



Confidential to the ApiNZ Board and AFB Management Agency

American Foulbrood National Pest Management Plan

Governance Report Apiculture New Zealand (Inc)

Report 21 – February 2021

Report Compiled By
Clifton King
AFB NPMP Compliance Manager



Highlights Report

1. National Bee Health System Project

Thirty-one beekeepers will start the pilot of the new system 11 February 2021, approximately 6 working weeks behind schedule. Four of these weeks were due to development taking longer than originally planned (18 weeks instead of 14), and an extra two weeks of User Acceptance Testing to ready the system for piloting.

The Management Agency is working towards a target go live date of 10 March 2021. An information campaign will be rolled out together with the new system to inform and assist beekeepers to transition to the new system.

The scope of the new system includes functionality for all major AFB PMP activities performed by beekeepers and the Management Agency including:

- Beekeeper registration and deregistration
- Apiary registration and deregistration
- Apiary transfers between beekeepers
- DECA applications and cancellations
- Certificates of Inspection
- Default inspections (Certificates of Inspection)
- Cost Recovery
- Levy Collection including issuing invoices statements and penalty invoices
- Annual Disease Returns
- Investigation of non-compliance reports
- AP2 apiary inspections
- Compliance and enforcement including the use of statutory powers

The new system also includes the ability for beekeepers to notify AFB and changes to their apiaries using handheld devices in their apiary sites – even when their apiary is located in a region without cellular coverage.

2. Strong growth in new beekeeper registrations

It appears that many polytechnics have responded to the governments offer of fees free tuition by promoting beekeeping courses, and this has in turn driven higher levels of new beekeeper registrations than have been experienced in previous years. A total of 710 new beekeeper registrations were processed in November to January period with 288, 230, and 192 in each of November, December, and January.

There were 10,204 registered beekeepers as of 1 February 2021.

3. AFB Surveillance and Enforcement

From 1 November to 1 February AP2s inspected 4,845 beehives and found 87 cases of AFB.

52 unregistered apiaries were identified. 57 of these apiaries have now been registered, two have been destroyed and 3 are scheduled for destruction.

Follow up inspections were completed on two high risk beekeepers.

Appendix: American Foulbrood National Pest Management Plan AFB NPMP Progress & Activity Report

Note: The Management Agency has ceased bimonthly reporting by AsureQuality and consequently the reporting in this section is more limited than usual. New reports will be established after the National Bee Health System has gone live.

AFB PMP Management Board Meetings

The Board had its 1st meeting for the year on 12 February 2021.

Reported Incidents of American Foulbrood

The annual infection rate is 0.293% of hives

Beekeeper, Apiary and Hive Numbers

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 (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 (June)	7,836	50,211	811,357
2018 (June)	8,633	55,942	888,400
2019 (June)	9,378	59,019	921,522
2019 (August)	9,217	58,861	921,387
2019 (October)	9,240	58,791	917,411
2020 (February)	9,807	61,311	970,947
2020 (April)	9,905	61,490	944,022
2020 (June)	9,745	61,017	879,007
2020 (July)	9,544	60,496	856,703
2020 (November)	9,688	60,714	855,302
2021 (February)	10,204	61,989	880,364

Annual Disease Returns (ADR's)

Annual Disease Returns were sent to 9,975 beekeepers in April 2020. 52% completed their ADR by the deadline of 1 June. As at 4 August 2020, 1,442 ADR's remain outstanding of which 73 are DECA holders. The DECA holders have had their DECA's cancelled by the Management Agency.

Certificates of Inspection

4,616 beekeepers were required to complete a Certificate of Inspection. As of 27 October 2020, 3,568 beekeepers had yet to submit a Certificate of Inspection. These beekeepers were sent an email reminder on 27 October. A further SMS reminder was sent on 9 November 2020, and email reminder was sent on 19 November.

2,984 (64%) Certificate of Inspections were received by 15 December. This is down on Certificate of Inspection compliance in 2019, when 70% of beekeepers submitted their Certificate of Inspection on time. Part of the reason for the difference is that the Management Agency returned incomplete Certificates of Inspection back to the beekeeper for completion this year.

Currently 1,175 beekeepers (owning 2,044 apiaries and 17,417 beehives) have defaulted on their Certificate of Inspection, and 722 beekeepers (owning 1,073 apiaries and 7,295 beehives) have defaulted on both their 2020 Annual Disease Return and Certificate of Inspection.

Beekeepers that defaulted on both their 2020 Annual Disease Return and Certificate of Inspection will be issued with default notices. The Management Agency will inspect their apiaries on default over the autumn and early winter period.

Disease Elimination Conformity Agreements DECA's

51% of beekeepers have a DECA.

AFB Recognition Course Training

Attendance at training courses has been impacted as a consequence of the COVID-19 lock downs and reduced demand for courses during alert level 1.

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	91	28	1,224
2018	108	111	1,327
2019	96	127	1,106
2020	54	1	583

Clifton King
AFB NPMP Compliance Manager