

The 6 project parts

- Audit of NSW government-owned lands for suitability as bee sites (DPI, NSW)
- 2. Establishing pollinator-friendly plants in rural NSW (Wheen Bee)
- 3. Upskilling beekeepers subsidized courses in biosecurity and queen breeding (Tocal College)
- 4. Safeguarding Honey: Profiling the unique chemical composition of NSW honey (Liz Barbour, CRCHBP)
- 5. New honey markets: Honey as a health food to fight gut infections (Nural Cokcetin, UTS)
- 6. Enhancing forest and bee health for high-value medicinal honey: Healthy forests – healthy bees – active honey (Dee Carter, USYD)

Future-Proofing the NSW Apiary Industry and Keeping Beekeepers in Jobs







Future-Proofing the NSW Apiary Industry and Keeping Beekeepers in Jobs



Bee sites Beekeeper training Pollinator planting

Bee sites Beekeeper training Pollinator planting Beekeeper knowledge: Hive and bee health Floral resources Honey production



Chemical analysis Prebiotic testing Antimicrobial testing

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Chemical analysis Prebiotic testing Antimicrobial testing

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- 1. Audit of NSW government-owned lands for suitability as bee sites (Stephen Targett/Nick Geoghegan)
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- 3. Upskilling beekeepers subsidized courses in biosecurity and queen breeding (Stephen Targett/Nick Geoghegan)
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The Carter lab and honey . . .

HONEY

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Dr Shona Blair

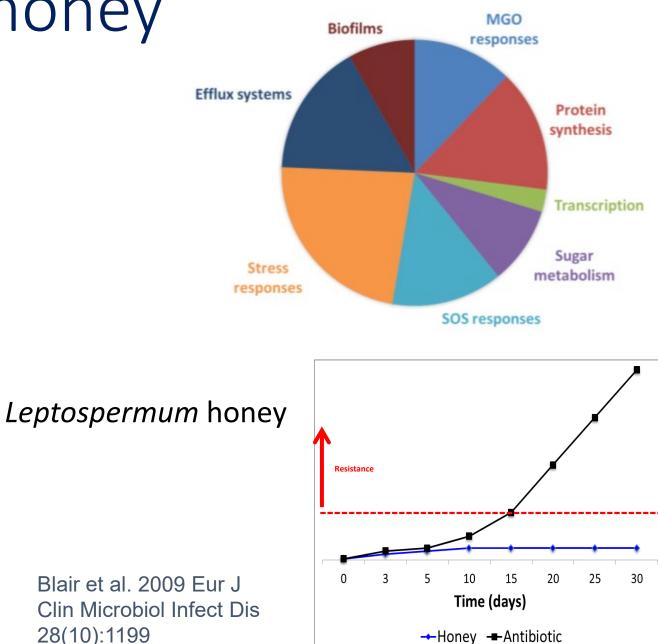
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HONEY

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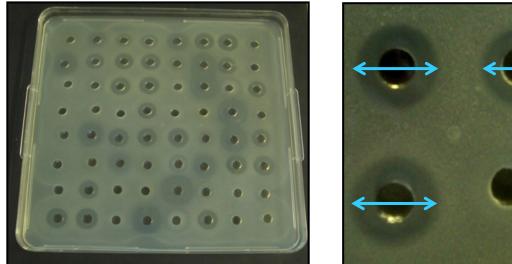
Dr Nural Cokcetin

