

Biosecurity Standards for Bees and Apiary Commodities

as incorporated by the Ministerial notice under section 37 of the *Livestock Act 1997* (SA) titled “Requirements for the control or eradication of diseases of bees”



Government
of South Australia

Department of Primary
Industries and Regions

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Standards for bees and apiary commodities

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Contents

Amendment history	5
Background.....	6
Purpose.....	6
Scope.....	6
Definitions	7
Part A – Entry of bees and apiary commodities into South Australia	11
Part A - General requirements	11
1. Species	11
2. Apiary Health Certificate	11
3. Training requirement.....	11
4. Notifiable occurrences.....	11
Part A - Specific requirements	12
5. Queens/Escorts/Queen cells.....	12
6. Bee colonies	15
7. Used Hive components	17
8. Hive components (honey supers for processing/extracting)	18
9. Unprocessed Apiary Products.....	19
10. Used Apiary Appliances	20
11. Beekeeping Plant.....	21
Part B – Entry of apiary commodities into Kangaroo Island	22
12. Apiary Health Certificate	22
13. Training requirement.....	22
14. Treatment	22
Part C – Management of bees and apiary commodities within South Australia	23
15. Integrated Pest Management Plans	23
16. Reasonable measures to control Varroa	23
Appendix 1 - Alcohol Wash method	24

Appendix 2 – Sugar Dusting and Brushing test method.....25

Appendix 3 – Treatment options for apiary commodities26

 Treatment options for entry into South Australia (except Kangaroo Island).....26

 Treatment options for entry into Kangaroo Island.....26

 Treatments27

Appendix 4 – Relevant seasonal thresholds29

Appendix 5 – Required Records30

Amendment history

Amendment History		
Amendment No.	Description	Date
1	Version 1 - Document creation associated with Gazette Notice 11 June 2026	11 June 2026

Background

In Australia, 65% of plant-based industries depend on pollination, particularly almonds, apples, cherries, blueberries, lucerne, and clover. The national average economic value of honey bees in pollinating dependant crops is calculated at \$14 billion.

South Australia has approximately 77,000 beehives which produce more than \$15 million worth of products, primarily high-quality honey. Honey bees in the state pollinate an estimated \$1.7 billion worth of agricultural and horticultural crops.

Purpose

The purpose of these Standards is to prescribe the requirements for the entry of bees and apiary commodities into South Australia and into Kangaroo Island, and the requirements for the management of bees and apiary commodities within South Australia.

Entry of bees and apiary commodities into South Australia is prohibited, unless specified conditions are met pursuant to the section 37 Notice titled 'Requirements for the control or eradication of diseases of bees' made by the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, on 11 June 2026 and published in the South Australian Government Gazette on 11 June 2026 (**the Notice**).

Scope

These Standards apply to:

- Part A – requirements for the entry of bees and apiary commodities into South Australia (except Kangaroo Island).
- Part B – requirements for the entry of bees and apiary commodities into Kangaroo Island.
- Part C – requirements for the management of bees and apiary commodities within South Australia.

These Standards must be read in conjunction with the Notice.

An approval by the Chief Inspector of Stock, or compliance with these Standards does not derogate from other South Australian legislative requirements including under *Agricultural and Veterinary Products (Control of Use) 2004*, *Environment Protection Act 1993*, *Plant Health Act 2009*, and the *Work Health Safety Act 2012*.

An approval by the Chief Inspector of Stock in relation to the Notice does not constitute approval for other acts regulated or prohibited by the *Livestock Act 1997*.

Definitions

acaricide	Treatment product utilised in the management of varroa mite, inclusive both synthetic and organic products. Registered products are outlined in Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) PUBCRIS Database .
alcohol wash	means the method for testing for Varroa as specified in Appendix 1 .
apiary appliances	has the same meaning as in the Notice.
apiary commodities	has the same meaning as in the Notice.
apiary products	has the same meaning as in the Notice.
bee colonies	has the same meaning as in the Notice.
beekeeping plant	has the same meaning as in the Notice.
bee-proof	means sealed in a manner to prevent the access or egress of bees.
bees	has the same meaning as in the Notice.
commercially packaged	means a sealed, preferably clear and tamper proof container, that clearly states the manufacture details, the product contained within, any treatment and nutritional statements.
consignee	means a person who acquires or is responsible for bees, bee colonies, hive components, apiary products, apiary appliances and/or beekeeping plant that enter the State.
consignor	means a person who consigns or arranges for bees, bee colonies, hive components, apiary products, apiary appliances and/or beekeeping plant to enter the State. The consignor may be the same person as a consignee.
hive components	has the same meaning as in the Notice.
hive components (honey supers for processing/extracting)	means the specific hive component, supers, that contain frames of capped honey but do not contain brood, or bees.
Integrated Pest Management Plan	means a plan to manage and maintain the health of bees as specified in Part C – Management . An example of a management plan for Varroa can be viewed at Treatment Plan — National Varroa Mite Management Program .
integrity	means the maintenance of a specific state, may include management to below a specific threshold, maintaining a bee-proof enclosure or packaging.
new	means an apiary commodity that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has never been exposed to bees or apiary products or used in connection with beekeeping or the processing of apiary products, • are in their original packaging, • are supplied by a manufacturer, wholesaler, or retailer, with a dated and itemised receipt and • are protected from exposure.

