

# The evolution of Windy Acres Farm

Alicia and Craig Vohland are building the business of their dreams - a lavender farm and apiary (bee yard) just outside of Toowoomba in Queensland.









# Turning a lifelong dream into a reality

*start here!*

When Alicia Vohland was 15, her family took a road trip to South Australia that would leave an indelible mark in her heart.

*"Lavender and bees are the perfect pair."*  
Alicia Vohland

"The stand out part of the trip was the Lavender farms in the Adelaide Hills," Alicia remembers.

Fortunately, Alicia's hometown of Westbrook in Southern Queensland has the ideal climate to create a lavender farm.

"The sight of the mauve flowers and that incredible aroma, just filled me with love and relaxation."



Fast forward some 20 years and now Alicia and husband Craig had the opportunity to purchase some of her family's land at Westbrook.



The young Alicia spent a long time in the gift shop that day, filling a bag with lavender gift items.



*The lavender love affair had began.*

"We often talked about how great it would be to have honey bees," says Alicia.

Having grown up on a small farm, Alicia's family have always had swarms of native bees in their Pepperina trees.



Follow their journey  
on Instagram:  
[@windyacresfarm\\_](#)

## How Windy Acres Farm got its name...



It rained on their wedding day, but just as Alicia and her daughter were due to walk across the lawn for the backyard ceremony, the clouds parted.

Once the ceremony was over and the photos had been taken, the weather turned again.

As everyone huddled under quilts under a marquee in near cyclonic weather, the term Windy Westbrook was born.

Westbrook's windy weather, cool winters, mild summers bears striking similarities to areas in France where lavender fields flourish.



Soon the planting of 5,000 lavender plants begins and the Vohlands anticipate their first harvest and honey supply to be ready later in 2021!

Like all good things, it has taken years to research and plan the development of Windy Acres Farm to ensure viability.

Soil testing, horticultural practices and learning the intricacies of the art of beekeeping have kept the Vohland family busy.

"Our hope is to sell locally and support the local area by working with other like-minded local businesses," says Alicia

The Vohlands plan to open a shopfront onsite for their lavender and bee products and to potentially open the lavender fields to the public.

In November 2020, Windy Acres Farm welcomed the first of many Queens and their entourages to their castles (hives).

A former primary school teacher, Alicia also dreams of developing a hands-on educational farm experience for small groups.

