

4 December 2001

Dear Beekeeper

CHANGES TO VARROA MOVEMENT CONTROLS IN THE RAETIHI AREA

This letter is to inform you that MAF has made changes to the Varroa Movement Control Boundary Area in the Raetihi region. The Boundary Area is a zone immediately north of the Movement Control Line, which includes the area sometimes referred to as the Raetihi 'bubble'.

While the Boundary Area is a part of the Infected Zone, special movement control conditions apply to hives moving into this zone from the north. Hives can only be moved in by permit, following treatment with miticide strips.

Because varroa has spread since the existing movement control zones were put in place over a year ago, MAF believes that the 'bubble' at Raetihi no longer serves a useful purpose. Therefore it has reduced the Boundary Area in this region to 10km.

These changes are shown on the attached map. The blue line is the main movement control line. The purple line is the northern margin of the Boundary Area. The yellow dotted line shows the previous upper limit of the boundary. Apiaries in the triangular area between the dotted line and the purple line are no longer in the Boundary Area.

According to our records, the following apiaries registered in your name are no longer in the Boundary Area. Hives can be moved on to these registered sites without treatment or a permit.

The following registered apiaries are still within the Boundary Area. Hives can only be moved to these sites from the north under permit, in compliance with MAF conditions for treating hives. Permits and information can be obtained from AgriQuality New Zealand on 0800 424 490.

or

You have no registered apiaries within this area.

Yours sincerely
Paul Bolger
Varroa Programme Coordinator