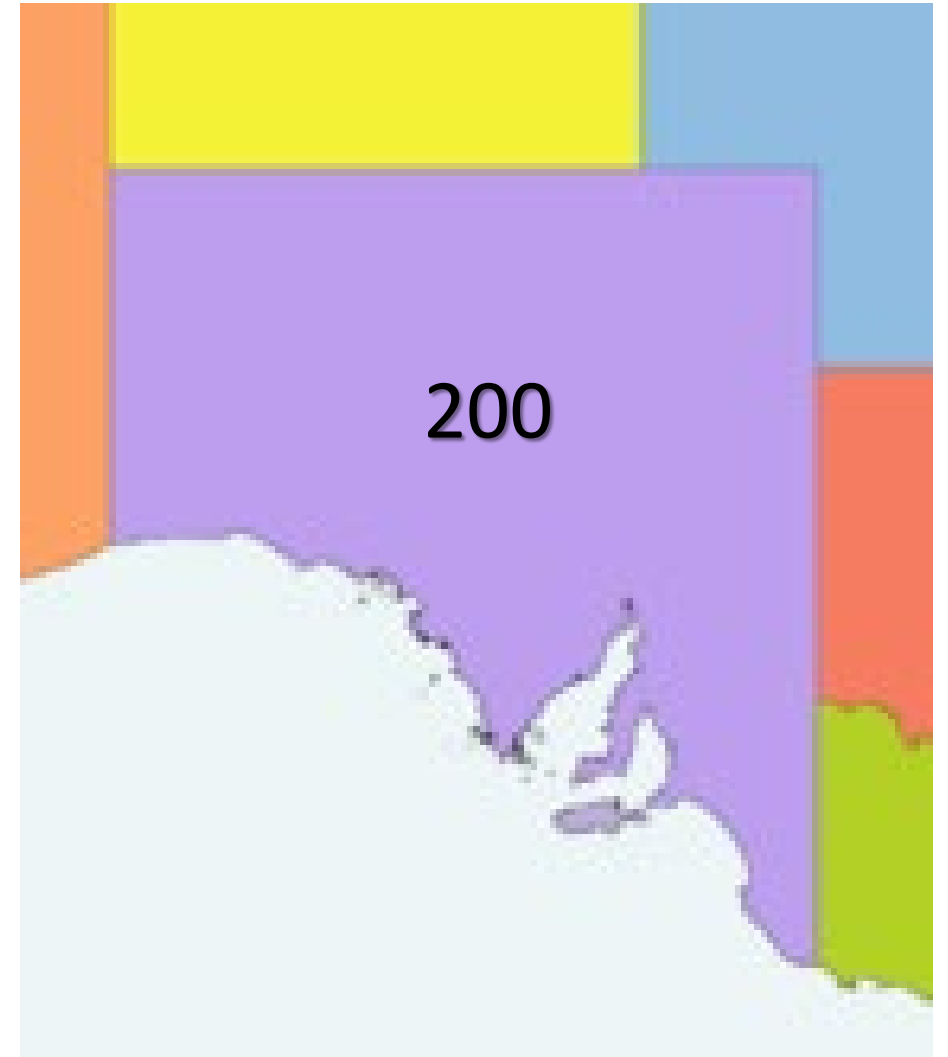


Public Land Availability



South Australia

- This doesn't help you
- Certainly doesn't help us
- It get worse for SA



DEW bee licence summary

Area	Licenced	Suspended	Vacant - Unviable	Vacant - Viable	Total
Ngarkat	144	97	21	39	301
Western EP	11				11
Upper Sth East	9				9
KI	6				7
Yorke	5				5
Sthrn Flinders	3				3
Riverland	2				2
Lower SE	1				1

[< Topics](#)[> Co-management of parks](#)[strategies](#)[s and policies in preparation](#)[ent plans](#)[Topics](#) > [Park management](#) > [State-wide park strategies](#)

Park management plans



Document that sets a long term vision and background information about the park to meet that vision.



30,000 feet appears fine



Mars is the reality



Problem



Solution

Aha!

**South
Australian
Example !!**

Facts about bee sites

- Each public land site carries 100 hives on average
- The public land site is of high quality for hive health and can provide refuge for wintering hives.
- 1 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) employee can manage 400/hives (Jeremy van Dijk, 2016).