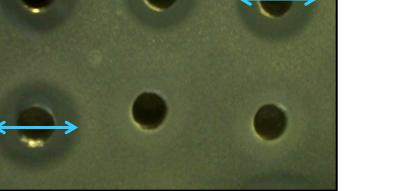


Clin Microbiol Infect Dis 28(10):1199

Survey of Australian honeys



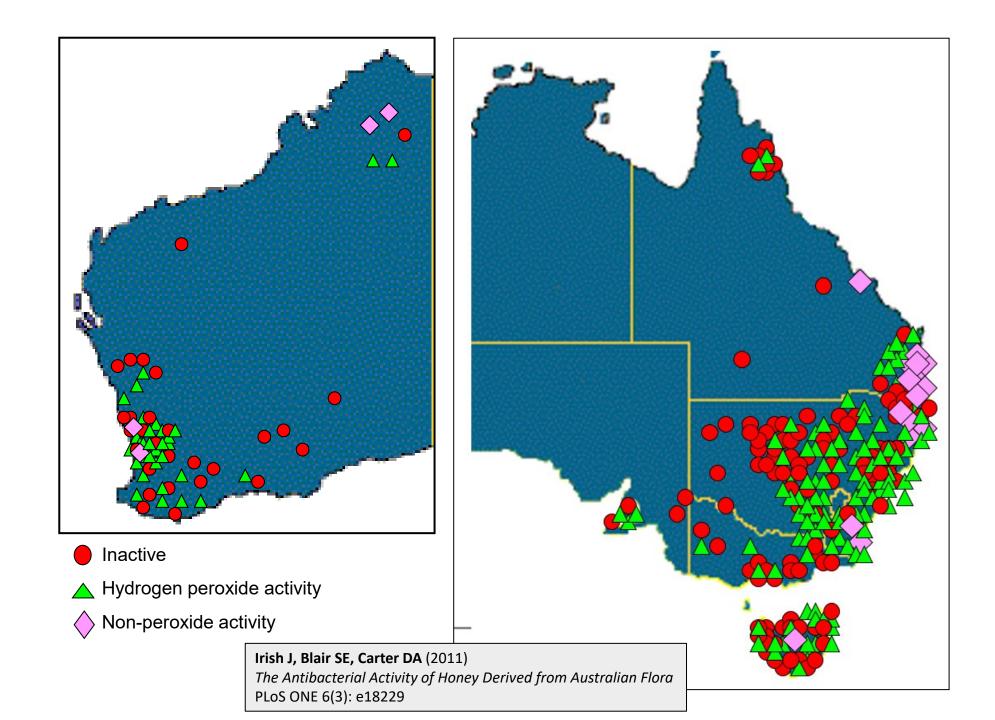




Dr Julie Irish

 Tested 470+ honeys from different plants and locations around Australia





Julie's table of the most active Australian honeys

Floral source: Common name (Scientific name)	No. samples	No. (%) with detectable activity	Total activity	r
			Range	Median
Marri (Corymbia calophylla)	8	7 (88)	<5-29.7	25.7
Jarrah (Eucalyptus marginata)	19	18 (95)	<5-31.4	25.1
Jelly bush and heath flora (Leptospermum polygalifolium and unknown species)	3	3 (100)	17.3-19.9	19.8
Spotted gum (Corymbia maculata)	4	4 (100)	14.7-25.1	18.9
Tea tree and paperbark (Leptospermum semibaccatum and Melaleuca nodosa)	4	4 (100)	18.1-19.6	18.8
Jelly bush (L. polygalifolium)	29	28 (97)	<5-26.2	17.9
Jelly bush, tea tree (Leptospermum sp.)	14	12 (86)	<5-25.8	17.8
Mixed flora, Sydney metropolitan region	32	25 (78)	<5-29.8	15.9
Lemon-scented tea tree (Leptospermum liversidgei)	5	5 (100)	14.0-24.5	15.7
Red stringybark (Eucalyptus macrorhyncha)	9	5 (56)	<5-26.1	15.3
Crow's ash and jelly bush (Guioa semiglauca and L. polygalifolium)	3	2 (67)	<5-19.4	15.2
Banksia (<i>Banksia</i> sp.)	25	22 (88)	<5-24.1	15.0
Jelly bush mix (L. polygalifolium and Leptospermum speciosum	3	3 (100)	14.2-14.7	14.6
Clover (Trifolium repens)	3	2 (67)	<5-16.3	14.3
Manuka (Leptospermum scoparium)	11	9 (82)	<5-16.3	13.1
Paperbark, tea tree (Melaleuca sp.)	22	18 (82)	<5-19.6	12.8
Mugga ironbark (Eucalyptus sideroxylon)	3	3 (100)	9.7-12.3	11.7
Mixed wildflowers, Tasmania	5	4 (80)	<5-16.1	11.6
Feather bush (Micromyrtus ciliata)	3	2 (67)	<5-13.6	11.5
Other mixed or unknown flora	35	19 (54)	<5-24.6	9.9
Messmate stringybark (Eucalyptus obliqua)	5	3 (60)	<5-15.2	9.8
Snow gum (Eucalyptus pauciflora)	3	2 (67)	<5-10.5	8.7
Tea tree and paperbark (Leptospermum laevigatum and Melaleuca nodosa)	4	2 (50)	<5-16.3	7.7
Tea tree, paperbark (Melaleuca quinquenervia)	3	2 (67)	<5-21.9	7.4
Paterson's curse, Salvation Jane (Echium plantagineum)	4	2 (50)	<5-15.6	6.3
Leatherwood (Eucryphia lucida)	11	4 (36)	<5-17.5	<5
Wandoo (Eucalyptus wandoo)	7	2 (29)	<5-18.7	<5
Lemon-scented tea tree and pink bloodwood (Leptospermum liversidgei and Corymbia intermedia)	17	3 (18)	<5-14.6	<5
Eucalyptus (<i>Eucalyptus sp.</i>)	15	5 (33)	<5-24.9	<5
Parrot bush (Dryandra sessilis)	3	1 (33)	<5-21.0	<5
Coastal tea tree (Leptospermum laevigatum)	4	1 (25)	<5-21.4	<5
Mixed rainforest flora, Queensland	3	1 (33)	<5-16.2	<5
Blue gum (<i>Eucalyptus globulus</i>)	3	1 (33)	<5-15.3	<5
Yellow box (Eucalyptus melliodora)	4	1 (25)	<5-12.7	<5

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Blue gum (Eucalyptus globulus)

Yellow box (Eucalyptus melliodora)

Julie's table of	Floral source: Common name (Scientific name)		No. samples	No. (%) with detectable activity	Total activity	1	
					Range	Median	
the most active	Marri (Corymbia calophylla)		8	7 (88)	<5-29.7	25.7	
	Jarrah (Eucalyptus marginata)		19	18 (95)	<5-31.4	25.1	
Australian honous	Jelly bush and heath flora (Leptospermum polygalifolium and u	inknown species)	3	3 (100)	17.3-19.9	19.8	
Australian honeys	Spotted gum (Corymbia maculata)		4	4 (100)	14.7-25.1	18.9	
•	Tea tree and paperbark (Leptospermum semibaccatum and Mel	laleuca nodosa)	4	4 (100)	18.1-19.6	18.8	
	Jelly bush (L. polygalifolium)		29	28 (97)	<5-26.2	17.9	
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Marri (Corymbia calophylla) 🔺	-	8		7 (88)		<5-29.7	25.7
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Red stringybark (Eucalyptus macrorhyncha) ⊁		9		5 (56)		<5-26.1	15.3
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	Coastal tea tree (Leptospermum laevigatum)		4	1 (25)	<5-21.4	<5	
	Mixed rainforest flora, Queensland		3	1 (33)	<5-16.2	<5	

1 (33)

1 (25)

3

4

<5-15.3

<5-12.7

<5

<5

Honey and fungi

Medical Mycology May 2006, **44**, 289–291

Taylor & Francis Taylor & Francis Group

Short Communication

Honey has an antifungal effect against *Candida* species

JULIE IRISH*, DEE A. CARTER*, TAHEREH SHOKOHI† & SHONA E. BLAIR* *School of Molecular and Microbial Biosciences, University of Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, and †Department of Medical Mycology and Parasitology, Mazandaran University of Medical Sciences, Sari, Iran