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	<p>In the case of new hive components containing beeswax:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the beeswax must be processed prior to application to a new hive component, • once manufactured, has never been exposed to bees or apiary products (except beeswax used in the manufacturing of the hive component) or used in connection with beekeeping or the processing of apiary products, • are in their original packaging, • are supplied by a manufacturer, wholesaler, or retailer, with a dated and itemised receipt and • are protected from exposure.
<p>notifiable occurrence</p>	<p>means a change to the information provided in the Entry Application, the Required Records, in the Apiary Health Certificate or in the Chief Inspector of Stock Approval, and includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • changes to the consignment, • changes to the disease or health status of the consignment.
<p>permitted purpose</p>	<p>means</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to fulfill a pollination contract, or • for honey production, or • entry of bee colonies kept by a person who holds registration as a beekeeper under the <i>Livestock Act 1997</i> where the bee colonies have been in a Varroa positive jurisdiction.
<p>preventing exposure</p>	<p>means undertaking measures as appropriate to prevent exposure to or cross-contamination with bees or apiary products, and includes decontamination, treatment, identification, sealing, containment, isolation and/or enclosure as necessary, from manufacture/processing until appropriate usage in South Australia.</p>
<p>processed apiary products</p>	<p>means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • for beeswax— <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ raw beeswax processed via centrifuge and packaged so as to be bee-proof and protected from exposure. ○ commercially processed beeswax that does not contain bees, debris, or other apiary products, and has been processed by heating to melting point and filtering and/or separating (to remove all bees, debris and other apiary products), and further processed by either forming into sheets or moulds, or if applying as a liquid, is contained in new containers that have not been exposed to bees or apiary products, packaged so as to be bee-proof, and appropriately labelled, is supplied by a processor, wholesaler or retailer of processed beeswax; and protected from exposure. • for liquid honey and/or creamed honey—commercially processed honey that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ does not contain bees, debris, or beeswax, and ○ has been processed by filtering (to remove all bees, debris and beeswax, and where filter integrity is

	<p>maintained, product post filtering is fully enclosed to prevent contamination), and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ has been cleaned externally to remove all bees and apiary products, and ○ is securely sealed, and appropriately labelled, and ○ is supplied by a processor, wholesaler or retailer of processed honey, and, ○ is protected from exposure. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • for pollen—commercially processed pollen that has been processed under an appropriate recognised quality assurance program, does not contain bees, debris, or other apiary products, and has been processed by a combination of filtering and/or separating (to remove all bees, debris and other apiary products), and further processed by either, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ drying/heating (to a minimum core temperature of 50°C for 20 minutes) or, ○ freezing (to a minimum core temperature of minus 18°C for 48 hours), or ○ gamma irradiated (to a minimum dose of 15 kGy), except where used for human consumption. • whilst additional apiary products added as ingredients must be incorporated prior to this further processing step unless they are themselves commercially processed and managed to prevent exposure to any bees or apiary products/other apiary products), is contained in new containers that have not been exposed to bees or apiary products, packaged so as to be bee-proof, and appropriately labelled, is supplied by a processor, wholesaler or retailer of processed pollen; and protected from exposure. •
<p>queens, escort and queen cells</p>	<p>means individual, escorted and/ or small queenless / queenright clusters / hives / banks of bees acquired, produced and/ or sold by one person to another for any purpose, and includes bees commonly provided and/ or transported in cages, banks, incubators and/or cluster.</p>
<p>relevant seasonal threshold</p>	<p>means the threshold for the relevant season as specified in Appendix 4.</p>
<p>source hive</p>	<p>includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • source nuc meaning a nuc in the apiary from which queens in this consignment were collected (generally after emergence, mating, and commencement of egg laying), a nuc being a bee colony, and of any size such as standard, micro and mini nucs. • source production hive meaning a bee colony used in the production of queen cells – queen cell builders (including queen cell starters and/or finishers), or large numbers of selected drones (drone mother hives), or the holding of multiple queens (queen banks). • source support hive meaning a bee colony in an apiary (generally the apiary from which queens in this consignment were collected), and which are associated with this

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	consignment by being used to: (i) provide for additional adult bees, brood, and/ or apiary products (including to source nucs, queen cell builders, queen banks, drone mother hives), and/ or (ii) provide escorts for queen cages.
sugar dusting	means the method for testing for Varroa for queens as specified in Appendix 2 .
the Notice	means the section 37 Notice entitled <i>Requirements for the control or eradication of diseases of bees</i> published on 11 June 2026 in the South Australian Government Gazette.
Varroa	means <i>Varroa destructor</i> .
Varroa negative jurisdiction	has the same meaning as in the Notice
Varroa positive jurisdiction	has the same meaning as in the Notice.

