

Approval of kinds of hives for the keeping of honeybees

Thursday, 19 April 2018

I, Roger Paskin, Chief Inspector of Stock under the *Livestock Act 1997*, hereby approve the following kinds of hives for the keeping of honeybees pursuant to Regulation 11 of the Livestock Regulations 2013 as set out in **Table A**. This approval remains in place until otherwise amended or revoked.

Table A. Approved kinds of hives for the keeping of honeybees

Required elements:	Interpretation:
<p>Honeybees must be kept in a moveable frame hive</p>	<p>Honeybees must be kept in a moveable frame hive that complies with the following:</p> <p>(i) a hive must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consist of a hive base onto which the hive box(s) sit; and • consist of hive box(s), into which sufficient moveable frames of the required type are fitted so: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ as to internally retain the required bee-space tolerances ○ that they stand on edge in a vertical position ○ consist of moveable frames in sufficient numbers and of the required type ○ consist of a hive lid covering the hive top box ○ restrict honeybee access to specifically designed and manufactured access point(s); and • hive components must be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ easily removable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ using a standard hive tool, without the need for undue: force, damage, cutting tearing or breaking of comb, or the leakage and exposure of nectar/ honey ○ as required so that all honeybees and frames can be inspected ○ of an internal finish, fit and size that prevents the construction of comb between internal surfaces other than within the footprint of each moveable frame ○ separated from all inner surfaces of the box and any other movable hive component by spaces between the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ outer face of drawn worker cells of a frame and the outer face of drawn worker cells of an adjacent frame of between 6-20 mm, and /or the outer face of foundation midrib of a frame and the outer face of foundation midrib of an adjacent frame of between 36-50 mm ○ outer face of drawn worker cells of a frame and the adjacent hive box inner side wall or internal dividing blank of between 6-20 mm, and/ or the outer face of foundation midrib of a frame and the adjacent hive box inner side wall or internal dividing blank of between mm 21-35 mm ○ top face of frame top bars and the underside of a hive component sitting above it (eg. queen excluder or the bottom face of frame bottom bars - or in the absence of bottom bars, the bottom of the comb) of between 0-10 mm ○ end face of a frame end bar (or in the absence of a frame end bar, the end of the comb) and the inner face of a hive box inner end wall of between 6-10 mm ○ top face of frame top bars and the underside of a lid sitting above it of between 0-10 mm, or with the addition of a mat that prevents the building of extraneous comb between frame top bars and the underside of lid, of between 0-45 mm; and • each movable frame must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ have a continuous straight sheet of foundation secured to the underside of the top bar along the lengthwise centreline axis, that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ extends vertically downwards for at least 20 mm ○ extends horizontally to at least 10 mm from the inner face of each end bar if fitted, or in the absence of end bars to a distance that is between 6-10 mm from the hive box inner side wall ○ be placed inside the box so that it can be easily removed for inspection; and

Table A. Approved kinds of hives for the keeping of honeybees (continued)

Required elements:	Interpretation:
Hives must be manufactured and maintained so as to have bee-proof external surfaces	Hives must be manufactured and maintained so as to have bee-proof external surfaces, with honeybee access restricted to specifically designed and manufactured access point(s) whose total area is as small as necessary, but which is in any case demonstrably defensible; and
Hives used for catching swarms must only contain frames of foundation	Hives used for catching bee swarms (swarm catch box) must only contain frames of foundation. Frames containing or previously containing drawn cells, honeybees (including remains of dead bees), honey or pollen are not permitted

Comprehensive details outlining the requirements along with supporting information, are provided in the document PIRSA Guidelines: *Hives - construction and use*, available at www.pir.sa.gov.au/beekeeper_registration or from the Apiary Unit, Biosecurity SA



**Dr Roger Paskin
CHIEF INSPECTOR OF STOCK
PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND REGIONS SA**