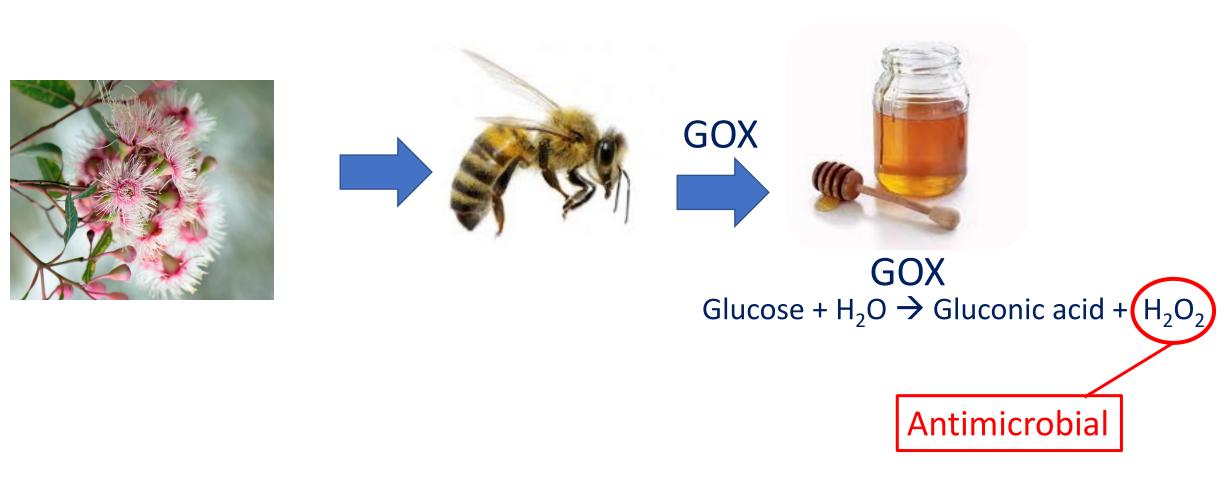
The incidence of *Candida* infections is escalating worldwide. The serious nature of these infections is compounded by increasing levels of drug resistance. We report that certain honeys have significant antifungal activity against clinical isolates of *Candida* species. Importantly, the minimum inhibitory concentration of these honeys would be achievable in a clinical setting.

Keywords honey, Candida, antifungal effect

 Table 1
 Susceptibility of Candida species to different honey types^a

	Candida species (n)				
	C. albicans (18)	C. glabrata (10)	C. dubliniensis (10)		
Jarrah	18.5±2.7**	29.9±2.8**	15.4±2.8**		
Medihoney [®] Antibacterial	38.2±2.9**	43.1±4.2*	34.6±2.5		
Honey Barrier Comvita [®] Wound	39.9+1.7**	42.6+2.8**	33.4+2.5		
Care 18+	59.9 <u>+</u> 1.7	42.0 <u>+</u> 2.0	55.4 <u>+</u> 2.5		
Artificial honey	42.6 ± 1.8	44.7 ± 2.7	34.3 ± 2.4		

Non-manuka "peroxide" honey and glucose oxidase (GOX)



Non-Manuka Honey



Anttoni Kakola-Parry



Krish Krishnakumar

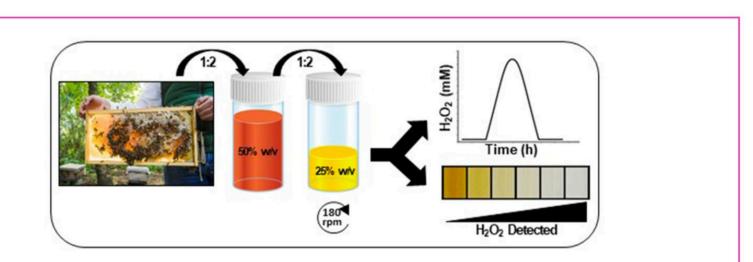
ACCESS MICROBIOLOGY

RESEARCH ARTICLE Lehmann et al., Access Microbiology DOI 10.1099/acmi.0.000065



A cost-effective colourimetric assay for quantifying hydrogen peroxide in honey

D. M. Lehmann^{1,*}, K. Krishnakumar², M. A. Batres³, A. Hakola-Parry², N. Cokcetin⁴, E. Harry⁴ and D. A. Carter^{2,5}



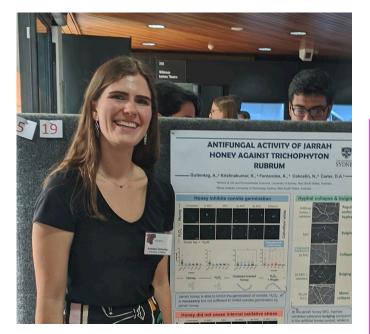
Graphical abstract

 H_2O_2 is produced in diluted honey by a biochemical reaction and can be easily quantified using the optimized colourimetric assay described here.

Non-Manuka Honey

ACCESS MICROBIOLOGY RESEARCH ARTICLE Guttentag et al., Access Microbiology DOI 10.1099/acmi.0.000198

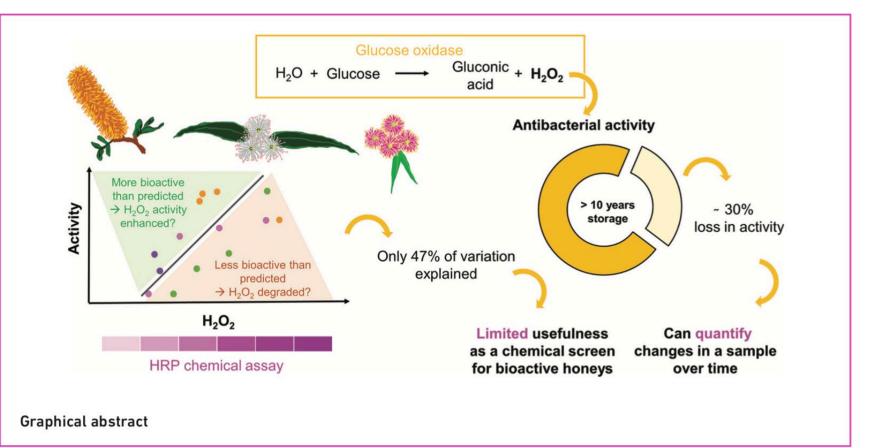




Annabel Guttentag

Factors affecting the production and measurement of hydrogen peroxide in honey samples