Part A – Entry of bees and apiary commodities into South Australia

Part A prescribes requirements for the entry of bees and apiary commodities into South Australia (except Kangaroo Island) originating from a Varroa positive jurisdiction.

Part A - General requirements

The following requirements apply to all bees and apiary commodities entering South Australia from a Varroa positive jurisdiction. These general requirements apply in addition to the [specific commodity requirements](#) outlined in Requirements 5-11.

1. Species

1.1 In accordance with the Notice, the entry requirements only apply to bees of the species *Apis mellifera* (commonly known as the European honey bee) and other species including *Apis cerana* and *Apis florea* are prohibited from entry into the State in all circumstances.

2. Apiary Health Certificate

2.1 The Notice requires that the entry and movement of bees or apiary commodities in South Australia must be accompanied by an Apiary Health Certificate which must be completed and signed by the consignor and signed by an authorised inspector of the originating jurisdiction. The Apiary Health Certificate is available at <https://pir.sa.gov.au>

3. Training requirement

3.1 Any person undertaking testing or treatments for Varroa must have completed training on Varroa mite within the 12 months preceding an application for entry of bees and apiary commodities and prior to undertaking testing or treatment for Varroa.

PIRSA recommends the following training:

- Any training approved by the Chief Inspector of Stock in accordance with a determination under regulation 13A of the *Livestock Regulations 2013* [CI Approval of courses in bee pest and disease management](#)
- National Varroa Mite Management Program - Varroa basics online training course, available at <https://www.Varroa.org.au/>
- NSW DPI Tocal College Varroa Mite Online Training course, available at <https://www.tocal.nsw.edu.au/home>

4. Notifiable occurrences

4.1 Each instance of a notifiable occurrence must be reported to the PIRSA Apiary Unit via email to PIRSA.beebiosecurity@sa.gov.au within 3 days the occurrence.

A notifiable occurrence may result in further Chief Inspector of Stock approval being required.

Part A - Specific requirements

5. Queens/Escorts/Queen cells

Pre Entry Testing and Treatment

The consignor is responsible for:

- 5.1 Beekeeping plant, storage, processing and packing facilities, and apiary appliances associated with queen rearing, transport and packing, must be new, and/or regularly treated so as to be:
 - 5.1.1 free from bees not originating from the same apiary(s) as the queen(s) and escorts in each consignment.
 - 5.1.2 free from pests likely to damage packaging (including wax moth, small hive beetles and rodents).
 - 5.1.3 externally clean so as to be free from residual bees and apiary products.
- 5.2 Treatments of all queen bees, escorts and queen cells associated with each consignment must comprise of the following:
 - 5.2.1 pre-treatment(s), including maintaining Varroa mite testing/ treatment integrity and Varroa mite exclusion integrity, including on-hive, in-field, and during management, as per Table 1, and:
 - 5.2.2 for all apiaries containing source hives associated with each consignment, to have:
 - a. been under continuous Varroa mite control (including testing and treating):
 - (i) as specified by the relevant Department in the jurisdiction in which the commodities are located, or
 - (ii) as detailed in the relevant Standard, or
 - (iii) as recommended by the National Varroa Mite Management Program (NVMMP) guidelines at www.varroa.org.au for all other control elements not specified above,
 - b. been tested for Varroa mites at least once within the preceding 28 days prior to consignment entry into SA, using the Alcohol Wash method and sampling rates as:
 - (i) specified by the relevant Department in the jurisdiction in which the commodities are located, or
 - (ii) described in [Appendix 1](#) or
 - (iii) as recommended by the NVMMP at the “Monitoring” page of www.varroa.org.au.
 - 5.2.3 for adult queens and escorts:
 - a. treat all consignment source hives by using the treatment method as per Table 1 (below).

Table 1. Source hive treating; timeframe, rate, and duration per apiary per consignment

No. queens per apiary per consignment	Source hives requiring treatment to maintain below seasonal control threshold using the acaricide treatment method, and treating timeframe, rate, and No. of hives to treat, per consignment:	
	Origin source hives:	Collection source hives:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • any No. of consigned queens (adult queens and escorts). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hives from which commodities originate, being transferred to collection source hives, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hives into which commodities were transferred (added), and from which consigned queens will be collected,
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • treatment is not required if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ (i) last commodity transfer from origin to collection source hives will occur more than 7 days (168 hours) prior to collection source hive treatment commencement, and ○ (ii) commodity source hives within the preceding 21 days tested below the relevant seasonal threshold (Appendix 4) using the Alcohol Wash method (AW) (Appendix 1), OR • treatment is required if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ (i) last commodity transfer will occur less than 7 days (168 hours) prior to collection source hive treatment commencement (i.e. within 14 days of collection from collection source hives), and/ or ○ (ii) commodity source hives within the preceding 21 days tested at/ above the relevant seasonal threshold (Appendix 4) using the Alcohol Wash method (Appendix 1); with treatment to occur at label rates, for a period of at least at least 7 days (168 hours). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • testing must have been undertaken within the period 28 days prior to consignment collection, and test below the relevant seasonal threshold (Appendix 4) using the Alcohol Wash method (Appendix 1), • treatment must be undertaken on all hives associated with a consignment, to maintain varroa mite levels in line with seasonal thresholds.