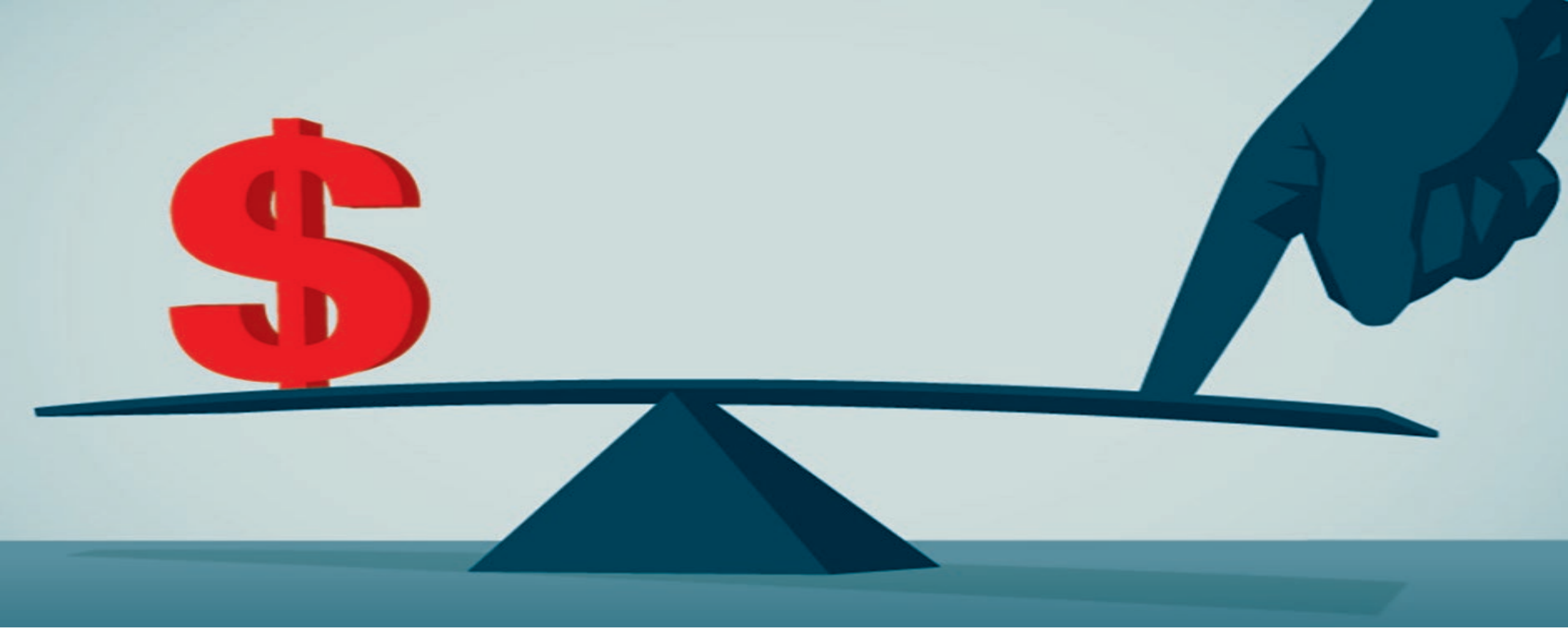
Facts about almonds



- Almonds are 100% reliant on honeybees for pollination (Hill et al., 1985, Cook et al., 2007).
- Almond hive stocking rate is 6.7 hives/ha (Cunningham et al., 2016).
- Average almond yield of 2.2 t/ha (Almond Board of Australia, 2018).
- Price paid for almonds at farm gate \$7/kg (peers, comms).

- 100 hives can service 15ha of almonds @ 6.7 hives/ha
- 15ha will yield 33,000kg of almonds
- Valued at \$7/kg = \$231,000





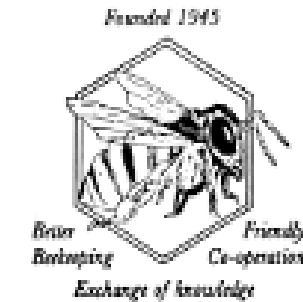
- For each additional high value wintering site, the economy of South Australia will be expanded by \$231,000.
- Each additional site will also create 0.25FTE jobs

- Internal modelling has been well received
- Industries formally agreement
- In expensive tool