Annabel Guttentag¹, Krishothman Krishnakumar¹, Nural Cokcetin², Elizabeth Harry² and Dee Carter^{1,*}



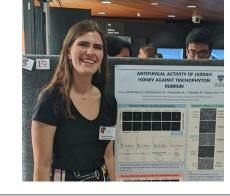
Jarrah honey and fungi (dermatophytes = ringworm,

tinea)

Article

and Dee Carter 1,*

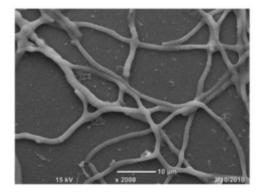
pathogens



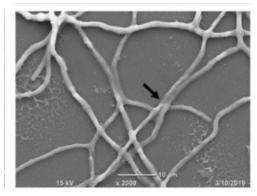
Annabel Guttentag

MDPI

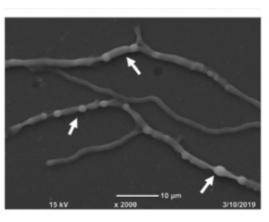
Artificial honey



Artificial honey + H_2O_2



Jarrah honey



Jarrah honey + catalase

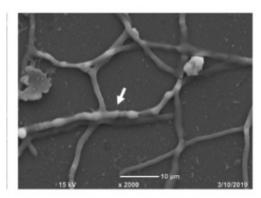


Table 2. Effect of catalase treatment on the antifungal properties of jarrah and stringybark honey.

Inhibition of Dermatophyte Fungi by Australian Jarrah Honey

Annabel Guttentag¹, Krishothman Krishnakumar¹, Nural Cokcetin², Steven Hainsworth³, Elizabeth Harry²

	MIC100 [% (w/v)]					
	Jarrah (Barnes 10+) Jarrah 10/13 Stringybark 19				ark 19	
Catalase Treatment	-	+	-	+	-	+
Nannizzia gypsea	3.1	25	1.56	25	3.1	25
Trichophyton interdigitale	3.1	≥ 25	1.56	≥25	4.2 ± 1.0	> 25
Trichophyton rubrum	1.56	25	1.56	25	1.56	25

Summary: things we have found out about non-manuka (H_2O_2) honey

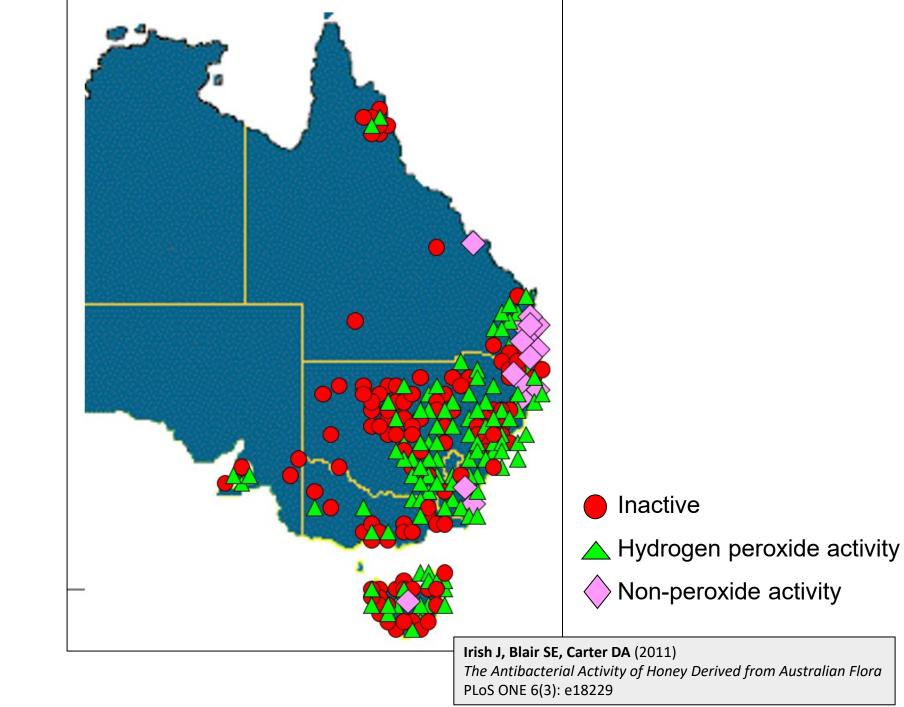
- Much more **antifungal** than manuka honey
- Jarrah and marri honey have really high activity
- Antibacterial/antifungal activity abolished by catalase
 - Critically dependent on H₂O₂
- Antibacterial/antifungal activity does not always correlate with H₂O₂ production
- Activity enhanced/reduced by **other factors** present in honey
 - Phenolics? Peptides? Maillard reaction products?
- Dermatophytes are particularly **susceptible** to jarrah honey

Non-manuka honey (H₂O₂) honey

Questions:

- Why does H₂O₂ vary by plant source? Why is jarrah so high? How do NSW honeys compare?
- 2. Why is $H_2O_2 \neq$ antimicrobial activity?
- 3. What causes dermatophytes to be so susceptible and is antifungal activity a potential market?

What do we know about antimicrobial NSW honey?



