



**Confidential to the ApiNZ Board and AFB Management Agency**

## **American Foulbrood National Pest Management Plan**

### **Governance Report Apiculture New Zealand (Inc)**

### **Report 7 – February 2018**

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## American Foulbrood National Pest Management Plan AFB NPMP

### Report 1 – February

#### AFB PMP Management Board Meetings

The Board had its first meeting for the year on 15 and 16 February. The Board considered a draft Communications Strategy for the AFB PMP. Fifteen policies due for review were also reviewed by the Board at this meeting.

An additional meeting was held on 31 January to progress planning the implementation of the 5 Year Strategy.

#### AFB PMP Management Meetings withASUREQuality 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 December 2017 and 31 January 2018, 224 cases of AFB were reported in 143 apiaries. This is typical of this time of the year when honey collection is underway.

The annual infection rate is 0.30% of hives and 2.6% of apiaries, consistent with the rates seen this time last year and the long-term average.

#### Beekeeper, Apiary and Hive Numbers

431 new beekeepers registered in December 2017 and November January 2018. 9,000 beekeepers are project to have registered by 31 March 2018.

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
2018 (February)	8,693	55,328	889,974

### **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	661	5,009	66,294
Canterbury	1,133	6,219	84,941
Hamilton	811	4,984	94,324
Otago/Southland	706	4,349	57,298
Palmerston North	1,985	15,419	260,536
Tauranga	1004	8,690	168,011
Whangarei	2,393	10,658	158,570
Totals	8,693	52,552	889,974

### **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 by AsureQuality after the 1 June deadline due to the volume of returns being handled by registrars at that time. As at 1 February, 720 defaulters (9 %) have yet to file their ADR.

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 (COI) exemptions withdrawn.

Four of the 61 beekeepers submitted both their ADR and COI prior to 15 December 2017, and their applications to renew their DECA have been accepted and are being processed. A further 6 beekeepers have now filed their ADR. The beekeepers that have not submitted their COI will be included in the default COI inspection programme as described below.

### **Certificate of Inspection (COI)**

In August 2017, 3,916 non – accredited beekeepers received a Certificate of Inspection documentation. 2,514 beekeepers (64%) returned their COI on time. As at 5 February 2018 1,302 COIs (33%) remain outstanding.

Default inspections are currently being planned for approximately 200 beekeepers whom have failed to submit both their 2016 and 2017 ADR's and COI's. The cost of these inspections will be recovered from the beekeepers under section 128 Power to act on default, of the Biosecurity Act 1993.

**Disease Elimination Conformity Agreements DECA's**

In the 2 months to 31 January 2018, 106 DECA applications were approved for existing beekeepers. Over the same period 433 new beekeepers entered the industry. Education and awareness of AFB management requirements, with focus on new entrants continues to be a priority for the Management Agency.

**AFB Authorised Persons**

**- AP2 Contracts**

Twenty-eight authorised persons were offered renewed contracts. Nineteen contracts have been signed and returned. Two authorised persons have decided not to renew their contracts for age/health reasons. The remaining 7 are being followed up.

**- AFB Inspection Program**

Authorised Persons continue to inspect apiaries at high risk of AFB infection throughout New Zealand. The Management Agency planning to change the AFB Inspection Program reporting received fromASUREQuality and this will be reflected in the next report to the ApiNZ Board.

**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. The Management Agency planned to deliver 85 AFB Recognition Courses (with test) to 1,400 participants in 2017. The number of participants in 2017 while an increase on 2016 has been 12% less than expected.

<b>Calendar Year</b>	<b>Courses</b>	<b>Test via Proctor</b>	<b>Participants</b>
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	91	28	1,224

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

### **Change in Diagnostic Laboratory for Suspect AFB Samples**

The Plant and Food laboratory is no longer able to culture suspected AFB samples for the Management Agency as new MPI permit requirements requires this diagnostic test to be performed in a Physical Containment Level 2 laboratory. The Management Agency has made arrangements for culture of suspect AFB samples to be performed at MPI's Wallaceville laboratory.

### **Retail and Export Honey Pack Sampling Programme**

Sampling of locally sourced retail packs and collection of honey samples from Risk Management Premises are currently underway. The samples are due to be submitted to the MPI Wallaceville laboratory by the end of February.

### **AFB PMP Financial Year Audit 2016/2017**

The audit of the AFB PMP accounts for 2016/17 has been satisfactorily completed and is now available on the AFB PMP website.

### **Proposed budget for 2018/19**

The proposed 2018/19 budget was posted on the website and emailed to registered beekeepers prior to 1 January 2018. Copies were posted to beekeepers without email addresses via regular mail. Beekeepers have until 28 February to provide feedback on the budget. Thus far 5 submissions have been received.

The levy notification notice was published in NZ Gazette on 19 January 2018. The levy remains the same as last year at \$20 per beekeeper and \$15.17 per apiary.

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