



Confidential to the ApiNZ Board and AFB Management Agency

American Foulbrood National Pest Management Plan

Governance Report
Apiculture New Zealand (Inc)

Report 36 – February 2024

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Highlights Report

Quick Stats as of 20 February 2024 vs for the same period in 2023:

Category	2023/24	2022/23
Number of registered beekeepers	9,131 (9.6%) ▼	10,103
Number of registered beekeepers with a DECA	5,143 (1.8%) ▲	5,052
Number of registered apiaries	56,296 (7.1%) ▼	60,622
Number of registered colonies	586,076 (18.6%) ▼	720,576
AFB cases	2,113 (1 June 2023 – 20 Feb 2024) (13.4%) ▼	2,441 (1 June 2022 – 20 Feb 2023)

1. Certificates of Inspection

2,148 beekeepers owning 20,371 colonies on 3,899 apiaries completed a COI prior to 15 December 2022, slightly down from the previous year (2,639). A further 224 beekeepers have completed a late COI up until 20 February 2023.

All beekeepers that had defaulted on their COI obligations were sent a email and text reminder on 18 December 2032. A follow-up email and text reminder sent on 25 January 2023 advised beekeepers that the Management Agency would inspect their colonies on default, should they fail to complete a late COI by 23 February 2024.

As of 20 February 2024, 859 beekeepers are still in default of their COI obligations. They own 6,159 colonies on 1,594 apiaries. 30 of these beekeepers own more than 50 colonies each. The Management Agency has drafted up an initial plan for allocation of default COI inspections during Autumn 2024.

2. Staff changes at the Management Agency

The Management Agency is currently running a recruitment round to replace one of the fulltime Apiary Coordinator roles. Over 50 applications were received in response to an advertisement on Seek. Interviews will take place in late February, with the expectation that the preferred candidate will commence working in late March/early April 2024. The incumbent will work as a temp during May to assist with peak ADRs and for training the new employee.

3. AFB NPMP Change Programme Annual Work Plan (AWP)

On 17 November 2023, the Management Agency Board endorsed the commencement of the AFB Change Programme Annual Work Plan (AWP). The AWP combines the proposed changes that were submitted to the Minister of Biosecurity in March 2023 and the primary objective of transforming beekeepers focus from the presence or absence of AFB to the implementation of good AFB elimination practices.

The components of the AFB NPMP Change Programme will be delivered through five Milestones (Figure 1) identified within the AWP. These are priorities that have significant impact on the long-term direction of

The Management Agency, its AFB elimination objectives, and the investment required to achieve those objectives.

Tasks within these milestones will span across the 2024 calendar year, with several already in progression. These are:

1. Improved security upgrades and enhancements to automate HiveHub functionality to enable introduction of the new PMP and predict disease trends for triaging AFB elimination efforts.
2. Development of AFB recognition and disease management content for training and upskilling employees of commercial beekeepers.
3. A robust communication strategy that addresses gaps in the sector’s understanding of the Management Agency’s role and implements targeted communication and engagement with beekeepers on how to eliminate AFB through bee husbandry and biosecurity best-practices.
4. Review and modifying existing DECA templates (hobbyist and commercial) to make it fit-for-purpose for the scale of a beekeeper’s operations and creating new processes for auditing performance of beekeepers against their DECAs.
5. Continual monitoring of operational expenditure to balance delivery of services within a tight fiscal environment.

