



Confidential to the ApiNZ Board and AFB Management Agency

American Foulbrood National Pest Management Plan

Governance Report
Apiculture New Zealand (Inc)

Report 37 – April 2024

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Highlights Report

Quick Stats as of 02 April 2024 vs for the same period in 2023:

Category	2023/24	2022/23
Number of registered beekeepers	9,065 (10.3%) ▼	10,103
Number of registered beekeepers with a DECA	5,099 (2.7%) ▼	5,243
Number of registered apiaries	55,040 (6.4%) ▼	58,823
Number of registered colonies	581,979 (9.9%) ▼	645,894
AFB cases	2,633 (1 June 2023 – 5 April 2024) (8.8%) ▼	2,887 (1 June 2022 – 5 April 2023)

1. Decline in colony numbers and downstream effects

With a 10% decrease in hive numbers within the past calendar year, there will be implications for pollination services and potentially production volumes for horticultural producers in spring. The final colony numbers will be available in early June at the end of the ADR period.

2. AFB PMP review

The Management Agency met the new Minister of Biosecurity in late February. The Minister informed the Management Agency that MPI is assessing the AFB PMP recommendations submitted in March 2023. MPI have advised that the Minister has requested the scope be extended to include governance of the Management Agency. The Management Agency has requested a copy of the Terms of Reference for this element of the PMP assessment from MPI, but this has yet to be received.

3. 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 276 beekeepers have completed a late COI up until 05 April 2024. As of 5 April 2024, 699 registered beekeepers are still in default of their 2023 COI obligations. Together, they own 5,397 registered colonies on 1,339 apiaries. Eight beekeepers own more than 100 colonies.

In late February 2024, 92 beekeepers were scheduled for COI default inspections based on the criteria of >10 colonies or > 5 apiaries. These 92 beekeepers own 2,617 colonies on 408 apiaries.

COI default inspections commenced from 1 March with inspections already completed for 45 COI defaulters who own 381 colonies on 129 apiaries. Ten cases of AFB have been found so far during these inspections.

4. New AFB heat map

The Management Agency has a new AFB heat map, which replaces the former static heat map. This new map displays AFB cases on pre-set zoom levels that has been locked to prevent breach of privacy. It also shows the approximate locations of current AP2s and the operational/regional split between the two

Operations Managers. The map will be updated each year on 31 May and 1 March, with old data removed.

Link to the map can be found here:

https://afbpmp.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Embed/index.html?webmap=de0d56f48d8741659af8d8ad87e82b80&extent=170.635,-43.3598,179.6603,-39.4221&zoom=true&previewImage=false&scale=true&legendlayers=true&disable_scroll=true&theme=dark

5. New Apiary Coordinator

On 6 March 2024, the Management Agency confirmed the appointment of Paula Rich as the new fulltime Apiary Coordinator, replacing Leonie Elliott-Mason. Paula is based in Rolleston and will be starting on 15 April, to allow for a period of training and handover from Leonie. Leonie will move to a part-time role with the Management Agency for the month of May, to assist with the peak ADR period.

6. Honey Surveillance

The Management Agency will be taking a pause from conducting honey surveillance this year, due to the following reasons:

- a. Overall costs of \$49,000 (AP2, collection of honey samples, testing) for running this surveillance would get invoiced in the 2024/25 budget. With a \$220,000 loss in revenue forecasted for next year, the Management Agency is taking a precautionary approach and re-prioritising this budget to AP2 inspections for investigating AFB hot-spots or for HiveHub functionalities for acquiring lab test results instead.
- b. A pause would appear to incentivise those beekeepers who have consistently kept up with their elimination efforts over the past three years.

Targeted honey surveillance will continue for those beekeepers where there is cause for concern on hidden AFB risks. This approach was endorsed by the Board on 15 March 2024. The Management Agency will be updating beekeepers about this change.