Post Treatment

The consignor is responsible for:

- 5.3 Maintaining Varroa mite exclusion integrity, including by managing commodities to;
 - 5.3.1 prevent bee access/ egress, apiary product leakage, and pest damage,
 - 5.3.2 maintain external surface cleanliness (including freedom from bees and bee products) of:
 - a. queen cages/ portable queen incubators, and
 - b. external packaging,
 - 5.3.3 prevent bee access/ egress and apiary product leakage, by packing into external packaging for the duration.
- 5.4 Queen bees, escorts and queen cells must be:
 - 5.4.1 traceable in all documentation
 - 5.4.2 contained in bee-proof queen cages that are sufficiently secured to prevent bee escape during normal handling, and packaged in Australia Post Express Post packaging with all openings comprising of bee-proof hole/mesh openings of less than 2.5 mm.

Post Entry Testing

The consignee is responsible for:

- 5.5 Post-entry treatments, by testing, in a bee-proof area, all commodities as follows:
 - 5.5.1 for adult queens:
 - a. all escorts, dead queens where present, excess used apiary appliances, and packaging, using the Alcohol Wash method ([Appendix 1](#)) or
 - 5.5.2 for queen cells:
 - a. all queen cells must be tested using the Sugar Dusting and Brushing test method ([Appendix 2](#)), and
 - b. apiary appliances (including cells, and incubators, bars racks, protectors, padding, etc.), and packaging, using the Alcohol Wash method ([Appendix 1](#)).

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5.6 At time(s) of treatment and thereafter, all: consigned queens, and receival bee colonies consigned queens first introduced into, must be clearly:

5.6.1 identifiable, using unique, permanent, and legible markings,

5.6.2 traceable, from pre-entry treatment to post-entry treatment and first bee colony introduction,

5.6.3 recorded in the Required Records ([Appendix 5](#)), including post-entry test dates and results, unique apiary and bee colony identifiers, and numbers and movements of commodities.

6. Bee colonies

The consignor is responsible for undertaking the following requirements:

Pre Entry Testing and Treatment

- 6.1 Bee colonies must be tested using the Alcohol Wash method ([Appendix 1](#)) and as follows:
- 6.1.1 Testing of bee colonies must be completed within the period no greater than 28 days and no less than 6 days prior to entry.
 - 6.1.2 Testing of bee colonies must be completed according to the following testing rate referred to as All/64/10%:
 - a. Test ALL, if the number of bee colonies proposed to enter South Australia on the Entry Application is 64 or less—the applicant must test all bee colonies.
 - b. Test 64, if the number of bee colonies proposed to enter South Australia on the Entry Application is between 65 and 640—the applicant must test a minimum of 64 bee colonies and testing must be conducted from each apiary that has supplied bee colonies into the movement as equally as possible.
 - c. Test 10%, if the number of bee colonies proposed to enter South Australia on the Entry Application is 641 or greater, the applicant must test a minimum of 10% (rounded up to whole number) of bee colonies from each apiary that has supplied bee colonies into the movement.
 - 6.1.3 Tested bee colonies must be uniquely identified at time of testing by applying permanent legible marking to the front brood box face for each bee colony tested, identifying test date and unique apiary and colony identifiers.
- 6.2 Bee colonies must be treated by using the treatment method as per Table 2 to ensure that mite levels remain below the 'control threshold' for the relevant season as specified in [Appendix 4](#) whilst in South Australia.

Table 2: Bee colony treating, timeframe, rate, and duration per apiary per consignment.

Bee colonies requiring treatment using the Acaracides in Hives treatment method, and treating timeframe, rate, and No. of hives to treat, per consignment:	
Testing: within 28 days prior to entry, and on a repeat cycle of within every 28 days thereafter, whilst in SA, until treatment required	Treatment: as required, for the permit/ label duration, followed immediately (during acaracide removal) by re-testing, with a new repeat cycle of within every 28 days thereafter
treatment is not required if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (i) last commodity transfer (e.g. of any bees, hive components, apiary products, and/ or apiary appliances from any other apiary) into one or more consigned bee colonies occurred more than 28 days prior to SA entry, • (ii) all consigned bee colonies within the 28 days preceding SA entry tested below the 'control threshold' for relevant season (Appendix 4) using the PIRSA Alcohol Wash method (Appendix 1), and • (iii) for the entire period in SA, all consigned bee colonies within 28 days of a preceding round of testing, continued to test below the 'control threshold' for relevant season (Appendix 4) using the Alcohol Wash method (Appendix 1). 	treatment must be undertaken if <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (i) last commodity transfer into any consigned bee colonies occurred \leq 28 days prior to SA entry, or • • (iii) at any time during the entire period in SA, any consigned bee colonies within 28 days of a preceding round of testing, tested at or above the 'control threshold' for relevant season (Appendix 4) using the Alcohol Wash method (Appendix 1) unless 6.4 applies. <p>If transfer/ test result at or above 'control threshold' for relevant season (Appendix 4) occurred:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • in SA, treatment to be undertaken ASAP and within 48 hours of entry. • treatment must be undertaken on all bee colonies associated with a consignment, at permit/ label rates, for the duration of the permit/ label treatment period.

