



Confidential to the ApiNZ Board and AFB Management Agency

American Foulbrood National Pest Management Plan

Governance Report Apiculture New Zealand (Inc)

Report 6 – December 2017

Report Compiled By
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AFB NPMP Compliance Manager
(December 2017)



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New Compliance Manager

Clifton King took over the role of Compliance Manager on 16 November 2017.

AFB PMP Management Board Meetings

So far in 2017 the Board has met on 5 separate occasions. All meetings have lasted 2 days. Additional meetings have taken place to progress the development and implementation of the 5 Year Strategy.

AFB PMP Management Meetings with AsureQuality Management

By the end of 2017 the Chairman and Manager would have met officially with AsureQuality management on 6 separate occasions.

Minutes and action points are taken as appropriate.

Reported Incidents of American Foulbrood

Between 1 October and 30 November 2017, 520 cases of AFB were reported in 313 apiaries. This is similar to the last reporting period and is typical of this time of the year as beekeepers are doing their spring inspection rounds.

The annual infection rate is 0.35% of hives and 2.78% of apiaries.

Beekeeper, Apiary and Hive Numbers

New beekeeper registrations have accelerated rapidly in the past 2 months with more than twice as many registrations compared with the previous reporting period. 431 beekeepers registered in October and November 2017 which was almost identical to the same period last season (428 beekeepers).

Year	Registered Beekeepers	Number of Apiaries	Number of Beehives
2000	4,864	21,633	299,172
2001	4,550	20,993	320,113
2002	3,973	20,258	305,152
2003	3,649	20,228	300,729
2004	3,211	19,592	292,530
2005	2,911	19,281	294,886
2006	2,694	18,954	300,728
2007	2,602	19,228	313,399
2008	2,589	20,439	343,155
2009 (June)	2,663	21,593	365,709
2010 (June)	2,957	22,440	376,672
2011 (June)	3,265	23,356	391,540
2012 (June)	3,802	25,309	425,498

2013 (February)	4,127	26,263	435,619
2013 (June)	4,273	27,142	453,820
2014 (February)	4,767	29,638	496,062
2015 (February)	5,396	33,462	546,837
2016 (February)	6,558	39,831	641,692
2017 (February)	7,758	49,080	787,310
2017 (June)	7,836	50,211	811,357
2017 (August)	7,785	50,764	812,443
2017 (September)	7,875	50,427	806,871
2017 (December)	8,293	52,552	817,483

Beekeeper, Apiary and Hive Numbers by Apiary District

To assist in understanding the spread across the country the following table shows beekeeper, apiary and hive numbers by what is termed apiary district. The heading for Whangarei for example covers Northland and Auckland. The AFB PMP Management Board has requested this statistical information be provided by way of New Zealand provincial boundaries.

Register Location	Beekeeper Count	Apiary Count	Hive Count
Blenheim	617	4,758	61,503
Canterbury	1,091	5,868	75,258
Hamilton	771	4,698	86,702
Otago/Southland	667	4,227	54,917
Palmerston North	1,905	14,450	231,710
Tauranga	966	8,367	155,912
Whangarei	2,276	10,184	151,481
Totals	8,293	52,552	817,483

Annual Disease Returns (ADR's)

Annual Disease Returns were sent to 7,913 beekeepers in April 2017 as is required under the legislation.

6,282 beekeepers (79%) returned their ADR on time though a number of these were processed byASUREQuality after the 1 June deadline due to the volume of returns being handled by registrars at that time. As at 1 December 2017, 731 defaulters (9 %) have yet to file their ADR.

As reported in October, the Board's concerns relating to the continued rate of non-compliance has been drawn to the attention of Mr Geoff Gwyn, Director, Readiness and Response with the Ministry for Primary Industries during the August AFB PMP Management Board meeting. Geoff is now a permanent member of this Board. MPI are now looking at what options we have within our current scope to take these offenders to task.

In early October 2017, letters were sent to 230 DECA holders who were in default of their 2017 ADR obligations advising that ongoing non-compliance will result in the loss of their DECA. While the majority attended to their obligations, 61 failed to do so and as such their respective DECA's were cancelled and Certificate of Inspection exemptions withdrawn.

Certificate of Inspection (COI)

In August 2017, 3,916 non – accredited beekeepers received a Certificate of Inspection. As at 1 December 2017, with 2 weeks until due date, 1,858 Certificate of Inspections (47%) have been received and processed.

The consequence of being in default has yet to be established with MPI.