Interesting NSW samples with peroxide activity

Banksia Honey

Scientific Total activity Non-peroxide Common Code Region (TA) activity (NPA) name name B11 Banksia sp. 17.1 Banksia Illawarra 0 B12 Banksia Banksia sp. Illawarra 18.5 0 B13 Banksia Banksia sp. Illawarra 17.1 0 B14 Banksia Illawarra 13 Banksia sp. 0 B15 Banksia Banksia sp. Illawarra 16.5 0 B16 Banksia Banksia sp. Illawarra 19.2 0 B17 Banksia Banksia sp. 0 0 Illawarra B18 17.5 Banksia Banksia sp. Illawarra 0 B19 Banksia Banksia sp. Illawarra 17.7 0 B20 Banksia Banksia sp. Illawarra 16.7 0 B21 Banksia Banksia sp. Illawarra 14.2 0 B22 Banksia 15 Banksia sp. Illawarra 0 B23 Banksia Illawarra Banksia sp. 15.3 0 B24 Banksia Banksia sp. 15.1 Illawarra 0 B25 Banksia Banksia sp. Illawarra 15.2 0 15 Banksia sp. B26 Banksia Illawarra 0 B27 Banksia Banksia sp. 11.4 0 Illawarra B28 Banksia 15 Banksia sp. 0 Illawarra B29 13 Banksia Banksia sp. 0 Illawarra B30 Banksia 12.1 Banksia sp. 0 Illawarra B31 Banksia Banksia sp. Illawarra 13.2 0 B32 Banksia Banksia sp. Illawarra 13 0

Tea Tree Honey

Code	Common name	Scientific name	Region	Total activity (TA)	Non-peroxide activity (NPA)
T11	Tea tree	Melaleuca sp.	Illawarra	10.8	0
T12	Tea tree	Melaleuca sp.	Illawarra	13.2	0
T13	Tea tree	Melaleuca sp.	Illawarra	0	0
T14	Tea tree	Melaleuca sp.	Illawarra	10.9	0
T15	Tea tree	Melaleuca sp.	Illawarra	13.2	0
T16	Tea tree	Melaleuca sp.	Illawarra	12.2	0
T17	Tea tree	Melaleuca sp.	Illawarra	13.7	0
T18	Tea tree	Melaleuca sp.	Illawarra	12.9	0
T19	Tea tree	Melaleuca sp.	Illawarra	0	0
T20	Tea tree	Melaleuca sp.	Illawarra	12.2	0
T21	Tea tree	Melaleuca sp.	Illawarra	12.6	0
T22	Tea tree	Melaleuca sp.	Illawarra	13	0
T23	Tea tree	Melaleuca sp.	Illawarra	11.6	0
T24	Tea tree	Melaleuca sp.	Illawarra	10.9	0
T25	Tea tree	Melaleuca sp.	Illawarra	0	0
T26	Tea tree	Melaleuca sp.	Illawarra	0	0
T27	Tea tree	Melaleuca sp.	Illawarra	13	0
T28	Tea tree	Melaleuca sp.	Illawarra	14.3	0
T5	Tea tree	M. quinquenervia	Northern Rivers	7.4	0

Average: 12.1 Range: 7.4–14.3

Average: 15.3 Range: 11.4–19.2

Others

Interesting NSW samples with peroxide activity

Code	Common name	Scientific name	Region	Total activity (TA)	Non-peroxide activity (NPA)
IB4	Grey ironbark	Eucalyptus paniculata	Mid North Coast	15.2	0
IB6	Grey ironbark	Eucalyptus paniculata	South Coast	15.6	0
IB10	Grey ironbark and broadleaf ironbark	Eucalyptus siderophloia, E. fibrosa	Northern Tablelands	19	0
ET1	Grey ironbark, turpentine, eriostemon Ironbark/Red	Eucalyptus paniculata, Syncarpia glomulifera, Eriostemon sp. Eucalyptus tricarpa, E.	Illawarra	25.7	0
IB5	bloodwood	gummifera	South Coast	20	0
PB1	Paperbark	Melaleuca sp.	Metropolitan	19.6	0
PB7	Paperbark	Melaleuca linarifolia	Illawarra	21.1	0
SB14	Red stringybark	Eucalyptus macromynca	Central Tablelands	25.2	0
SB16	Red stringybark	Eucalyptus macromyncha	South West Slopes	15.3	0
SB2	Red stringybark	Eucalyptus macromynca	Central Tablelands	0	0
SB6	Red stringybark	Eucalyptus macromynca	Central Tablelands	0	0
SB7	Red stringybark	Eucalyptus macromynca	South West Slopes	25.3	0
AB1	Apple box/red stringybark	Eucalyptus bridgesiana, Eucalyptus macrorhynca	Southern Tablelands	34.3	0
SG1	Spotted gum	Eucalyptus maculata	South Coast	25.1	10.1
SG3	Spotted gum	Eucalyptus maculata	South Coast	22.4	10.3
SG4	Spotted gum	Eucalyptus maculata	South Coast	17	9.1
SG7	Spotted gum	Eucalyptus maculata	South Coast	14.7	9.9
SB17	Spotted gum, bloodwood	Eucalyptus maculata, Eucalyptus gummifera	South Coast	0	0
SS1	Spotted gum, stringybark	Eucalyptus maculata, Eucalyptus laevopinea?	Northern Tablelands	22.3	0