General

6.3 Keep records in the Required Records ([Appendix 5](#)) of:

- 6.3.1 bee colony pre-treatment alcohol wash testing (including dates, rate of testing (all/ 64 / 10%) conducted not greater than 28 days from entry date and include, apiary and hive identification, and results,
- 6.3.2 last bee colony treatment (including install dates, type of treatment, apiary and hive identification, dates removed, and if acaracide utilised, product used, rate of treatment, and
- 6.3.3 pre-entry commodity treatments.

Note – you must provide the above records with your application and may on request need to provide details of management activities you have undertaken in the 3 months prior to entry in relation to Varroa.

Bee colonies registered in South Australia

6.4 If the bee colonies have been in a Varroa positive jurisdiction for less than 12 weeks and the bee colonies have been tested and managed in accordance with Requirements 6.1-6.3 within 12 weeks prior to proposed entry into South Australia, no additional testing is required.

6.5 In any other case, Requirements 6.1-6.3 apply.

7 Used Hive components

Note – the following requirements are intended for hive components, except for hive components (honey supers for processing/extracting). For requirements for hive components (honey supers for extracting/processing) refer to [Requirement 8](#).

The consignor is responsible for undertaking the following requirements:

Pre-treatment

7.1 Hive components must be:

7.1.1 pre-cleaned before being securely packaged so as to be bee-proof and leak-proof.

Treatment

7.2 Hive components must be treated by one of the treatment options specified in [Appendix 3](#) for hive components.

Post-treatment

7.3 Retain treatment integrity during subsequent management, transport and entry into South Australia.

General

7.4 Keep records of treatments of hive components.

7.5 Hive components must be traceable in all documentation

8 Hive components (honey supers for processing/extracting)

Note – the following requirements are intended for hive components (honey supers for processing/extracting) only. For requirements for other hive components refer to [Requirement 7](#).

The consignor is responsible for undertaking the following requirements:

Pre-treatment

8.1 Hive components (honey supers for processing/extracting) must be:

8.1.1 bee-proof and identifiable to apiary:

- a. from the time of removal from colony, and
- b. during loading, transporting, unloading, storing and packing

8.1.2 when loading, transporting, unloading and storing:

- a. externally enclosed during transport within an enclosed load area (to prevent access) such as:

(i) pallets of supers to be sealed in manner as to be bee-proof or

(ii) under bee-proof netting/tarpaulins, which overlaps and completely encloses the hive components on the load area so as to be bee-proof, including by ensuring netting/tarpaulins interface with adjoining netting/tarpaulins, load area and/or tray are secure and bee-proof (e.g. by using sufficient overlap and tie-off between netting/tarpaulins, below coaming rail/under pallets, and behind head/tail boards),

or

(iii) inside a pantech/curtainsider/van body,

8.1.3 Storage, processing/extraction, and packing facilities must be:

- a. equipped with internally located bee catch box(es) in proximity to lights/windows that
 - (i) will attract residual bees from supers, and
 - (ii) enables alcohol wash testing of trapped bees; supplemented if necessary with bee trap colony(s) located in the immediate vicinity to further attract residual bees from supers and which can be alcohol wash tested.

Post-treatment

8.2 Retain treatment integrity during subsequent management, transport and entry into South Australia.

General

8.3 Keep records of pre-treatments and treatments of hive components (honey supers for processing and extraction).

8.4 Hive components (honey supers for processing and extraction) must be traceable in all documentation and on hive components to source apiary.

9 Unprocessed Apiary Products

Note – the following requirements are intended for unprocessed apiary products. For requirements for processed apiary products refer to the Notice.

The consignor is responsible for undertaking the following requirements:

Pre-treatment

9.1 Apiary products must be:

- 9.1.1 free from live bees (including brood) and live pests likely to damage packaging (including wax moth, small hive beetles and rodents)
- 9.1.2 externally clean so as to be free from bees and apiary products
- 9.1.3 securely packaged so as to bee-proof and leak-proof.

Treatment

9.2 Apiary products must be treated by one of the treatment options specified in [Appendix 3](#) for apiary products.

Post-treatment

9.3 Retain treatment integrity status during subsequent management, transport and entry into South Australia.

General

- 9.4 Keep records of treatments of apiary products.
- 9.5 Apiary products must be traceable in all documentation and on containers to source apiary.

10 Used Apiary Appliances

The consignor is responsible for undertaking the following requirements:

Pre-treatment

10.1 Apiary appliances must be:

- 10.1.1 free from live bees (including brood) and live pests likely to damage packaging (including wax moth, small hive beetles and rodents,
- 10.1.2 externally clean so as to be free from bees and apiary products,
- 10.1.3 securely packaged so as to bee-proof and leak-proof.

