

National Bee Biosecurity Program (NBBP) steering committee

Biosecurity for Beekeepers BOLT course

From July 2020 the course became freely available to all beekeepers, resulting in an increase in over 1000 course enrolments in the last 6 months of 2020. This also marked the release of the updated, and paper-based course which is distributed by the Bee Biosecurity Officers (BBOs). Ongoing arrangements to ensure course availability for hobby and commercial beekeepers will be discussed throughout 2021.

For more information about the Biosecurity for Beekeepers course visit: beeaware.org.au/training/

NPPB funding arrangements

AHBIC will be seeking endorsement by state associations for funding support for the NBBP.

Harmonisation/Bee biosecurity zones

The Subcommittee on Domestic Quarantine and Market Access (SDQMA) met in November 2020 and agreed to progress work with AHBIC and the Harmonisation Technical Working Group on consistent entry requirements for beekeepers between states and territories. AHBIC will consult within industry to progress this work.

Honey testing methodology

The committee continues to progress consistency between jurisdictions on methods used to test honey for AFB to better support beekeepers.

The committee

The Committee includes representatives from the Australian Government, the state and territory government, the Australian Honey Bee Industry Council (AHBIC), and Plant Health Australia (PHA) and were formed to oversee and support Bee Biosecurity Officers, as well as providing guidance and support for their state implementation and industry assistance with The Honey Bee Biosecurity Code of Practice.

For more information about the NBBP visit [National Bee Biosecurity Program | Plant Health Australia](#)

The NBBP Steering Committee will meet again in June 2021.