5. ADR and 2024/25 levy

The ADR period is now active. As of 05 April 2024, 106 beekeepers have filed their ADRs, 125 have submitted colony return, and 207 have paid their levies.

The Management Agency has prepared an easy-to-follow flowchart to assist all beekeepers through the ADR and levy period between April and June 2024 (<https://afb.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/2024-ADR-flowchart.pdf>). The flowchart can also be found in the relevant FAQ pages:

<https://afb.org.nz/goal-of-the-afb-npmp/annual-disease-return/>

<https://afb.org.nz/levy-payments/>

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	3,085	7,649			46,387
# 0800 AFB PMP phone calls	520	706	458	269	310	844	689	231	245	354			4,626
Outgoing	160	350	212	101	139	268	480	104	99	202			2,115
Incoming	360	356	246	168	171	576	209	127	146	152			2,511
# Help and support cases opened	966	391	384	474	924	2,067	781	473	348	457			7,265
# Help and support cases closed	953	382	348	433	798	1,760	1,020	457	362	474			6,987
Apiary Coordinators	628	211	257	340	697	1,604	915	409	286	378			5,725
Administrator	294	155	74	3	3	85	68	15	1	64			762
Operations Managers	29	16	17	30	25	69	21	2	26	31			266
General Manager	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1			5
# New Beekeeper Registrations	13	8	25	51	76	130	94	94	63	51			605
# Beekeepers Deregistered	235	128	97	91	118	231	116	115	62	118			1,311
# BK Employees granted HiveHub access	3	4	4	7	3	3	1	1	1	1			28
# New Apiary Registrations	183	123	217	264	806	812	643	812	499	598			4,957
# Apiary Deregistrations	623	541	477	360	520	921	880	1,219	527	1,330			7,398
# Colony Returns Completed	1,102	42	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			1,144
# ADRs Completed	1,268	177	12	4	2	6	1	1	0	0			1,471
#COIs completed	3	1	32	157	377	1,206	460	20	83	18			2,357
# Zero colonies declaration						200	105	53	39	5			402
Registered						113	70	30	22	4			239
Deregistered						87	35	23	17	1			163
# Training Course Participants	63	58	100	62	86	101	13	12	35	33			563
# Class-Room Full Course + Test Participants	12	16	36	18	37	58	0	0	28	20			225
# Online Full Course +Test Participants	12	11	19	13	13	20	7	7	2	3			107
# Class-Room AFB Refresher Participants	8	12	26	20	27	15	0	0	3	5			116
# Online AFB AFB Refresher Participants	31	19	19	11	9	8	6	5	1	5			114
# DECAs Approved	23	26	92	54	60	81	23	20	14	18			411
#Hobbyist	19	20	83	44	59	72	20	17	10	14			358
#Commercial	4	6	9	10	1	9	3	3	4	4			53
# AFB Notifications Reviewed	132	103	239	289	282	208	107	94	116	191			1,761
Northern Region	61	74	120	142	150	88	57	37	55	81			865
Southern Region	71	29	119	145	132	120	50	57	61	110			894
# Apiaries Inspected	321	74	298	394	416	394	113	114	174	265			2,563
# Total number of Hives inspected by AP2s	1,074	320	2,233	3,751	2,909	2,512	692	130	1052	1904			16,577
# Surveillance	153	39	285	339	378	367	106	106	156	236			2,165
# Honey surveillance						5	0	0	0	0			5
# Unregistered Apiary	22	2	19	10	19	14	7	7	15	25			140
# Default COI	119	29	9	0	2	0	0	0	0	116			275
# High Risk Beekeeper	18	1	18	22	15	1	0	1	1	47			124
# Monitoring Compliance with s122 Notice	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	2	1			7
# s128 Action on Default	9	2	1	0	2	4	0	0	0	3			21
# S119	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0			4
#S25 Beehives posing Risk	0	0	4	21	0	0	0	0	0	0			25