Treatment

10.2 Apiary appliances must be treated by one of the treatment options specified in Appendix 3 for apiary appliances.

Post-treatment

10.3 Retain treatment integrity status during subsequent management, transport and entry into South Australia.

General

- 10.4 Keep records of treatments of apiary appliances.
- 10.5 Apiary appliances must be traceable in all documentation and on applicable apiary appliances to source apiary.

11 Beekeeping Plant

The consignor is responsible for undertaking the following requirements:

Pre-treatment and Treatment

- 11.1 Beekeeping plant must be pre-cleaned prior to treatment and any lockers, storage bins and storage areas or associated containers and crates must be:
 - 11.1.1 opened up and all loose items removed, then
 - 11.1.2 spaces/containers and all loose items are treated (as per treatment options below),
 - 11.1.3 spaces/containers are managed (as per [post-treatment](#)),
 - 11.1.4 restocked with items that have been treated (as per treatment options below).
- 11.2 Beekeeping plant must treated:
 - 11.2.1 within the period immediately prior to departure from a base/facility where treatment is undertaken:
 - a. prior to loading with commodities permitted to enter SA (if entering SA with commodities),
 - b. by one of the treatment options specified in [Appendix 3](#) for beekeeping plant.

Post-treatment

- 11.3 Retain treatment integrity during subsequent management, transport and entry into South Australia.

General

- 11.4 Keep records of treatments of beekeeping plant.
- 11.5 Beekeeping plant must be traceable in all documentation.

Part B – Entry of apiary commodities into Kangaroo Island

Part B prescribes requirements for the entry of apiary commodities into Kangaroo Island.

12 Apiary Health Certificate

12.1 The Notice requires that the entry and movement of apiary commodities into Kangaroo Island must be accompanied by an Apiary Health Certificate which must be completed and signed by the by a person who can make a declaration as to the health and disease status of the apiary commodities and signed by an authorised inspector of the originating jurisdiction. The Apiary Health Certificate is available at <https://pir.sa.gov.au>

13 Training requirement

13.1 Any person undertaking testing or treatments for Varroa must have completed training on Varroa mite within the 12 months preceding an application for entry of bees and apiary commodities and prior to undertaking testing or treatment for Varroa.

PIRSA recommends the following training:

- Any training approved by the Chief Inspector of Stock in accordance with a determination under regulation 13A of the *Livestock Regulations 2013* [CI Approval of courses in bee pest and disease management](#)
- National Varroa Mite Management Program - Varroa basics online training course, available at <https://www.Varroa.org.au/>
- NSW DPI Tocal College Varroa Mite Online Training course, available at <https://www.tocal.nsw.edu.au/home>

14 Treatment

14.1 Treatment of apiary commodities must be in accordance with the relevant treatment as specified in [Appendix 3](#).

Part C – Management of bees and apiary commodities within South Australia

Part C prescribes requirements for the management of bees and apiary commodities within South Australia.

15 Integrated Pest Management Plans

- 15.1 An Integrated Pest Management (IPM) plan must demonstrate defined management activities present and future for the management of Varroa mite within their operation.

An example of a Plan including plan templates, instructional videos and SA based scenarios are available at [Treatment Plan — National Varroa Mite Management Program](#)

- 15.2 The IPM plan must provide a similar level of detail as these examples and include the applicable control mechanisms set out in the templates.

16 Reasonable measures to control Varroa

- 16.1 Control of Varroa mites, includes:

16.1.1 management of bee colony including by:

- a. preventing exposure,
- b. preventing robbing,
- c. preventing dead-outs,
- d. preventing swarming/ absconding, and
- e. not open feeding.

16.1.2 management of bees and apiary commodity handling, including during using, inspecting and/or operating to maintain Varroa mite integrity,

16.1.3 management of apiary commodity processing, including during extracting, pressing, cutting, packing, externally packaging, and/or storing to maintain Varroa mite integrity,

16.1.4 management of bees and apiary commodity movement, including by:

- a. management during loading, unloading, enclosing, and/or transporting of bees and apiary commodities, and
- b. testing and treating of bees and apiary commodities to ensure, for the entire period Varroa mite integrity is maintained to either:
 - (i) zero (0) Varroa mites on or within bees or apiary commodities when entering South Australia, where Varroa is not permitted on or within bees or apiary commodities entering South Australia, or
 - (ii) below the 'control threshold' for the relevant seasonal threshold as specified in [Appendix 4](#) during entry into South Australia, where Varroa is permitted below the 'control threshold' for the relevant seasonal threshold as specified in [Appendix 4](#), on or within bees or apiary commodities entering South Australia.

- 16.2 Management of Varroa mites includes ongoing:

16.2.1 compliance with relevant legislative requirements as detailed in the South Australian *Livestock Act 1997*, and the *Livestock Regulations 2013*,

16.2.2 implementation of an IPM plan with the application of elements to maintain varroa mite below the 'control threshold' for the relevant seasonal threshold as specified in [Appendix 4](#).

