Prevention and Control Program for varroa mite (Varroa jacobsoni) under the Biosecurity Act 2014
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Prevention and Control Program for varroa mite (Varroa jacobsoni) under the Biosecurity Act 2014, v2.0
## Revision register

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Version No</th>
<th>Date of Authorisation</th>
<th>Amendment Details</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>5 October 2016</td>
<td>All New Document</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.5.2 Obligations imposed on the occupier of a place where managed EHB hives are kept to ensure that specified conditions are met prior to movement of EHB</td>
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<td>Revision register added</td>
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<td></td>
<td>All Minor editorial changes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Contents

1. Biosecurity program ................................................................................................................. 1
   1.1 Program name .................................................................................................................. 1
   1.2 Program scope ............................................................................................................... 1
   1.3 Abbreviations, acronyms and definitions ......................................................................... 1

2. Requirement for a prevention and control program ................................................................. 2
   2.1 Purpose and rationale ....................................................................................................... 2
   Significant biosecurity risk ..................................................................................................... 2
   Background ............................................................................................................................ 2
   2.2 Measures that are required to achieve the purpose .......................................................... 3
   2.3 Powers of authorised officers .......................................................................................... 3
   Entry of place ......................................................................................................................... 3
   Giving a direction under a prevention and control program .................................................. 4
   Failure to comply with a direction ......................................................................................... 4
   Obligations ............................................................................................................................. 4
   General powers of authorised officers ................................................................................. 4
   2.4 Consultation ..................................................................................................................... 4

3. Authorisation of a prevention and control program in the State of Queensland ................. 5
   3.1 Biosecurity matter .......................................................................................................... 5
   3.2 Purpose of the Program ................................................................................................... 5
   3.3 Area affected by the Program ........................................................................................ 5
   3.4 Powers of authorised officers ........................................................................................ 7
   3.5 Obligations imposed on a person under the Program ....................................................... 8
   3.6 Commencement and duration of the Program ................................................................ 10
   3.7 Consultation with relevant parties ................................................................................... 10
   3.8 Notification of relevant parties of requirements ............................................................... 10
1. Biosecurity program

1.1 Program name
Prevention and Control Program for varroa mite (Varroa jacobsoni) under the Biosecurity Act 2014.

1.2 Program scope
The Prevention and Control Program for varroa mite (Varroa jacobsoni) under the Biosecurity Act 2014 (the Prevention and Control Program) is authorised under section 235 of the Biosecurity Act 2014 (the Act). The Prevention and Control Program acts in conjunction with the Surveillance Program for varroa mite (Varroa jacobsoni) under the Biosecurity Act 2014 (the Surveillance Program) to achieve the objectives of the National Response Plan for the Eradication of Varroa jacobsoni from Queensland (the National Response Plan).

The Prevention and Control Program directs activities targeted at eradicating and containing the varroa mite. This includes destruction, sampling and testing of:
- Asian honey bee (AHB; Apis cerana), which is a confirmed host of V. jacobsoni within the area of the Prevention and Control Program; and
- European honey bee (EHB; A. mellifera), which is a terminal host of V. jacobsoni, however there have been reports of varroa mite becoming competent on EHB following exposure in other locations.

1.3 Abbreviations, acronyms and definitions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term/acronym</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Act</td>
<td>Biosecurity Act 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHB</td>
<td>Asian honey bee (Apis cerana)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apiary appliance</td>
<td>Means any apparatus, fitting, implement or utensil that has been used for beekeeping or processing, handling or storing an apiary product</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apiary product</td>
<td>Means bee collected pollen, bee comb, comb sections, cut comb, honey dew, propolis, queen candy or raw beeswax</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BQ</td>
<td>Biosecurity Queensland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSL</td>
<td>Biosecurity Sciences Laboratory, Coopers Plains, Brisbane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAF</td>
<td>Department of Agriculture and Fisheries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EHB</td>
<td>European honey bee (Apis mellifera)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GBO</td>
<td>General biosecurity obligation (see s 23 of the Act)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hive</td>
<td>Means any container in which a colony of bees (EHB) is kept (i.e. a managed hive)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Response Plan</td>
<td>Means the &quot;National Response Plan for the Eradication of Varroa jacobsoni from Queensland&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nest</td>
<td>Means a natural shelter for bees and includes the bees, either EHB or AHB (i.e. a feral nest)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevention and Control Program</td>
<td>Means the &quot;Prevention and Control Program for varroa mite (Varroa jacobsoni) under the Biosecurity Act 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surveillance Program</td>
<td>Means the &quot;Surveillance Program for varroa mite (Varroa jacobsoni) under the Biosecurity Act 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swarm</td>
<td>Means a group of bees, either EHB or AHB, that has left a hive or a nest with a queen bee to start a new colony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Townsville area</td>
<td>Means the area within the boundary of the Townsville City Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Varroa mite</td>
<td>Is a honey bee parasite of the genus Varroa. This document is primarily concerned with V. jacobsoni as the species detected in Queensland.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Varroa mite carrier</td>
<td>Varroa mite can be spread on any of the following carriers: a bee; a swarm, nest or hive of bees; an apiary appliance; or an apiary product</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. Requirement for a prevention and control program