Grey Ironbark

Average: 19.1 Range: 15.2-25.7

Others

Interesting NSW samples with peroxide activity

				Total activity	Non-peroxide	
Code	Common name	Scientific name	Region	(TA)	activity (NPA)	
			Mid North			
IB4	Grey ironbark	Eucalyptus paniculata	Coast	15.2	0	
IB6	Grey ironbark	Eucalyptus paniculata	South Coast	15.6	0	
	Grey ironbark and	Eucalyptus siderophloia, E.	Northern			
IB10	broadleaf ironbark	fibrosa	Tablelands	19	0	
		Eucalyptus paniculata,				
	Grey ironbark,	Syncarpia glomulifera,				
ET1	turpentine, eriostemon	Eriosternon sp.	Illawarra	25.7	0	
	Ironbark/Red	Eucalyptus tricarpa, E.				
IB5	bloodwood	gummifera	South Coast	20	0	
PB1	Paperbark	Melaleuca sp.	Metropolitan	19.6	0	Red Stringybark
PB7	Paperbark	Melaleuca linarifolia	Illawarra	21.1	0	
			Central			
SB14	Red stringybark	Eucalyptus macromynca	Tablelands	25.2	0	
			South West			
SB16	Red stringybark	Eucalyptus macromyncha	Slopes	15.3	0	
			Central			Average: 25.1
SB2	Red stringybark	Eucalyptus macromynca	Tablelands	0	0	Range: 15.3-34.3
			Central			
SB6	Red stringybark	Eucalyptus macromynca	Tablelands	0	0	
			South West			1
SB7	Red stringybark	Eucalyptus macromynca	Slopes	25.3	0	li
	Apple box/red	Eucalyptus bridgesiana,	Southern			1
AB1	stringybark	Eucalvptus macromynca	Tablelands	34.3	0	L.
SG1	Spotted gum	Eucalyptus maculata	South Coast	25.1	10.1	Г
SG3	Spotted gum	Eucalyptus maculata	South Coast	22.4	10.3	
SG4	Spotted gum	Eucalyptus maculata	South Coast	17	9.1	
SG7	Spotted gum	Eucalyptus maculata	South Coast	14.7	9.9	
	Spotted gum,	Eucalyptus maculata,				
SB17	bloodwood	Eucalyptus gummifera	South Coast	0	0	
	Spotted gum,	Eucalyptus maculata,	Northern			
SS1	stringybark	Eucalyptus laevopinea?	Tablelands	22.3	0	

Others

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ET1	Grey ironbark, turpentine, eriostemon	Eucalyptus paniculata, Syncarpia glomulifera, Eriostemon sp.	Illawarra	25.7	0	
IB5	Ironbark/Red bloodwood	Eucalyptus tricarpa, E. gummifera	South Coast	20	0	
PB1	Paperbark	Melaleuca sp.	Metropolitan	19.6	0	
PB7	Paperbark	Melaleuca linarifolia	Illawarra	21.1	0	
SB14	Red stringybark	Eucalyptus macromynca	Central Tablelands	25.2	0	
SB16	Red stringybark	Eucalyptus macrorhyncha	South West Slopes	15.3	0	
SB2	Red stringybark	Eucalyptus macromynca	Central Tablelands	0	0	
SB6	Red stringybark	Eucalyptus macrorhynca	Central Tablelands	0	0	
SB7	Red stringybark	Eucalyptus macromynca	South West Slopes	25.3	0	
AB1	Apple box/red stringybark	Eucalyptus bridgesiana, Eucalyptus, macrorhynca	Southern Tablelands	34.3	0	
SG1	Spotted gum	Eucalyptus maculata	South Coast	25.1	10.1	l Cr
SG3	Spotted gum	Eucalyptus maculata	South Coast	22.4	10.3	Sp
SG4	Spotted gum	Eucalyptus maculata	South Coast	17	9.1	Í
SG7	Spotted gum	Eucalyptus maculata	South Coast	14.7	9.9	A A
SB17	Spotted gum, bloodwood	Eucalyptus maculata, Eucalyptus gummifera	South Coast	0	0	Ra
SS1	Spotted gum, stringybark	Eucalyptus maculata, Eucalyptus laevopinea?	Northern Tablelands	22.3	0	

Spotted gum

Average: 22.3 Range: 14.7-25.1

Interesting NSW samples with peroxide activity

Honey from mixed flora

Code	Common name	Region	Total activity (TA)	Non-peroxide activity (NPA)
P12	Mixed	Metropolitan	19.4	0
P13	Mixed	Metropolitan	21.2	0
P17	Mixed	Metropolitan	0	0
P18	Mixed	Metropolitan	0	0
P19	Mixed	Hunter	0	0
P20	Mixed	Metropolitan	0	0
P21	Mixed	Metropolitan	0	0
P22	Mixed	Metropolitan	0	0
P23	Mixed	Hunter	18.3	0
P24	Mixed	Hunter	18.9	0
P25	Mixed	Metropolitan	13.8	0
P26	Mixed	Metropolitan	15.7	0
P27	Mixed	Metropolitan	0	0
P28	Mixed	Metropolitan	15	0
P29	Mixed	Metropolitan	29.8	0
P30	Mixed	Metropolitan	22.7	0
P31	Mixed	Metropolitan	8.1	0
P32	Mixed	Metropolitan	22	0
P33	Mixed	Mid North Coast	24.6	0
P34	Mixed	Metropolitan	17	0
P35	Mixed	Metropolitan	21	0
P40	Mixed	Metropolitan	0	0
P41	Mixed	Metropolitan	13.8	0
P42	Mixed	Central Tablelands	17.8	0
P43	Mixed	Central Tablelands	15.1	0
P7	Mixed	Metropolitan	15.8	0
P8	Mixed	Metropolitan	16.4	0
P9	Mixed	Metropolitan	17	0
P14	Mixed urban	Metropolitan	16	0
P15	Mixed urban	Metropolitan	16.4	0
P16	Mixed urban	Metropolitan	23.2	0