Appendix 1 - Alcohol Wash method

Alcohol wash monitoring is just one of the national recognised monitoring methods and is the preferred method PIRSA suggests using to assess mite load within hives and to base treatment actions upon the results.

Monitoring methods are detailed at [Monitor for Varroa mite - PIRSA](#), while instructional videos and factsheets can be found at [Monitoring — National Varroa Mite Management Program](#)

Appendix 2 – Sugar Dusting and Brushing test method

Sugar dusting method to assess queen cells for the presence of Varroa.

- testing all consigned queens and apiary appliances in each consignment, by:
 - carefully opening the packaging to retain as much debris as possible for later alcohol washing ([Appendix 1](#)),
 - setting up a large shallow (preferably white) tray of water containing 1-2 drops of detergent, with a large open wire rack over the tray of water,
 - removing all queen cell protectors (if present), and as many other apiary appliances (e.g. bars, racks) as possible,
 - dusting/ blowing (e.g. using a puffer) finely ground pure icing sugar, sufficient to lightly cover all surfaces of all: (i) queen cells (avoid jarring/ tipping), and (ii) apiary appliances (including portable queen incubator internal surfaces, and incubator bars, racks, protectors, and padding - where possible (i.e. don't test padding if sawdust),
 - brushing (using a large soft brush) all queen cells and apiary appliances to remove any Varroa mites, over the tray of water,
 - flushing with alcohol residual debris from packaging into alcohol wash container,
 - alcohol washing debris,
 - inspecting all alcohol washings and tray of water for Varroa mites under magnification (typically under 5-10x magnification),
 - placing queen cells in new apiary appliances/ hives, as necessary.

Appendix 3 – Treatment options for apiary commodities

Treatment options for entry into South Australia (except Kangaroo Island)

		Commodity Type			
		Apiary appliances	Apiary products	Hive components	Beekeeping plant
Specified Treatment Method	Heating ¹	✓	✓ Liquid honey products	✓	
	Freezing ²	✓	✓	✓	
	Gamma irradiation ³	✓	✓	✓	
	Isolating ⁴	✓	✓	✓	
	Filtering ⁵		✓ Liquid honey products		
	Cleaning ⁶	✓			✓

Treatment options for entry into Kangaroo Island

		Commodity Type			
		Apiary appliances	Apiary products	Hive components	Beekeeping plant
Specified Treatment Method	Heating ¹	✓	✓	✓	
	Gamma irradiation ³	✓	✓	✓	
	Cleaning ⁶				✓
	Hot wax dipping			✓	

Treatments

1. Heating:
 - (i) heated to a minimum core temperature of 50°C and held at that temperature for a minimum of 40 minutes.
2. Freezing:
 - (i) frozen to a minimum core temperature of minus 12°C for a minimum of two consecutive days (48 hours).
3. Gamma irradiation:
 - (i) irradiated with gamma irradiation to a minimum of 15kGy.
4. Isolating:
 - (i) isolated by storing for a minimum of 21 consecutive days (504 hours) and in area(s) free from and excluding bees, apiary products and used apiary appliances that have not had a treatment to ensure Varroa freedom
5. Filtering:
 - (i) filtered with a pore size no greater than 0.42mm to remove debris and into new containers or cleaned containers
6. Cleaning:
 - (i) pressure clean:
 - (1) for vehicle external surfaces (including tray/well, and all external and internal surfaces of externally located lockers/storage bins/storage areas) and apiary appliances
 - (2) pressure cleaning with hot water (minimum temperature of 65°C) and detergent or sanitiser (at label rates) until cleaned.
 - (ii) vacuum and spray:
 - (1) for all areas not able to be pressure cleaned (primarily vehicle interiors and internally located lockers/storage bins/storage areas)
 - (2) vacuuming until cleaned, and
 - (3) spraying with insecticide (e.g. domestic aerosol-type insecticide spray) to cover all surfaces.
 - (iii) fully immerse:
 - (1) for associated apiary appliances
 - (2) opening up (to expose all surfaces) and pre-cleaning, then
 - (3) fully immersing in container(s) of hot water (minimum initial temperature of 65°C) and detergent or sanitiser (at label rates) for a minimum of 30 minutes until cleaned.
 - (iv) partially immerse and spray:
 - (1) for associated apiary appliances
 - (2) partly/fully immersing in container of water (e.g. footbath) and detergent or sanitiser (at label rates) for a minimum of 30 seconds, and
 - (3) spraying with 70% ethanol (e.g. methylated spirits).
 - (v) scrape or burn:
 - (1) for associated apiary appliances
 - (2) scraping or burning until cleaned, then
 - (3) spraying with 70% ethanol (e.g. methylated spirits) and/or completely immersing in container(s) of water (preferably hot) and detergent, or

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(4) sanitiser (at label rates) and soaked for a minimum of 30 minutes until cleaned.

(vi) wash:

- (1) for associated apiary appliances
- (2) washing in washing machine with hot water and detergent or sanitiser (at label rates) for a minimum cycle time of 30 minutes until cleaned.

