



WHAT WE HEARD

THE NEXT 10 YEARS OF THE
PMP FOR AFB ELIMINATION
CONSULTATION ROUND 2



 THE MANAGEMENT AGENCY
NATIONAL AMERICAN FOULBROOD
PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN

REVIEW OF THE NATIONAL AMERICAN FOULBROOD PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN

THANKS FOR HAVING YOUR SAY

WE HEARD YOU

Thank you to all beekeepers that participated in the second round of consultation for the future of the National American Foulbrood Pest Management Plan (AFB PMP) at the end of 2021. And special thanks to the 342 beekeepers that made submissions.

We heard you and are committed to implementing the changes that beekeepers supported. We're also updating the proposal to align with your feedback.

Your feedback told us that the proposed changes to the AFB PMP are on the right track. It also pointed to areas where we could do better. As a result, we will make the following changes:

- Tailor training courses to meet the different training needs of commercial and hobbyist beekeepers.
- Improve training courses and provide online training options.
- Increase the proposed timeframe to notify transfers of beehive ownership from 7 to 14 days.
- Make it possible for beekeepers to apply for a Beekeeper Registration Number before registering their first apiary.

We also heard from submitters that they would like further detail on the proposed use of infringement fines. This is understandable and we will provide a detailed proposal for the use of infringement fines in round three of consultation.

The Consultation Process

- **Consultation Rounds 1 & 2 (Complete)**
- **Consultation Round 3: July - September 2022**

Your Round 2 feedback has enabled us to propose detailed changes to the AFB PMP. We will then seek your feedback prior to the submission of the proposal.

- **Submission of Proposal: October - December 2022**

Consultation timeframes are indicative only.

EDUCATION, TRAINING & SUPPORT



The majority of submissions supported the proposed changes to strengthen education and training:

- 72% supported AFB Refresher Training as a condition to retain a DECA.
- 79% supported DECA holders being required to ensure their employee beekeepers pass an AFB Recognition Course to retain their DECA.
- 73% supported DECA holders being required to ensure their employee beekeepers pass an AFB Refresher Training to retain their DECA.
- More submitters supported refresher training every 5 years than any other interval.

The Management Agency will propose an amendment of DECA rules to require:

- Completion of refresher training every 5 years to retain a DECA.
- Beekeepers employed by the DECA holder to attend AFB recognition and refresher training as a condition of the DECA.

The Management Agency agreed with submitters that:

- Training courses could be targeted to meet the needs of different groups of beekeepers.
- Content, value, and accessibility of training could improve, including the addition of online training.

In recognition of these concerns, we intend to improve AFB recognition and refresher training, including the addition of online training and the tailoring of training courses to meet the different needs of hobbyist and commercial beekeepers.

SURVEILLANCE & PREVENTION

The majority of submissions supported the proposed changes to enhance surveillance and prevention:

- 72% supported requiring beekeepers to notify any transfers of beehive ownership within seven days.
- 83% supported requiring beekeeper registration numbers when declaring beehive transfers as part of an Annual Disease Return (ADR).
- 69% supported requiring diagnostic laboratories to provide all AFB results to The Management Agency.
- 78% supported AP2s having authority to use detector dogs in the future.

The Management Agency will propose:

- A new rule requiring notification of transfer of beehive ownership within 14 days.
- Amending the Beekeeper Registration Numbers allocation rule to allow The Management Agency to issue new Beekeeper Registration Numbers before a beekeeper registers their first apiary.
- Amending the ADR rule to require Beekeeper Registration Numbers.
- A new rule requiring diagnostic laboratories to provide all AFB test results (positive and negative) to The Management Agency.
- A new power enabling AP2s to use detector dogs (if, in the future, there is sufficient scientific research to demonstrate that detector dogs are effective).

The Management Agency agreed with submitters that:

- Notifying the transfer of beehive ownership within seven days is a tight timeframe, particularly when the beekeeper receiving the beehive(s) is a new unregistered beekeeper.
- The use of dogs should be subject to clear guidelines and safeguards. In response, we're proposing to 'future proof' the plan so that we can use detector dogs when there is sufficient scientific research to show that detector dogs are effective and provide a cost-effective alternative to clinical inspection.

ENFORCEMENTS & PENALTIES



The majority of submissions supported the proposed changes to enhance enforcement and penalties:

- 89% supported The Management Agency having power to destroy AFB infected hives and take actions to prevent the spread of AFB.
- 69% supported The Management Agency having authority to issue infringement fines for failure to keep honeybees in moveable frame hives.
- 74% supported The Management Agency having authority to issue infringement fines for failure to register an apiary.
- 69% supported The Management Agency having authority to issue infringement fines for failure to submit Annual Disease Return (ADR).
- 70% supported The Management Agency having authority to issue infringement fines for failure to complete a Certificate of Inspection (COI).

The Management Agency will propose:

- A new power to destroy AFB beehives, and prevent the spread of AFB.
- A new authority to issue infringement fines as a penalty.

The Management Agency agreed with submitters that:

More detail is required around the proposed use of infringement fines. This is understandable and we will provide a detailed proposal for the use of infringement fines in round three of the consultation.

DETAILED ANALYSIS OF SUBMISSIONS & THE MANAGEMENT AGENCY'S RESPONSE

A detailed analysis of beekeeper feedback and submissions, along with our full response can be found here:

afb.org.nz/review-of-plan-order/



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