



# **Varroa mite (*Varroa destructor*) preparedness resources**

Information pack

## Purpose

This pack has been developed to help promote the awareness of varroa mite (*Varroa destructor*) to beekeepers.

You are welcome to optimise the content of this pack to suit your needs. It can be used to inform newsletter content and/ or social media posts.

## Who should use this pack?

This pack is specifically tailored for beekeepers, and we welcome the following organisations to share:

- Queensland Beekeepers Association
- Australian Honey Bee Industry Council
- Queensland beekeeping groups, including hobbyists
- Retailers
- Local government and councils
- Pest controllers

## Current situation

A [Movement Control Order](#) is in place to keep varroa destructor mite (varroa mite) out of the state. This order restricts the movement of bees, beehives and bee products (including honey) from NSW into Queensland.

You are allowed to enter Queensland with bees, bee hives and bee products (including honey) from other states and territories that are deemed to be free from varroa.

There is currently a standstill in place in NSW which applies to the movement of bees, beehives, bee products and used bee keeping equipment within the state.

A [permit system](#) has been established to move bees, hives, used beekeeping equipment and bee products, including honey, into Queensland from NSW under certain circumstances.

## What can you do?

- If you own or keep at least one hive, you must [register as a biosecurity entity](#). Registration is free for non-commercial beekeepers\*
- Look for unexpected hive deaths, deformed bees, bees with parasites, poor brood patterns and dead brood.
- Conduct surveillance on your hives as soon as practicable in the form of sugar shaking, drone uncapping or alcohol washing.
- If you've acquired or relocated honeybees (including queen bees, nucleus hives and hives with honeybees) from NSW in the last 12-months, remain on alert for the presence of varroa mite.
- Immediately report any of the above to Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23.
- If you're unsure or need a reminder on how to action these, access the [Queensland Government eHub—Help protect our bees—your questions answered](#).












\*native bee hives do not need to be registered.

## Help is available

- For the latest information, [subscribe](#) to Biosecurity news including eAlerts and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) (@BiosecurityQld)
- Call or email Biosecurity Queensland 13 25 23 or [info@daf.qld.gov.au](mailto:info@daf.qld.gov.au)
- [Queensland Government website](#)
- [Queensland Beekeepers Association—Varroa Mite Portal](#)
- [National information](#)
- [NSW Government website](#)

## Key messages to share

High resolution images can be found on the eHub: [daf.engagementhub.com.au/varroa-mite](https://daf.engagementhub.com.au/varroa-mite)

<p>What beekeepers can do to help</p>	<p>  Attention Beekeepers  </p> <p>Following the detection of varroa mite (<i>Varroa destructor</i>) in New South Wales, we're calling on all Queensland beekeepers for support. Here's what you can do to help:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct surveillance on your hives as soon as practicable in the form of sugar shaking, drone uncapping or alcohol washing. Report unexpected hive deaths, deformed bees, bees with parasites, poor brood patterns and dead brood to us by calling 13 25 23.</li> <li>• Check your biosecurity entity registration. If you own or keep at least one hive, you must register as a biosecurity entity  <a href="https://bit.ly/2zfYnGG">https://bit.ly/2zfYnGG</a>. Registration is free for non-commercial beekeepers and native bee hives do not need to be registered.</li> <li>• If you've acquired or relocated honeybees (including queen bees, nucleus hives and hives with honeybees) from NSW in the last 12-months, remain on alert for the presence of varroa mite.</li> <li>• Keep up to date with the latest information and ask your questions on our eHub  <a href="https://daf.engagementhub.com.au/varroa-mite">https://daf.engagementhub.com.au/varroa-mite</a></li> </ul>
<p>Movement Control Order information</p>	<p>  Alert for beekeepers  </p> <p>Varroa mite (<i>Varroa destructor</i>) has been detected in New South Wales.</p> <p>A Movement Control Order is in place restricting the movement of bees and bee hives from New South Wales into Queensland to keep Varroa destructor (varroa mite) out of the state.</p> <p>You will continue to be allowed to enter Queensland with bees and beehives from other states free from varroa. There is currently a standstill in place in NSW which applies to the movement of bees, bee hives, bee products and used bee keeping equipment within the state.</p> <p>Beekeepers, please monitor your hives and immediately report unexpected hive deaths, deformed bees, bees with parasites, poor brood patterns and dead brood to Biosecurity Queensland – call us on 13 25 23.</p> <p>For the latest info or to ask a question go to our eHub <a href="https://daf.engagementhub.com.au/varroa-mite">https://daf.engagementhub.com.au/varroa-mite</a></p> <p>Details of the Movement Control Order  <a href="https://bit.ly/3ytYjCj">https://bit.ly/3ytYjCj</a></p> <p>If you need to move bees, bee products (including honey) and/or used beekeeping equipment, use the new permit system <a href="https://www.daf.qld.gov.au/business-priorities/biosecurity/policy-legislation-regulation/biosecurity-instrument-permit">https://www.daf.qld.gov.au/business-priorities/biosecurity/policy-legislation-regulation/biosecurity-instrument-permit</a></p>