(vii) heat or freeze:

- (1) for associated appliances
- (2) heating to a minimum core temperature of 50°C for a minimum of 60 minutes, or
- (3) freezing to a minimum core temperature of minus 12°C for a minimum of two consecutive days (48 hours)

Appendix 4 – Relevant seasonal thresholds

Seasonal Varroa mite threshold is based on a 300 bee sample collected and assessed via the Alcohol Wash method ([Appendix 1](#)). Further details on sample collection and monitoring methods are available at [Monitoring — National Varroa Mite Management Program](#).

Note: Understanding of the mite load at which economic and health impacts will occur in Australia are still developing as Varroa spreads and beekeepers learn to manage it. Treatment thresholds specific for Australia's unique conditions will be updated as the situation unfolds.

Season	Threshold	Number of mites per sample*
Autumn/Winter/Spring (1 March – 30 November)	Planning Threshold	1-4
	Control Threshold	5+
Summer (1 December – 28/29 February)	Planning Threshold	1-8
	Control Threshold	9+

*sample size being approx. 300 bees, or ½ cup of bees

^refer to [Integrated Pest Management — National Varroa Mite Management Program](#) for recommended actions.

Appendix 5 – Required Records

In accordance with Requirements 5 and 6, entry of queens, escorts, queen cells, and bee colonies require completion of the Required Records.

For the post-entry testing of queens, escorts and queen cells – complete the records on page 30.

For the pre and post-entry testing and treatment of bee colonies – complete the records on page 31.

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Bee and Apiary Commodity Record – Queens, Escorts, Queen Cells – Post-Entry Testing Records (Complete one per apiary. All fields mandatory. Record N/A if not applicable. Copy document as necessary)																																					
Consignee name:																Hive rego I.D(s):										Date received:											
Apiary name: (Unique identifier)												No. queens:										No. queen cells:															
Current location: (Record property name, property street number [or equivalent/ GPS of apiary], street name, suburb/ town/ city [name and postcode], and state)																																					
Post-entry Varroa mite test and treatment: <small>(Must be as per the Standards. Record Queen ID or colony Nos. [actual or allocated], and results as: N=Negative, PBT=Positive Below Threshold, PAT=Positive Above Threshold, S=Suspect. Each colony queens are introduced into must be permanently and legibly marked on brood box front face with unique I.D., introduction date and test date)</small>																										Date(s) tested:											
Queen ID	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.			
Results																																					
Treatment																																					
Queen ID	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.			
Results																																					
Treatment																																					
Queen ID	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.			
Results																																					
Treatment																																					
Results: escorts				Results: dead queens								Results: apiary appliances/packaging																									

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Bee and Apiary Commodity Record – Bee Colonies and Beekeeping Plant – Pre-Entry and Post-Entry Testing and Treatment Records (Complete one per apiary. All fields mandatory. Record N/A if not applicable. Copy document as necessary)																																				
Consignor/Consignee name: <small>(cross out the option which does not apply)</small>										Record type: <input type="checkbox"/> pre-entry <input type="checkbox"/> post-entry										Pre-entry: Date of application					Post-entry: Date of entry to SA											
Hive rego I.D(s):					Apiary name: <small>(Unique identifier)</small>					No. colonies: (Record No. of hives and nucs)					No. colonies: (Record No. of swarms, packages, queen banks)																					
Current location(s): <small>(Record property name, property street number [or equivalent/ GPS of apiary], street name, suburb/ town/ city [name and postcode], and state)</small>															Proposed SA location(s) or next shift location(s): (if applicable)																					
Varroa mite test and treatment: <small>(Must be as per the Standards. Record colony Nos. [actual or allocated], and results as: N=Negative, PBT=Positive Below Threshold, PAT=Positive Above Threshold, S=Suspect. Each tested colony must be permanently and legibly marked on brood box front face with unique I.D. and test date)</small>																									Date(s) tested:											
Hive ID	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.		
Results																																				
Treatment																																				
Hive ID	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.		
Results																																				
Treatment																																				
Treatments: (Record install dates, type of treatment, hive identification, dates removed, produce used, rate of treatment):																																				
Intended beekeeping plant and Varroa mite treatments - (Record Vehicles [types and registrations Nos.], apiary appliances [Nos.], and vehicle and associated apiary appliances intended treatment(s) as per Standards)																				Date(s) intended treatments: (Must be under-associated taken at base/ cleaning facility prior to loading)																
T - Truck, U/ C - Ute/ Car, Tr - Trailer, F - Forklift/ Loader, Ev - Extraction van					Bee water tank(s), and floats, pallets			Load binders, netting, tarpaulins		Comers, pallets, load spacers		Bee suits, veils, gloves		Boots		Other (specify)		Hive tools, scrapers, frame holders		Smokers, brushes, buckets		Varroa mite sampling kits		Other (specify)		Other (specify)										
and associated lockers, storage bins/ areas, and tools					and associated containers, crates, etc																															
Vehicle(s) - type and registration:					Associated apiary appliances - Nos.:																															
Treatment(s):					Treatment(s):																															

