

14 December 2001

Dear Beekeeper

SOUTHERN BOUNDARY AREA FOR VARROA MOVEMENT CONTROL

This letter is to inform you of changes MAF is making to varroa movement control conditions south of the Movement Control Line in the Central North Island. A separate letter has already been sent to beekeepers affected by changes made to the north of the Movement Control Line.

As you are probably aware, a varroa movement control line, which runs from Taranaki to East Cape, was established last year. There has been further spread of varroa since this line was established. This includes the detection of five varroa-infested apiaries south of the movement control line in the Central Plateau region, as well as an increase in the number of infested hives north of the line.

In response to this spread of varroa, MAF and the National Beekeepers' Association (NBA) have agreed to establish a Southern Boundary Area immediately south of the Movement Control Line in the Central Plateau region. The objective of this is to prevent bees from hives situated immediately south of the movement control line from being moved around the lower North Island. MAF and the NBA believe that allowing unrestricted movement of live bees from this region would pose a serious threat of spreading varroa.

This Southern Boundary Area is shown on the enclosed map as the zone between the blue line and the yellow line.

According to our records, the following apiaries registered in your name are located in this area, and are subject to the new movement controls. If you have further apiaries in this area that are not listed here, please call AgriQuality New Zealand (0800 424 490) to confirm that they are registered.

List of sites inserted here.

Hives from the upper North Island can still not be moved further south than the existing Movement Control Line (shown in blue). Live bees, including hives, nucs, queens and swarms can not be moved southwards from the Southern Boundary Area to the remainder of the Buffer Zone (the lower North Island). Honey boxes and used hive parts (frames etc) require a permit before being moved south. Permitting conditions are summarised at the end of this letter.

Yours sincerely

Movement Permitting Conditions: Southern Boundary Area

Live bees and brood (including hives, nucs, swarms, queens)	Movement from Southern Boundary Area to other parts of Buffer Zone (lower NI)	Prohibited
Un extracted honey (i.e. honey supers containing honey)	Movement from Southern Boundary Area to other parts of Buffer Zone (lower NI)	Permit required ¹ Permits to be issued for a period of time (blanket permit) per beekeeper after education and risk management. Un extracted honey and boxes must be free of live bees (method for ridding boxes of live bees must be specified on permit – currently fumigation with methyl bromide is approved).
Beekeeping equipment – hive parts used (incl. boxes/supers and/or combs, includes undrawn foundation sheets if they have been on a beehive)	Movement from Southern Boundary Area to other parts of Buffer Zone (lower NI)	Permit required ¹ AAO assessment for risk, may be subject to conditions to reduce risk of transporting live bees.
Beekeeping equipment- - used (protective clothing, smokers and hive tools) including vehicles, sugar syrup for bee feed	Movement from Southern Boundary Area to other parts of Buffer Zone (lower NI)	No permit required Education on cleaning practices, especially of vehicles

¹ To be permitted on a beekeeper/processor/business basis for a period of time (blanket permit) after education on risk management.