



Queensland Beekeepers' Association

Varroa Mite Update – 18 December 2023

The detection of *Varroa destructor* in Newcastle on the 22nd June 2022 and the subsequent notice the eradication program will transition to management announced on 20th September 2023 has created much anxiety within the Australian beekeeping industry. In an effort to streamline our communications to our members the QBA will now offer weekly updates (where possible) to our members and affiliate clubs giving insight into our current areas of focus.

Update 18 December 2023

Bee 123 data Spring Blitz Surveillance Program 1st September to current day:

Total beekeepers reporting results	317
Total Hives checked	4446
Total hives reported	23589
Total No. of Recreational Beekeeper Surveys:	167
Total No. of Commercial Beekeeper Surveys:	150
Mites found or suspected	0

Biosecurity Queensland and QBA Update 18 December 2023

QBA Weekly Update – 15/12/2023

- This week BQ staff conducted surveillance activities at Chinchilla and the Gympie area (approx. 500 hives)
- BQ continuing to give feed back to the CCEPP on the development of the National T2M response.
- BQ began issuing Biosecurity Instrument Permits for the movement of equipment into Steritech in Brisbane for irradiation.
- The Risk Assessment and Scientific Team evaluating permit conditions for full supers to enter Qld for extraction.
- More record keeping books ordered for distribution to bee clubs. Delivery expected next week.
- The call centre script has been updated to reflect the change in circumstances.
- Website continues to be updated.
- The VMPPP will be on compulsory shutdown from the 22/12/2023 to the 2/01/2024. For emergencies contact the call centre on 13 25 23

Bee 123 QLD Surveillance Dashboard Map 18 December 2023

The maps below illustrate the current distribution of varroa mite surveillance activities reported to the Bee 123 portal. The QBA and DAF urge all beekeepers across Queensland to complete varroa mite surveillance activities immediately and report their results (including negative results) to the portal.

The blue dots on the map represent negative surveillance results from 317 varroa mite surveillance activities reported to the Bee 123 portal since the 1st of September 2023

Please see the page below to review the current distribution of varroa mite surveillance reports as collated from data collected from the Bee 123 portal.

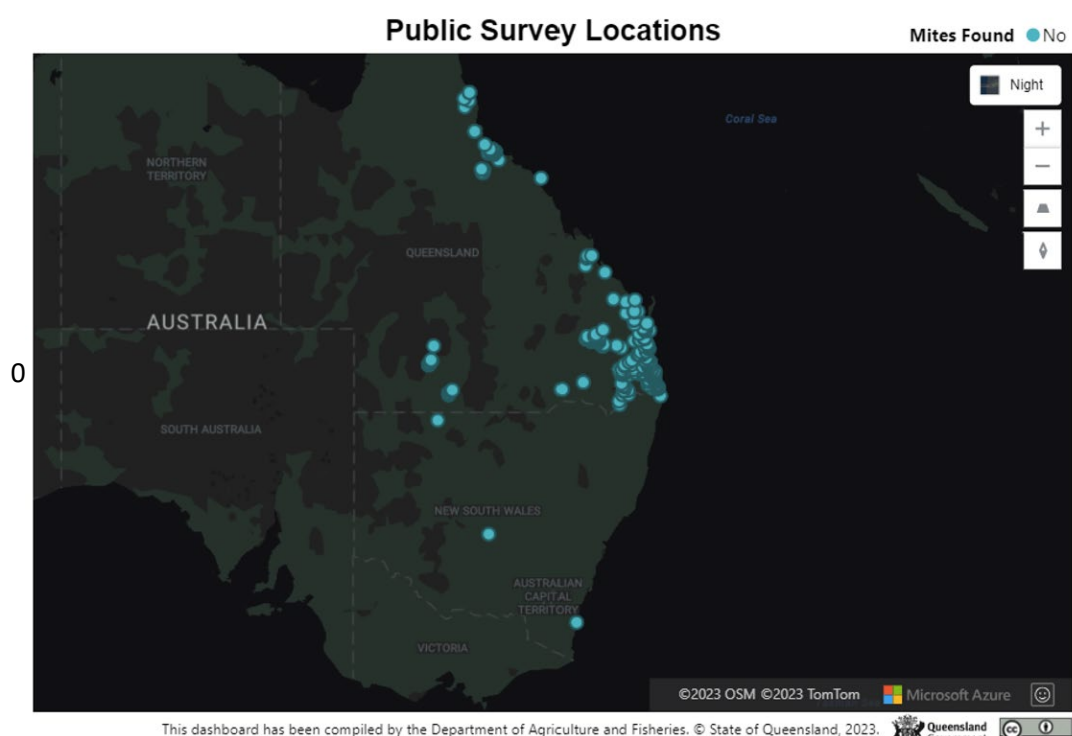


Figure 1 - Bee 123 Surveillance Reports – 18 December 2023

AHBIC Industry Briefing – 19 October 2023

As previously communicated, AHBIC held another Industry Briefing detailing the latest information with regards to the current varroa mite situation, providing some clarity for industry members on the transition to management phase.

If you missed watching the webinar, we strongly urge all beekeepers to watch the recording at their earliest convenience. Please click [here](#) to access the recording.

Below is a list of some of the websites referred to in the webinar.

[NSW Department of Primary Industries – Varroa Response](#)

[Agriculture Victoria – Varroa Situation](#)

For information related to the response in QLD, please visit:

[Biosecurity Queensland - Manage Varroa Mite](#)

Video Resources:

The QBA now have a dedicated YouTube channels with multiple playlists offering a dynamic range of subject matter relevant to beekeeping in Queensland. We encourage all members to explore our online video library and recommend members regularly visit our YouTube channel to discover new content from time to time.

If you'd like to visit our YouTube channel, click on the link below.

<https://www.youtube.com/@queenslandbeekeepersassoc>

QBA Membership:

The Queensland Beekeepers' Association warmly welcome new members to our organisation. To complete an application for membership please visit <https://members.qbabees.org.au/join-us/>

When completing your application, please nominate your preferred branch of the QBA.

Useful Information Links:

QBA Varroa mite portal - <https://members.qbabees.org.au/QBA-Varroa-Mite-Portal>

DAF Engagement Hub - <https://daf.engagementhub.com.au/varroa-mite>

NSW DPI - <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/emergencies/biosecurity/current-situation/varroa-mite-emergency-response>

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