2.1 Purpose and rationale

Significant biosecurity risk

The Biosecurity Act 2014 (the Act) provides for the establishment of prevention and control programs. Prevention and control programs are directed at any of the following:

(a) preventing the entry, establishment or spread of biosecurity matter in an area that poses a significant biosecurity risk

(b) managing, reducing or eradicating any biosecurity matter in an area that could pose a significant biosecurity risk.

Background

Asian honey bees infested with *V. jacobsoni* were detected in an unused container stand within a restricted access area of the Port of Townsville on 27 June 2016. On 17 July 2016, a second nest of AHB, also infested with varroa mite, was detected on a private property in Annandale, approximately 9km from the initial detection site. Both nests were destroyed. Circumstantial evidence suggests that these nests may have been present for up to two years, possibly originating from bees which arrived at the port via sea.

Subsequent surveillance conducted by Biosecurity Queensland (BQ) within a 10km overlapping radius of the initial detections has located further swarms and nests of AHB. These were destroyed and samples sent to the Biosecurity Sciences Laboratory (BSL) in Coopers Plains, Brisbane for formal species identification of the bees, checking for the presence of varroa mite, and genetic analyses. At the date of program authorisation, no varroa mites have been detected other than the first two nests of AHB mentioned above.

Genetic testing undertaken by the BSL indicates that the bees from the first four detections of AHB are related to each other and did not originate from earlier detections of AHB in Townsville (2009 and 2014) or from the established population around Cairns. This would indicate that the bees have originated from a single introduction to the Port of Townsville, most likely from Papua New Guinea.

Some populations of *V. jacobsoni* have recently adapted to live on EHB in Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands. The mites detected on AHB in Townsville are not of the same strain that has adapted to live on EHB, however there is a risk that they may adapt to EHB if there is ongoing exposure to that species over a period of time (pers. comm. Denis Anderson).

Varroa mites are generally regarded as the greatest threat to the Australian honey bee industry (PHA, 2012). Two species of varroa mites, *V. jacobsoni* and *V. destructor*, are parasites of *Apis* spp. Infestation of EHB colonies by varroa mites results in weak and deformed bees and the slow death of the colony. Detection of mites in a hive may occur up to two years after the initial infestation and death of the hive will usually occur within three years if unmanaged. The effect of varroa mites on managed EHB hives will also adversely impact on the agricultural and horticultural industries that rely on A. *melifera* to pollinate crops, including fruits, nuts, some grains and seeds.

The value of the Queensland honey bee industry (including honey, bees wax, Queen bee sales and pollination services) is estimated at $52 million. The estimated value of pollination services (managed honey bees, feral honey bees and native bees) to the agriculture and horticulture sector in Queensland is quoted between $600 million and $1 billion; the CSIRO estimate these services at around $1 billion for Queensland (DAF, 2016).

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1 See section 234 (What is a prevention and control program) of the Act.
2 Information current at 19 September 2016.
3 Plant Health Australia (2012), Threat Specific Contingency Plan: Varroa mites *Varroa destructor* and *V. jacobsoni*, Plant Health Australia, Canberra, ACT.
A National Response Plan for the Eradication of Varroa jacobsoni from Queensland has been prepared and endorsed by the Australian Government and State and Territory governments and industry bodies. This prevention and control program provides the legislative mechanisms to implement the eradication of varroa mite.

The objectives of the Prevention and Control Program are to:

i. prevent further spread of varroa mite in AHB
ii. minimise the risk of establishment of varroa mite in EHB
iii. eradicate varroa mite from Queensland (within the area of the Prevention and Control Program).