Average: 18.2 Range: 8.1–29.8

Julie's table of the most active Australian honeys

Floral source: Common name (Scientific name)	No. samples	No. (%) with detectable activity1	Total activity	r		
			Range	Median		
Marri (Corymbia calophylla)	8	7 (88)	<5-29.7	25.7		
Jarrah (Eucalyptus marginata)	19	18 (95)	<5-31.4	25.1		
Jelly bush and heath flora (Leptospermum polygalifolium and unknown species)	3	3 (100)	17.3-19.9	19.8		
Spotted gum (Corymbia maculata)	4	4 (100)	14.7-25.1	18.9		
Tea tree and paperbark (Leptospermum semibaccatum and Melaleuca nodosa)	4	4 (100)	18.1-19.6	18.8		
Jelly bush (L. polygalifolium)	29	28 (97)	<5-26.2	17.9		
Jelly bush, tea tree (Leptospermum sp.)	14	12 (86)	<5-25.8	17.8		
Sydney metropolitan region	3	32 2	25 (78)		<5-29.8	15
Red stringybark (Eucalyptus macrorhyncha)	9	5 (56)	<5-26.1	15.3		
Crow's ash and jelly bush (Guioa semiglauca and L. polygalifolium)	3	2 (67)	<5-19.4	15.2		
Banksia (<i>Banksia</i> sp.)	25	22 (88)	<5-24.1	15.0		
Jelly bush mix (L. polygalifolium and Leptospermum speciosum	3	3 (100)	14.2-14.7	14.6		
Clover (Trifolium repens)	3	2 (67)	<5-16.3	14.3		
Manuka (Leptospermum scoparium)	11	9 (82)	<5-16.3	13.1		
Paperbark, tea tree (<i>Melaleuca</i> sp.)	22	18 (82)	<5-19.6	12.8		
Mugga ironbark (Eucalyptus sideroxylon)	3	3 (100)	9.7-12.3	11.7		
Mixed wildflowers, Tasmania	5	4 (80)	<5-16.1	11.6		
Feather bush (Micromyrtus ciliata)	3	2 (67)	<5-13.6	11.5		

Mixeo

biology letters

Biol. Lett. (2010) 6, 562–565 doi:10.1098/rsbl.2009.0986 Published online 20 January 2010

Physiology

Diet effects on honeybee immunocompetence

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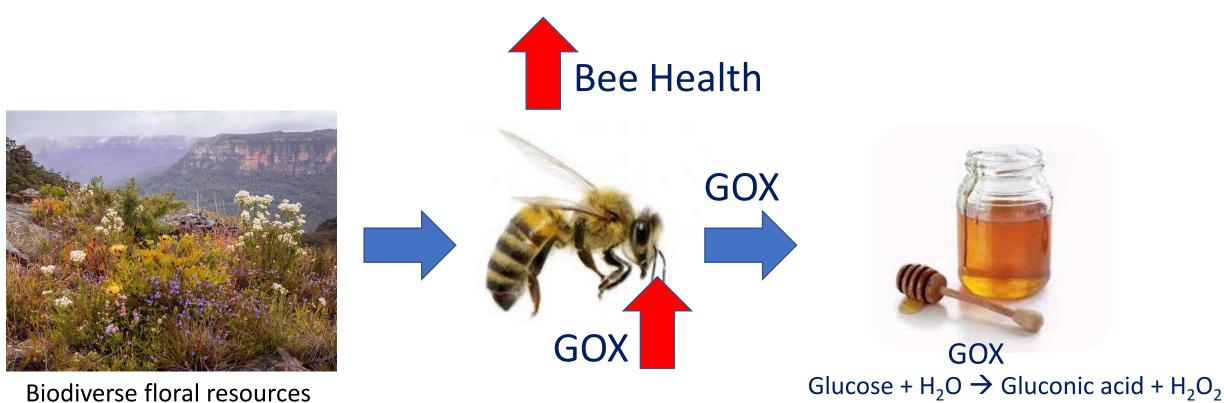


The maintenance of the immune system can be costly, and a lack of dietary protein can increase the susceptibility of organisms to disease. However, few studies have investigated the relationship between protein nutrition and immunity in insects. Here, we tested in honeybees (Apis mellifera) whether dietary protein quantity (monofloral pollen) and diet diversity (polyfloral pollen) can shape baseline immunocompetence (IC) by measuring parameters of individual immunity (haemocyte concentration, fat body content and phenoloxidase activity) and glucose oxidase (GOX) activity, which enables bees to sterilize colony and brood food, as a parameter of social immunity. Protein feeding modified both individual and social IC but increases in dietary protein quantity did not enhance IC. However, diet diversity increased IC levels. In particular, polyfloral diets induced higher GOX activity compared with monofloral diets, including protein-richer diets. These results suggest a link between protein nutrition and immunity in honeybees and underscore the critical role of resource availability on pollinator health.

