



20 September 2023

Dear Members,

Please find the statement from the Federal Department of Agriculture with relation to the change in the Varroa Response from Eradication to Management.

[Australian Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry - Varroa Mite](#)

The next step in the process is the development of the transition to management plan by the NSW DPI. The plan will then be considered by the CCEPP and the NMG. The NSW DPI will be operating under the interim response agreement until this plan is agreed to and takes effect.

Details on the interim response agreement and the transition to management plan are limited at this stage. As to the effect on the Queensland border that also remains unknown at this stage. As communicated in our members update last week, all live bee permits have already been put on hold.

The QBA in one of 10 member bodies of AHBIC and were asked for our position on eradication last week. The position that was communicated to AHBIC was that the QBA's executive remained divided, and to have a binding position we felt that we needed to hold a Special Members meeting requiring 14 days' notice to be given. This position recognised the deep division within in our industry in these uncertain times.

We would like to acknowledge those beekeepers in and around NSW that have been directly impacted by the response and thank them for their efforts. We would like to assure members that we will continue to provide the latest information as it comes to hand and will continue to work with AHBIC and the Queensland Government to get the best outcome for the Queensland Beekeeping Industry.

Please look out for each other in the weeks and months ahead as we begin to understand a new era of beekeeping in Australia.

Sincerely

Jacob Stevens  
President  
Queensland Beekeepers' Association.