2.2 Measures that are required to achieve the purpose

The key activities undertaken under the Prevention and Control Program, as outlined in the National Response Plan include (but are not limited to):

- destruction of nests of AHB within the Townsville area, including collecting samples for laboratory analysis, aimed at delimiting and eradicating AHB and varroa mite from the area; and
- destruction of feral nests of EHB within a 10km radius of an infected place, including collecting samples for laboratory analysis to monitor the local EHB population for varroa mite.

There is some degree of overlap between the Prevention and Control Program and the Surveillance Program. These programs should be read together.

2.3 Powers of authorised officers

Section 3.4 of the Prevention and Control Program details the general powers available to an authorised officer conducting activities under the program, including measures that an authorised officer may take under the program.

Entry of place

The Act provides that authorised officers appointed under the Act may, at reasonable times, enter a place situated in an area to which a biosecurity program applies, to take any action authorised by the biosecurity program\(^5\). These activities must be done in a timely and efficient manner to ensure that the measures are as effective as possible. The Prevention and Control Program authorises entry into places to allow these measures to be undertaken.

In accordance with the Act, a reasonable attempt will be made to locate an occupier\(^6\) and obtain the occupier’s consent to the entry prior to an authorised officer entering a place to undertake activities under the Prevention and Control Program. Nevertheless, an authorised officer may enter the place if\(^7\):

(a) the authorised officer is unable to locate an occupier after making a reasonable attempt to do so, or
(b) the occupier refuses to consent to the entry.

If after entering a place an authorised officer finds an occupier present, or if the occupier refuses to consent to the entry—the authorised officer will make reasonable attempts to produce an identity card for inspection.

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\(^5\) See section 261 (Power to enter place under biosecurity program) of the Act.
\(^6\) Schedule 4 of the Act defines an occupier of a place to include the following:
   - (a) if there is more than one person who apparently occupies the place — any one of the persons;
   - (b) any person at the place who is apparently acting with the authority of a person who apparently occupies the place;
   - (c) if no-one apparently occupies the place — any person who is an owner of the place.

\(^7\) See section 270 (Entry of place under sections 261 and 262) of the Act.
and inform the occupier of the reason for entering and the authorisation under the Act to enter without the permission of the occupier.

An authorised officer, entering a place under the Prevention and Control Program must make a reasonable attempt to inform the occupier of any steps taken, or to be taken, and if steps have been taken or are to be taken, that it is an offence to do anything that interferes with a step taken or to be taken.

An authorised officer must leave a Notice of Entry in a conspicuous position and in a reasonably secure way. This notice must state the date and time of entry and information addressing the reason for entry, authorisation to enter a place and the steps undertaken by the authorised officer after entry.

**Giving a direction under a prevention and control program**

Section 237 of the Act provides that an authorised officer may, at a reasonable time and at a place within an area to which a prevention and control program applies:

- direct an occupier to take reasonable steps, within a stated and reasonable timeframe, to remove or eradicate the biosecurity matter to which the program relates. These steps must be limited to what is reasonably necessary to achieve the purposes of the prevention and control program, e.g., to assist the authorised officer to destroy a nest of bees at a place; to monitor a place where nest destruction has been undertaken for further bee activity, and to report any further bee activity to the authorised officer;

- destroy the biosecurity matter to which the program relates, or a carrier of the biosecurity matter, if the authorised officer believes on reasonable grounds that the biosecurity matter or carrier poses a significant biosecurity risk. The National Response Plan establishes the level of risk associated with varroa mite to warrant the destruction of varroa mite and varroa mite carriers.

**Failure to comply with a direction**

Under section 238 of the Act, occupiers of a place within the area to which the program applies are required to comply with an authorised officer’s direction issued under section 237 of the Act, as outlined above, unless the occupier has a reasonable excuse for not complying. An authorised officer must give an offence warning for the direction.

**Obligations**

Section 3.5 of the Prevention and Control Program details the obligations that may be imposed on a person who is an occupier of a place to which the program applies by an authorised officer conducting activities under the program.

**General powers of authorised officers**

Nothing in the Prevention and Control Program or its associated Authorisation limits the powers of authorised officers under Chapter 10 of the Act.

### 2.4 Consultation

The Prevention and Control Program operates within the area of the Townsville City Council (see section 3.3 of the Program Authorisation). The Townsville City Council was consulted regarding the operation of the program prior to authorisation.