Disease Elimination Conformity Agreements DECA's

With new beekeeper registrations increasing sharply in the last 2 months, this has resulted in those holding a DECA dipping under 50%. In the 2 months to 30 November 2017, 176 DECA applications were approved for existing beekeepers. Over the same period 431 new beekeepers entered the industry. Education and awareness of the regulatory compliance requirements are essential and will only increase.

AFB Authorised Persons

- AP2 Survey

In the October report it was noted the Board had initiated a survey of all AFB Authorised Persons.

The Board has received a 90% plus response. A results summary document with an accompanying action plan has already been prepared and tabled during the last Board meeting on 16 and 17 November. Work has commenced on implementing the recommendations.

- AP2 Instrument of Appointment Renewals

This task has been completed.

- AP2 Contracts

Work is now underway in completing the contract renewal process.

- AFB Inspection Program

In this report we tend not to provide specific detail by region, however the AFB PMP Management Board receive a detailed report on inspection activity on a bi-monthly basis from AsureQuality as well as verbal face to face reports on a very regular basis. It is important to note that the role of the AFB PMP is compliance to the Order in Council, not a free roving inspection service. Communications will reflect this position to assist with clarity and explain that the decisions made often do not reflect the perception held by the beekeeper or beekeepers concerned about the level of infection thought to be in their patch.

- AFB Authorised Person Health and Safety Guidelines

In August 2016 the AFB PMP Secretariat launched the above guidelines, a project involving AFB Authorised Person consultation. In line with the new legislation a contractor's health and Safety committee has been appointed whose task it is to represent the AFB Authorised Persons with the aim of keeping the guidelines up to date and relevant. A review of the guidelines in consultation with the contractor representatives, AsureQuality and MPI representatives will be undertaken early in the New Year.

AFB Recognition Course Training

- Training Courses

The AFB PMP Management Board continues to place a great deal of emphasis on facilitating AFB Recognition Training Courses (with test) on a nationwide basis. Note: Courses are self-funding and generate a positive

revenue stream for the AFB PMP, however course by course attendance numbers are down which impacts on any budgeted surplus.

The following table is referred for your information.

Calendar Year	Courses	Test via Proctor	Participants
2006	15	4	93
2008	88	36	264
2010	59	29	491
2012	39	7	490
2014	59	13	751
2016	65	24	1,127
2017 (as at 8 December)	91	26	1,230

The Pest Management Plan's goal for 2017 was to facilitate 85 AFB Recognition Courses (with test) with 1,400 participants.

In addition to the above 20 AFB Recognition Refresher Courses (no test) will have also been completed.

- AFB Recognition Course Trainer Self - Assessment

The AFB PMP Pest Management Plan has 34 trainers in place. The Board has developed a self-assessment process for trainers.

This will be implemented in early 2018.

5 Year Strategy (American Foulbrood Eradicated by 2030)

The AFB PMP Management Board and MPI are jointly funding a project manager to plan the work required to progress the 5 Year Strategy into proposals for a new Management Plan and Levy Orders for approval by the Minister for Biosecurity. The Board expect to receive a project plan for approval in February. This is a critical tool and will assist to clarify the role of the AFB PMP and the required deliverables for industry.

Development of MPI and (ApiNZ) - AFB PMP Operating Protocols

This document has been confirmed and signed off by both MPI and the AFB PMP Management Board Chairman.

Retail and Export Honey Pack Sampling Programme

A further round is scheduled to commence early in the New Year with a reduced number of locally sourced retail pack samples with emphasis being placed on export samples. All samples are sourced by independent means in order to maintain the integrity of the programme.

A full audit inspection is currently underway following a beekeeper who has tested positive in 2 successive sampling programmes.

Apiculture New Zealand Conference 2018 in Blenheim

The AFB PMP secretariat intend to continue their support of the Industry Good programme launched two years ago and will be attending the APINZ Conference in 2018 scheduled for Blenheim. The AFB PMP

Management Board considers a presence at conference to be an important opportunity to communicate the AFB PMP message on a face to face basis.

AFB PMP Financial Year Audit 2016/2017

All necessary documentation including electronic and hard copy data has been sent to the auditors, process is slow and places the audit process behind the agreed completion requirement.

Technology

AsureQuality advise the APIWEB redevelopment is progressing with responses back from 3 suppliers. Initial evaluations of the proposals are underway with a report due pre-Christmas.

Management Agency staff are currently unable to access the Apiary Database due to a recent upgrade introducing the requirement to own ArcGIS Online licences. The procurement of these licenses is progressing more slowly than expected as we await approval to purchase these licences as a 'non-profit organisation' by the supplier.

Clifton King
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