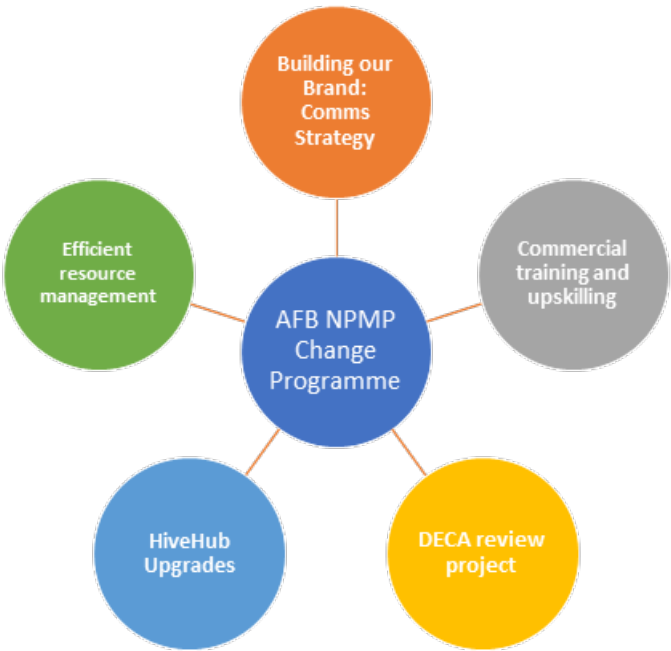


Figure 1: Milestones for the implementation of the AFB NPMP Change Programme

Management Agency 2023/24 Activity Report	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Total
# Hivehub portal logins	1,793	2,206	2,682	3,631	8,312	10,689	3,319	3,021					35,653
# 0800 AFB PMP phone calls	520	706	458	269	310	844	689	231					4,027
Outgoing	160	350	212	101	139	268	480	104					1,814
Incoming	360	356	246	168	171	576	209	127					2,213
# Help and support cases opened	966	391	384	474	924	2,067	781	473					6,460
# Help and support cases closed	953	382	348	433	798	1,760	1,020	457					6,151
Apiary Coordinators	628	211	257	340	697	1,604	915	409					5,061
Administrator	294	155	74	3	3	85	68	15					697
Operations Managers	29	16	17	30	25	69	21	2					209
General Manager	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0					4
# New Beekeeper Registrations	13	8	25	51	76	130	94	94					491
# Beekeepers Deregistered	235	128	97	91	118	231	116	115					1,131
# BK Employees granted HiveHub access	3	4	4	7	3	3	1	1					26
# New Apiary Registrations	183	123	217	264	806	812	643	812					3,860
# Apiary Deregistrations	623	541	477	360	520	921	880	1,219					5,541
# Colony Returns Completed	1,102	42	0	0	0	0	0	0					1,144
# ADRs Completed	1,268	177	12	4	2	6	1	1					1,471
#COIs completed	3	1	32	157	377	1,206	460	20					2,256
# Zero colonies declaration						200	105	53					358
Registered						113	70	30					213
Deregistered						87	35	23					145
# Training Course Participants	63	58	100	62	86	101	13	12					495
# Class-Room Full Course + Test Participants	12	16	36	18	37	58	0	0					177
# Online Full Course +Test Participants	12	11	19	13	13	20	7	7					102
# Class-Room AFB Refresher Participants	8	12	26	20	27	15	0	0					108
# Online AFB AFB Refresher Participants	31	19	19	11	9	8	6	5					108
# DECAs Approved	23	26	92	54	60	81	23	20					379
#Hobbyist	19	20	83	44	59	72	20	17					334
#Commercial	4	6	9	10	1	9	3	3					45
# AFB Notifications Reviewed	132	103	239	289	282	208	107	94					1,454
Northern Region	61	74	120	142	150	88	57	37					729
Southern Region	71	29	119	145	132	120	50	57					723
# Apiaries Inspected	321	74	298	394	416	394	113	114					2,124
# Total number of Hives inspected by AP2s	1,074	320	2,233	3,751	2,909	2,512	692	130					13,621
# Surveillance	153	39	285	339	378	367	106	106					1,773
# Honey surveillance						5	0	0					5
# Unregistered Apiary	22	2	19	10	19	14	7	7					100
# Default COI	119	29	9	0	2	0	0	0					159
# High Risk Beekeeper	18	1	18	22	15	1	0	1					76
# Monitoring Compliance with s122 Notice	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	0					4
# s128 Action on Default	9	2	1	0	2	4	0	0					18
# S119	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0					4
#S25 Beehives posing Risk	0	0	4	24	0	0	0	0					25

Regional breakdown of AFB cases (1 June 2022 – 31 Jan 2023) vs (1 June 2023 – 31 Jan 2024)