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6 See section 270 (Entry of place under sections 261 and 262) of the Act.
3. Authorisation of a prevention and control program in the State of Queensland

I, Dr Elizabeth Woods, the Chief Executive of the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (the Department) acting pursuant to section 235 of the Biosecurity Act 2014 (the Act), authorise the Prevention and Control Program for varroa mite (Varroa jacobsoni) under the Biosecurity Act 2014 (the Prevention and Control Program) in Queensland, on the basis that:

- I am satisfied that there is varroa mite, which is prohibited matter, in the Townsville area.
- I am satisfied that varroa mite in the Townsville area poses a significant biosecurity risk to the Queensland bee industry.
- I am satisfied that measures are required to prevent the establishment or spread of varroa mite that poses a significant biosecurity risk in the Townsville area.

Dr Elizabeth Woods
Director-General
Department of Agriculture and Fisheries

Authorised on 15/12/2016

3.1 Biosecurity matter

The prohibited biosecurity matter to which the Prevention and Control Program relates is varroa mite (Varroa jacobsoni).

3.2 Purpose of the Program

The objectives of the Prevention and Control Program are to:

i. prevent further spread of varroa mite in AHB
ii. minimise the risk of establishment of varroa mite in EHB
iii. eradicate varroa mite from Queensland (within the area of the Prevention and Control Program).

3.3 Area affected by the Program

The Prevention and Control Program will apply to the area within the boundary of the Townsville City Council (refer to Figure 1). Any reference to the “Townsville area” in the program is a reference to the area within the boundary of the Townsville City Council.
Figure 1: Varroa mite area of interest – Area within the boundary of the Townsville City Council

Prevention and Control Program for varroa mite (Varroa jacobsoni) under the Biosecurity Act 2014, v2.0
3.4 Powers of authorised officers

An authorised officer of the Program appointed under the Biosecurity Act 2014, may enter a place—other than a residence—without a warrant and without the occupier’s consent within the State of Queensland under the Program. An authorised officer appointed under the Biosecurity Act 2014 will also have the power to enter a place under the Program.

An authorised officer can exercise the powers of an authorised officer under the Act in relation to the Program, if the authorised officer is appointed by the chief executive. An authorised officer has general powers after entering a place to do any of the following, subject to any appointment conditions and limits imposed on the authorised officer:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General powers in the Act</th>
<th>Measures an authorised officer may take under the Prevention and Control Program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Powers of entry</strong></td>
<td><strong>Enter a place under s 261 of the Act to undertake measures under the program.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Search any part of the place</td>
<td>Destroy varroa mite or a varroa mite carrier. This includes:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inspect, examine or film any part of the place or anything at the place</td>
<td>• attending a place with a pest control contractor and directing the pest control contractor to destroy varroa mite or a carrier.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take for examination a thing, or a sample of or from a thing, at the place</td>
<td>• destroying varroa mite or a varroa mite carrier in a way that results in damage or destruction of property (e.g. a letter box where a nest is located) if the damage or destruction cannot be avoided and the authorised officer assesses the biosecurity risk as being significant to warrant the damage (Note that compensation may be available where damage or destruction of property occurs).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Place an identifying mark in or on anything at the place</td>
<td>Taking property if the property is a carrier of biosecurity matter and taking the property is necessary to treat and sample the biosecurity matter or carrier in a way that minimises the biosecurity risk (e.g. seizure of a wine barrel used as outdoor furniture to allow the authorised officer to destroy and sample the biosecurity matter in a way and at a place that minimises the biosecurity risk; Note that compensation may be available where damage or destruction of property occurs).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Place a sign or notice at the place</td>
<td>Direct an occupier of the place to take reasonable steps within a reasonable time to remove or eradicate varroa mite or a varroa mite carrier.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Produce an image or writing at the place from an electronic document or, to the extent it is not practicable, take a thing containing an electronic document to another place to produce an image or writing</td>
<td>Search a place to check for the presence or absence of varroa mite or a varroa mite carrier.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take to, into or onto the place and use any person, detection animal, equipment and materials the authorised officer reasonably requires for exercising the authorised officer’s powers under this division</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Destroy biosecurity matter or a carrier if the authorised officer believes on reasonable grounds the biosecurity matter or carrier presents a significant biosecurity risk; and the owner of the biosecurity matter or carrier consents to its destruction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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9 The Act defines a *residence* to mean a premises or a part of a premises that is a residence with the meaning of section 259(2) and 259(3).
10 See section 259 (General powers to enter places) of the Act.
11 See section 261 (Power to enter a place under biosecurity program) of the Act.
12 See section 255 (3) (Powers of particular authorised officers limited) of the Act.
13 See section 296 (General powers) of the Act.
14 See section 243 and section 247 (Appointment conditions and limit on powers) of the Act.
15 Section 296(5) defines *inspect*, a thing, to include open the thing and examine its contents.
16 Section 296(5) defines *examine* to include analyse, test, account, measure, weigh, grade, gauge and identify.
17 Section 296(5) defines *film* to include photograph, videotape and record an image in another way.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Remain at the place for the time necessary to achieve the purpose of the entry</th>
<th>Inspect, examine or film varroa mite or a varroa mite carrier to assist with tracing of carriers to and from a place.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The authorised officer may take a necessary step to allow the exercise of a general power</td>
<td>Take samples for the purposes of diagnostic analysis, to ascertain the presence or absence of varroa mite.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If the authorised officer takes a document from the place to copy it, the authorised officer must copy and return the document to the place as soon as practicable</td>
<td>Identify carriers such as a tree that contains or has contained bees with tags, notices, flags or signs for any purpose consistent with the program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If the authorised officer takes from the place an article or device reasonably capable of producing a document from an electronic document to produce the document, the authorised officer must produce the document and return the article or device to the place as soon as practicable.</td>
<td>Produce a written and/or electronic note(s) to support program activities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Take GPS coordinates to ensure accuracy of location details of varroa mite or varroa mite carriers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Undertake preventative treatment such as blocking access points to a destroyed nest (e.g. with expanda foam) that is consistent with the objectives of the program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Take a document such as a document detailing the movement of a varroa mite carrier that is relevant to the objectives of the program.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pursuant to section 237 of the Act an authorised officer may also:

- give a direction to an occupier of a place located in the area to which the program applies to take reasonable steps to remove or eradicate varroa mite, as reasonably necessary to achieve the purposes of the program, or
- destroy varroa mite or a carrier of varroa mite, if that authorised officer believes on reasonable grounds that they pose a significant biosecurity risk.

A penalty applies for failing to comply with a direction issued under this section unless the occupier given the direction has a reasonable excuse for not complying with the direction.\(^{18}\)

An authorised officer may make a requirement (a help requirement) of an occupier of the place or a person at the place to give the authorised officer reasonable help to exercise a general power.\(^ {19}\)

### 3.5 Obligations imposed on a person under the Program

#### 3.5.1 Obligations imposed on an occupier of a place where an AHB or EHB nest exists

The following obligations may be imposed on a person who is an occupier\(^ {20}\) of a place within the area to which the Prevention and Control Program relates\(^ {21}\):

- if required, move or remove any thing at a place that could obstruct an authorised officer from undertaking the activities required to take action under the program, e.g. moving outdoor furniture to allow reasonable access to the location of a nest; restraining an animal that may interfere with the authorised officer undertaking their duties under the program etc.; and/or
- if required, monitor a nest site for a period of time following nest destruction, as directed by an authorised officer, and notify DAF of bee activity within the nominated time; and/or

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\(^{18}\) See section 238 (Failure to comply with direction) of the Act.

\(^{19}\) See section 297 (Power to require reasonable help) of the Act.

\(^{20}\) Schedule 4 of the Act defines an occupier of a place to include the following:

(a) if there is more than one person who apparently occupies the place – any one of the persons;
(b) any person at the place who is apparently acting with the authority of a person who apparently occupies the place;
(c) if no-one apparently occupies the place – any person who is an owner of the place of a place, includes at or on the place.

\(^{21}\) See section 236(1)(h) (What program authorisation must state) of the Act.

Prevention and Control Program for varroa mite (Varroa jacobsoni) under the Biosecurity Act 2014, v2.0
• help the authorised officer in the exercise of their powers if required.

3.5.2 Obligations imposed on an occupier of a place where managed hives are kept

An occupier of a place where managed hive/s of EHB are kept may only move, or allow the movement of any life stage of live EHB (i.e. an egg, larva, pupa or adult of a worker, drone or queen) individually, as a colony or part of a colony, in a container in which a colony of bees can be kept including brood frames containing egg, larva or pupa (collectively, these items are referred to as “risk items”), from the place where the managed hives are kept to another place outside of the area affected by the program, only if the following conditions have been met:

• If the EHB originated from outside the Townsville City Council area and are transiting through the area in a sealed package or container:
  o ensure that the EHB or risk items are packaged and sealed in a manner that prevents the escape of live bees, leakage of apiary products or exposure to foraging bees; and
  o ensure that the packaging or container remain sealed while the bees are within the Townsville City Council area.

