Pollination Supply and Demand

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Australian Bee Services
Ardrossan, SA
Total current and forecasted Australian almond plantings

- **Hectares**

- **Year**

- **Legend**:
  - Grey: new plantings
  - Orange: non-bearing
  - Blue: bearing
Commercial Hive Numbers*

Total: 372,000 hives

61,000 hives
230,000 hives
81,000 hives

* Beekeepers >50 hives as of Oct 2017
Australian honey bee industry: 2014–15 survey results
Jeremy van Diic, Jay Gomboa and Caroline Lyxantis

Research by the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences
ABARES research report 16.18
December 2016
Participation in pollination

* Beekeepers >50 hives as of Oct 2017

Total: 372,000 hives
Total: 184,000 hives
Impediments to commencing or expanding paid pollination services, 2014–15

Source: ABARES Australian Honey Bee Industry Survey 2014–15
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
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
Must be a collective industry approach
Thank you

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Thank-you