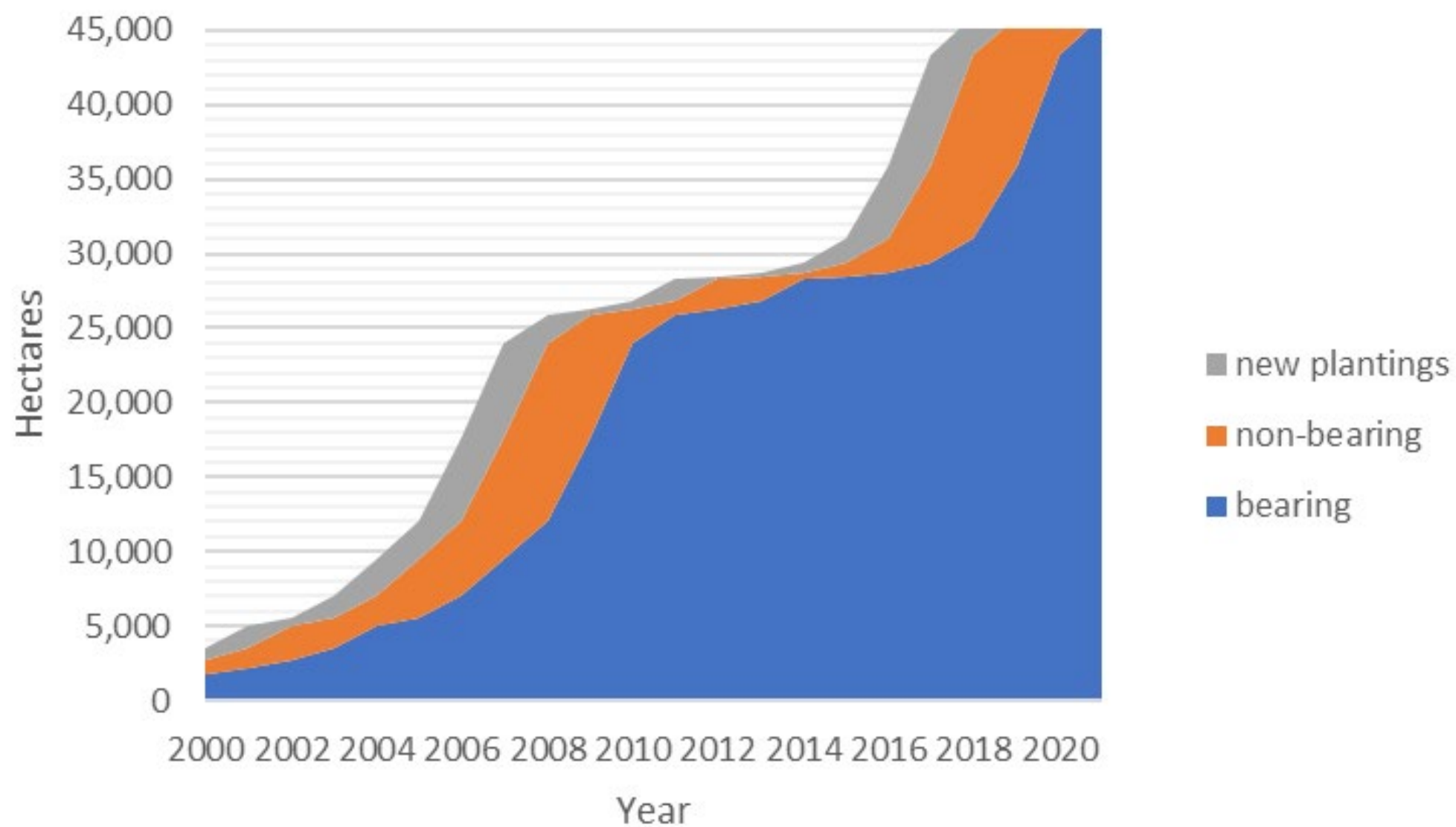
Thank You

Ben Hooper

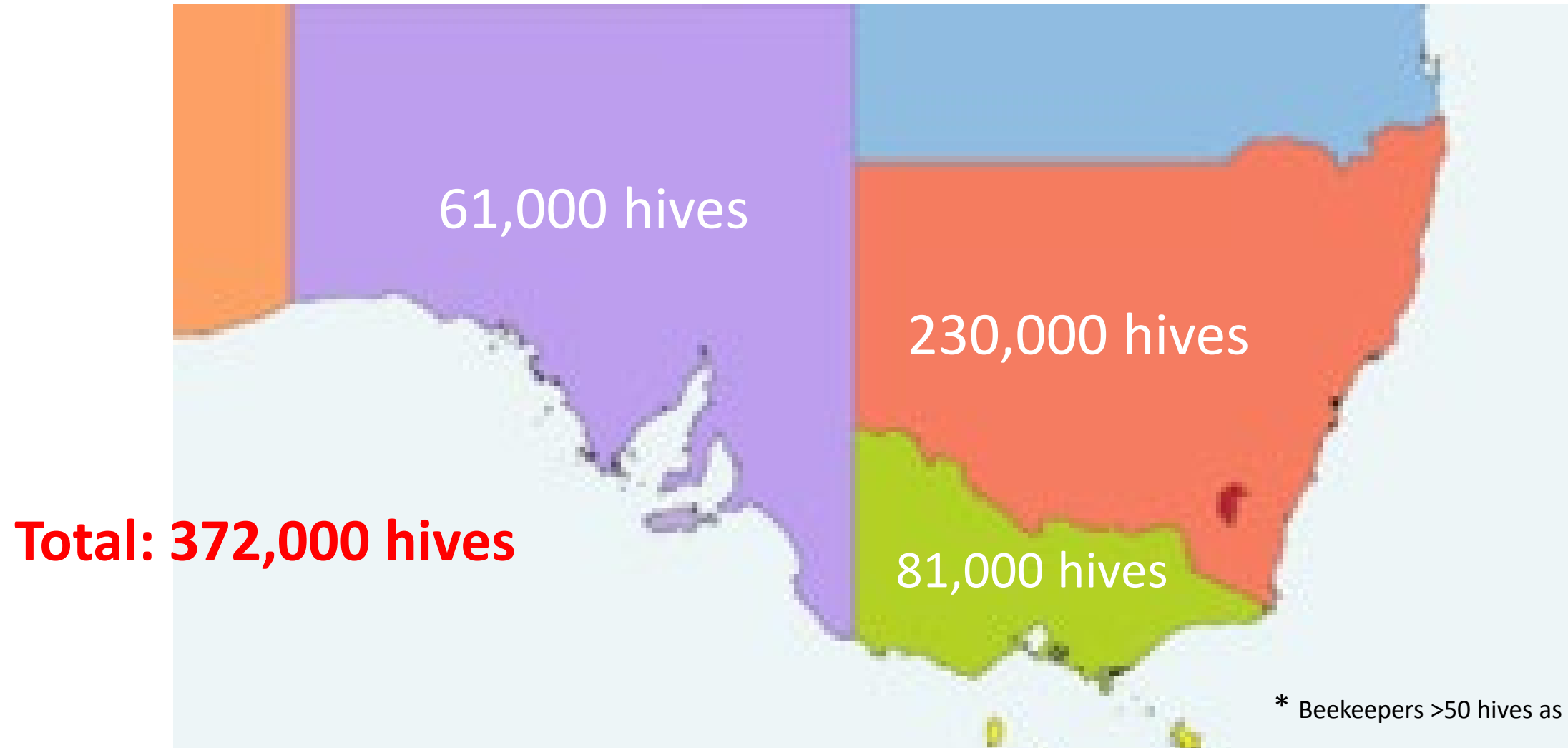


South
Australian
Apiarists
Association

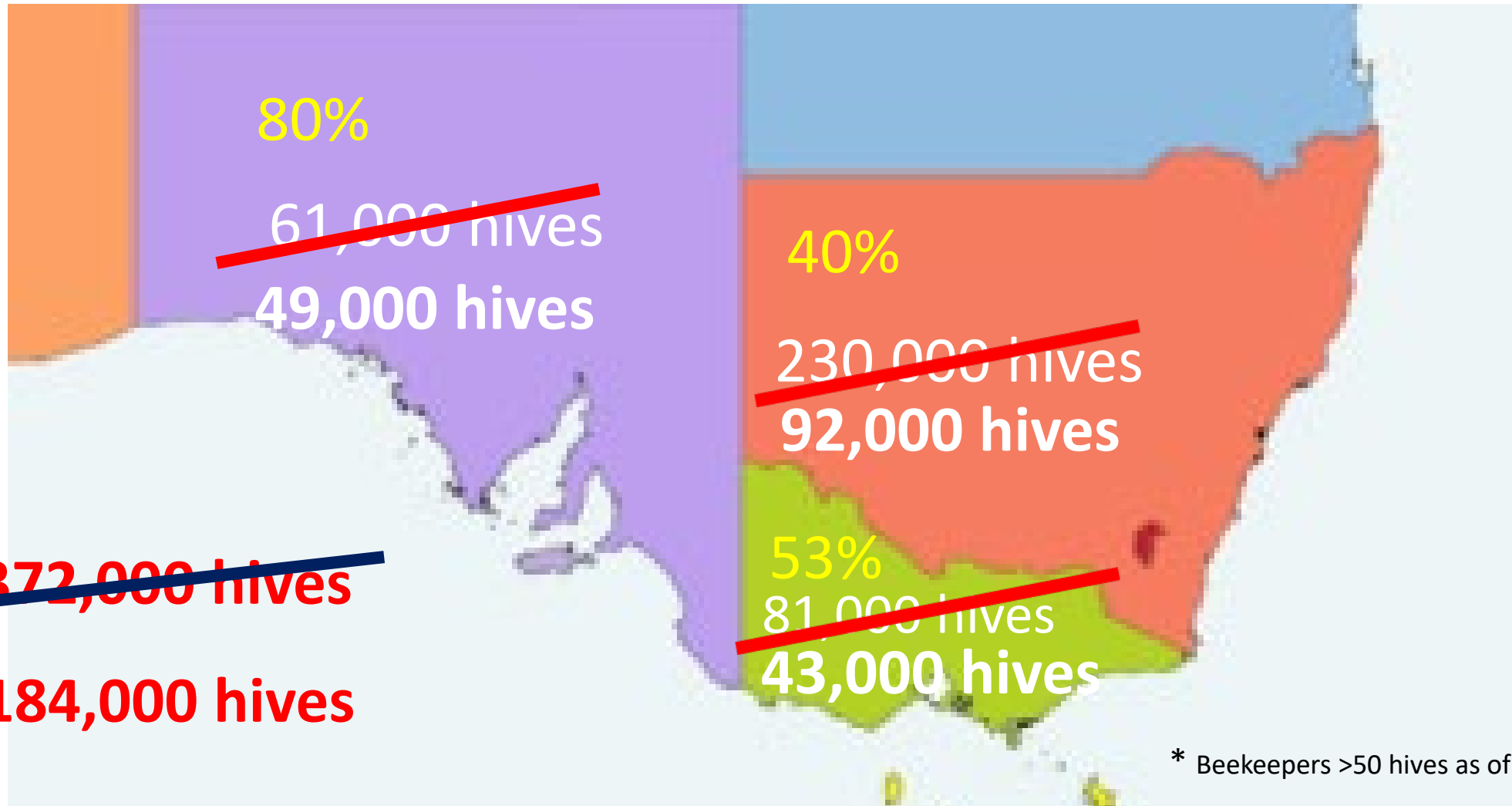
Total current and forecasted Australian almond plantings



Commercial Hive Numbers*



Participation in pollination



* Beekeepers >50 hives as of Oct 2017





The Fork in The Road

Collectively address the participation issues

- Disease
- Sprays
- Resource access

Continue with the status quo

- Allow the free market to do its thing
- Prices will have to rise to find the equilibrium

American Foulbrood (AFB)





Ideas for addressing disease issue



Pre pollination
inspections



Stewardship
program



Give farm managers
basic tools

Other Challenges



Consistency in auditing/grading

- Current method subjective and interpretation varies
- Pricing structures change from company to company
- Under table deals as supply tightens

Understanding that we are not magicians, tough winters reduces colony size

- Cost of feeding
- Pressure on honey quality
- Access to more public land resources

An illustration on a yellow background featuring two black, stylized figures. Each figure has a round head with a single white eye and a small, colorful antenna. They have long, thin, looping limbs. A single, long, straight horizontal line connects the two figures across the middle of the image. A white rectangular box with a thin black border is positioned in the center, overlapping the line and the lower bodies of the figures.

Must be a collective industry approach



Thank you

Danny Le Feuvre

0409 699 980



**Australian
Bee Services**