



## Queensland Beekeepers' Association

### Weekly Varroa Mite Update – Fortnightly 21 July 2023

The detection of *Varroa destructor* in Newcastle on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2022 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 to our members and affiliate clubs giving insight into our current areas of focus.

### Fortnightly Update 21 July 2023

#### Bee 123 data to date:

Total beekeepers reporting results	963
Total Hives checked	16393
Total hives reported	77625
Total No. of Recreational Beekeeper Surveys:	507
Total No. of Commercial Beekeeper Surveys:	451
<b>Mites found or suspected</b>	<b>0</b>

## Biosecurity Queensland and QBA fortnightly update 21 July 2023

### QBA Weekly Update – 21/07/2023

- As of 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023, the total numbers of IP's remain at 190, with continued priority testing in the EEZ and SEZ established around Gumble in NSW
- Queensland continues to operate as a Varroa mite biosecurity zone.
- BQ encourage all beekeepers to continue to monitor hive health and continue entering results into Bee123. There have been excellent testing results entered in BEE 123 recently
- Beekeepers with short-character HINs eg Z1 are now able to enter results into Bee123.
- Victoria and South Australia are issuing permits for those attending Almond pollination events within those states. When transiting through NSW please ensure you have the appropriate movement declaration requirement approved.
- Please contact each state for their exact requirements.
- As we sit today there is no requirement for beekeepers returning from Victoria to have a Biosecurity Instrument Permit. This will change if there is a VM detection within Victoria and a permit will be required. NSW will require notification to transit NSW. Please contact NSW and VIC to make sure of the relevant States positions.

### Biosecurity Instrument Permit applications completed

○ Approved	183
○ In progress	15
○ Not approved/available	12
○ Total completed	156

## Permit condition compliance inspections

The Varroa Mite Prevention and Preparedness Program (VMPPP) continues to manage ongoing permitting and compliance requirements for the movement of bees and related varroa mite carriers into Queensland. The VMPPP includes two dedicated Senior Biosecurity Officers whose operational duties encompass surveillance and compliance activities, as well as a dedicated Permitting Officer to oversee bee-related movement applications.

## Communications

- Additional communication material is being prepared to encourage beekeepers to check their hives and report to Bee 123:
- DAF continues to meet with the QBA and industry partners fortnightly to discuss progress with prevention activities to support keeping Queensland free of varroa mite.

## Bee 123 QLD Surveillance Dashboard Map 21 July 2023

The map below illustrates 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 represent negative surveillance results from **963** varroa mite surveillance activities reported to the Bee 123 portal since the 13<sup>th</sup> of July 2022.

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 – 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023

**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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