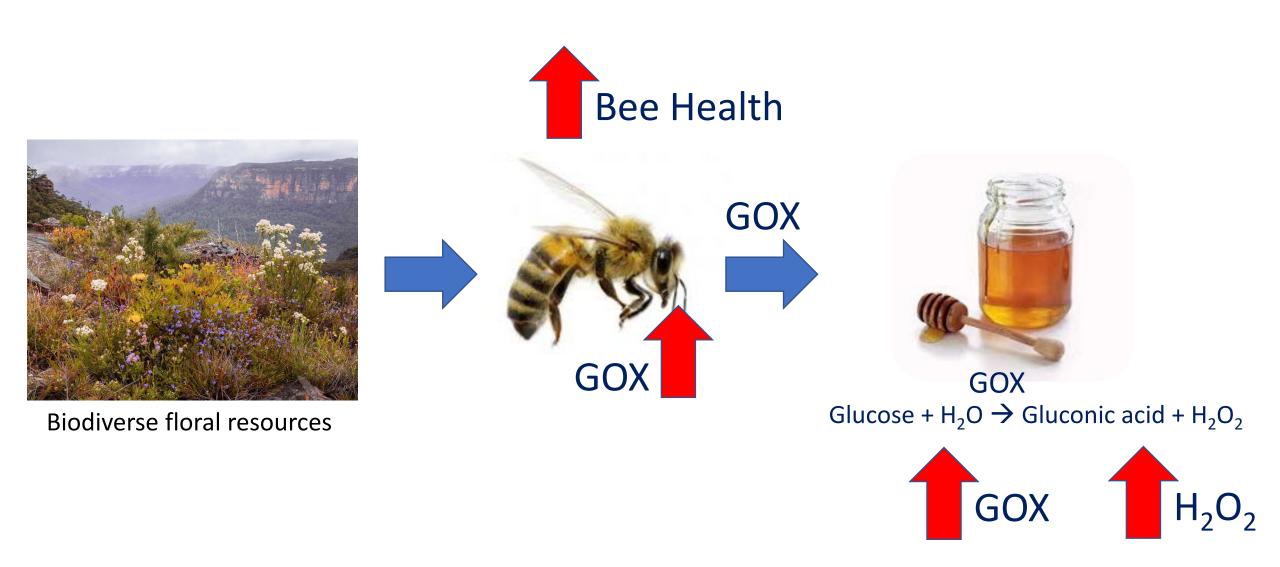


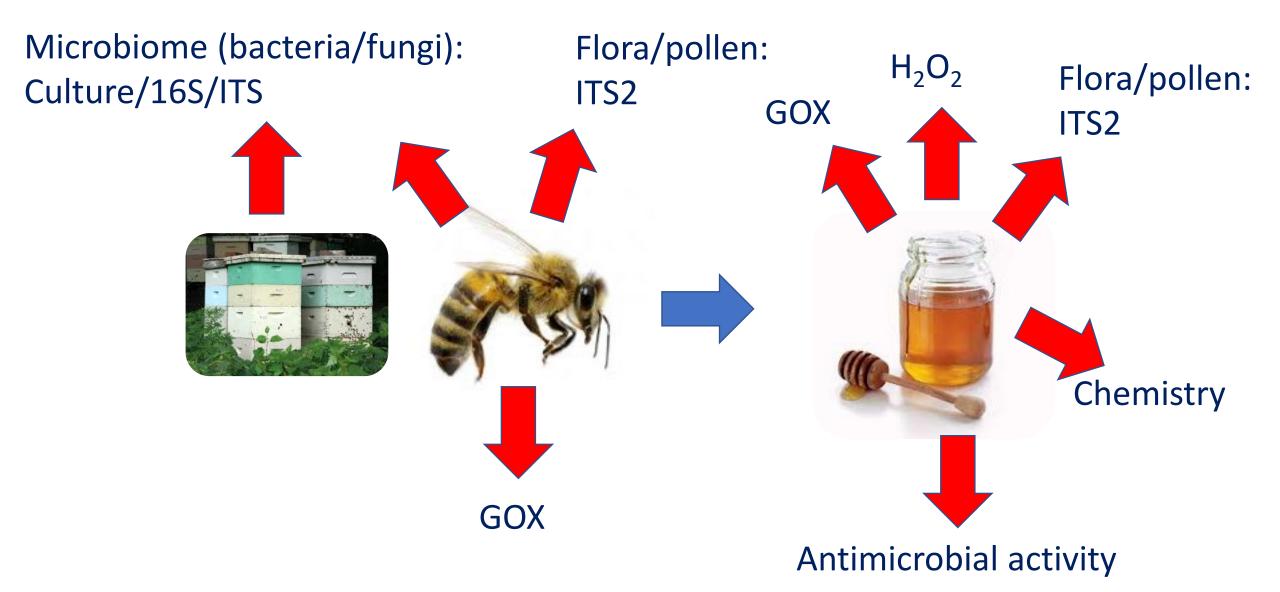


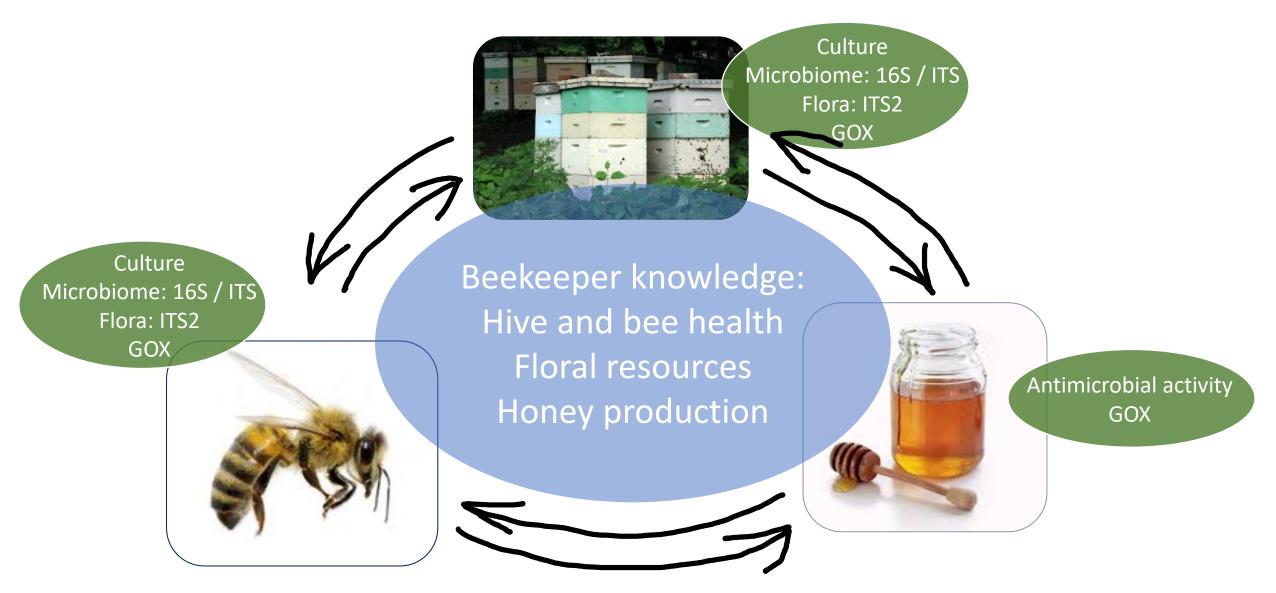
Biodiverse floral resources



lodiverse floral resources









Culture Microbiome: 16S / ITS Flora: ITS2 GOX



Beekeeper knowledge: Hive and bee health Floral resources Honey production



Antimicrobial activity GOX