• If the EHB originate from a place within the boundaries of the Townsville City Council, the occupier MUST:
  o notify DAF by email (varroa@daf.qld.gov.au) at least seven (7) days prior to the intended movement of EHB. The notification must include the date of the intended movement, the origin and destination of the intended movement, and the details of the risk items intended to be moved (e.g. number of hives; number of bees; life stage of bees etc.); and
  o following the notification, follow any directions given by an authorised officer in relation to testing the risk items prior to the intended movement. This may include allowing an authorised officer to conduct hive testing using acaricide strips and sticky mats, or self-assessment of hives (i.e. alcohol washing, sugar shaking or drone uncapping); and
  o if testing is conducted, only move EHB if a negative test result (i.e. no varroa mite present) is returned; and
  o prior to movement of the EHB, ensure that the EHB are securely packaged and sealed in a manner that prevents the escape of live bees, leakage of apiary products, and exposure to foraging bees etc.; and
  o prior to the movement of any hive materials (e.g. part of a managed hive; brood frames etc.), ensure that the hive materials are packaged and sealed in a manner that prevents the escape of live bees, leakage of apiary products and exposure to foraging bees etc.; and
  o prior to movement of the EHB, ensure that no bees, of any species, are present on the outside of the sealed packages; and
  o ensure that the packaging remains sealed and secure from the commencement of the movement of the EHB from the place where the managed hives are kept, until such time that the EHB reach their final destination at another place; and
  o ensure that any equipment being moved, that has come into contact with live bees prior to the intended movement, is free of all life stages of live bees for seven (7) days prior to the intended movement; and

22 See section 297 (Power to require reasonable help) of the Act - A person of whom a help requirement has been made must comply with the requirement unless the person has a reasonable excuse.
keep detailed written records of any surveillance, testing, exclusion and/or movement of EHB and immediately produce these records if requested by an authorised officer.

Note: The Act prevents the movement of Asian honey bees and varroa mites. See section 3.5.3 below for details of legislative obligations in relation to the movement of AHB and varroa mite.

3.5.3 Legislative obligations

The Act provides, amongst other things, that:

- a person has a general biosecurity obligation (GBO) to take all reasonable and practical measures to prevent or minimise the biosecurity risk.

- a person must report the presence of prohibited matter and must not deal with prohibited matter. Varroa mites are prohibited matter.

- a person must report the presence of restricted matter (category 1); and must not take any action to exacerbate, and must take action to minimise, the biosecurity risk associated with the restricted matter (category 1). AHB (*Apis cerana javana*) is restricted matter (category 1).

3.6 Commencement and duration of the Program

The Prevention and Control Program will begin on 24 October 2016 and will continue up until 31 August 2019. Program amendments are detailed in the Revision Register. The duration of the Prevention and Control Program is considered to be reasonably necessary to achieve the program’s purpose.

3.7 Consultation with relevant parties

As required by the Act, I have consulted, prior to the authorisation of the Prevention and Control Program, with the following local government, which is the local government for the area to which the program applies:

- Townsville City Council.

3.8 Notification of relevant parties of requirements

As required by the Act, I will give public notice of the Prevention and Control Program 14 days before the program starts by:

- giving the notice, by way of letter, to each government department or government owned corporation responsible for land in the area to which the Program relates

- publishing the notice on the Department’s website.

A copy of the Prevention and Control Program (including its Authorisation) is available for inspection at the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries head office at 80 Ann Street Brisbane and regional offices. A copy of the Prevention and Control Program is also available to view and print at no cost on the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries website at www.daf.qld.gov.au. A copy of the Program Authorisation will be provided on request by contacting the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries Customer Service Centre on 13 25 23.

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23 See section 23 (What is a general biosecurity obligation) of the Act.
24 See section 36 (Reporting presence of prohibited matter) of the Act.
25 See section 37 (Dealing with prohibited matter) of the Act.
26 See Schedule 1, Part 2 (Animal diseases, parasites and viruses) of the Act.
27 See section 42 (Reporting presence of category 1 or 2 restricted matter) of the Act.
29 See section 239 (Consultation about proposed biosecurity program) of the Act.
30 See section 240 (Notice of proposed biosecurity program) of the Act.