

MEDIA RELEASE-

Wednesday 11th March 2020

Pollination Expo a Success

Tuesday March 10th saw the return of the Oz Group Co-op and NSW DPI Bee Pollination Expo at C.ex Woolgoolga. Beekeepers, industry experts and growers gathered to network, learn and appreciate all things pollination. The event was the second time that Oz Group and the DPI have worked together to hold this event.

The NSW Department of Primary Industry Blueberry Development Officer Melinda Simpson was happy to be holding the event again: "This is an important event, I don't know of any other opportunities for beekeepers, growers and industry experts to come together to connect and learn."

The afternoon offered a variety of opportunities for attendees to learn and network. There was a presentation from Romina Radar who is a Pollination Researcher from University of New England, discussing the university's research projects and work with growers in the local area. Insight was also given by Madlen Kratz who is the Honey Bee Industry Development Officer for the NSW Department of Primary Industries. Steve Fuller from Bee Services also addressed the crowd, offering perspective from a beekeeper on good pollination techniques. The evening also included a panel discussion.

Stephen Thandi, Chairman of Oz Group Co-op praised the event. "Bees are vital to our berries and we want to ensure that they are well looked after, so an event like this is a great opportunity to for us to gain a better understanding of pollination and hives. Having all these groups come together really allows for productive discussions to take place."

Oz Group Co-op and the Department of Primary Industries are keen for the annual event to continue. They hope to see it expand further and attract more industry expertise, and locals who want to learn more about both the bee and berry industries.

