



Varroa mite

EMERGENCY RESPONSE



Factsheet

Reimbursement for registered commercial beekeepers in eradication (red) zone

NSW Department of Primary Industries (NSW DPI) is continuing efforts to contain and eradicate Varroa mite. If you are a registered commercial beekeeper and your hives need to be euthanised due to Varroa mite there are three options for financial reimbursement:

- Euthanasia of bees and destruction and disposal of hive ware
- Euthanasia of bees and retention of hive ware (including frames)
- Euthanasia of nucleus hives

An Authorised Officer will arrive on site and work closely with you, recording details of the hives, taking photos and completing the relevant paperwork. This may have already occurred.

Reimbursement will be managed by the NSW Rural Assistance Authority (RAA). The Authorised Officer on site will provide a link to the RAA application form to apply for reimbursement.

You must be a registered beekeeper with NSW DPI to be eligible for reimbursement.

Reimbursement for registered recreational beekeepers

For registered recreational beekeepers, the National Working Group has already agreed to a \$550 payment for each recreational hive destroyed to control the mite outbreak, or \$200 for those who wish to keep their hive ware, which will cover the cost of the euthanised bees.

A \$200 reimbursement will also be given for each single nucleus hive that is euthanised.

Euthanasia of bees

Euthanasia is ideally performed in the evening when bees have returned to their hive. Hives are to be euthanised by Authorised Officers or by beekeepers under instruction of Authorised Officers. Hives will then be wrapped in plastic and where hive ware is to be retained, sealed and left on site for at least 21 days.

Disposal of hives

After the bees have been euthanised, you can have your hives disposed of by NSW DPI or keep and clean them yourself after they have remained wrapped for at least 21 days. The Authorised Officer on site will discuss this process further.

Reimbursement

The reimbursement amount for commercial beekeepers is calculated based on the agreed owner reimbursement costs (ORC) evidence frameworks, which includes the estimate market value of:

- The particular hives destroyed
- Queen bee destroyed
- Bee colony component
- Replacement value for any other capital items destroyed
- Any other costs incurred by the beekeeper as a direct result of the Response Plan and not normally incurred
- Value of any honey stocks destroyed
- The loss of the estimated Farm Gate Value of products foregone, less beehive operating costs, resulting from a requirement under a Response Plan that for a specified period bees be quarantined in, or excluded from, a specified area, if applicable.

Single item values represent current industry average prices. Where an owner has recent (from the previous year) auditable records, specific reference to this price will be used in the reimbursement calculation as appropriate.

Destruction reimbursement assumptions

- All bottom box hives are using a full depth super.
- Queen, frames, worker bees, brood and honey in the bottom box are compensated by the nucleus colony reimbursement.
- Each super was full of honey when destroyed.
- Each active colony has one average-value production queen.
- Wax in one full honey super box is valued at \$5.00 per super.
- Each hive may contain accessories that are listed for inclusion in the reimbursement if destroyed.

Destruction reimbursement

Hives	Description	Single item value	Total value
Hive (bottom box with 8 frames)	1 Lid	\$30.49	\$30.49
	1 Base	\$42.50	\$42.50
	Super (brood box) full depth	\$38.25	\$38.25
	Nucleus colony (including frames and queen)	\$313.55	\$313.55
	Subtotal		\$424.79
Hive (bottom box with 10 frames)	1 lid	\$30.49	\$30.49
	1 base	\$42.50	\$42.50
	Super (brood box) full depth	\$38.25	\$38.50
	Nucleus Colony (including frames and queen)	\$329.25	\$329.25
	Subtotal		\$440.74

Hives	Description	Single item value	Total value
Nucleus hive	Complete with lid and bottom	\$52.50	\$52.50
	Nucleus Colony	\$290.00	\$290.00
		Subtotal	\$342.50
Breeder (stud) queen		\$600.00	\$600.00
		Subtotal	\$600.00
Supers (honey box)			
10 Frame full depth super	Super (hive body) full depth	\$38.25	\$38.25
	10 frames	\$7.85	\$78.50
	Honey	\$117.00	\$117.00
	Wax	\$5.00	\$5.00
		Subtotal	\$238.75
10 Frame Ideal super (shallow)	Super (hive body) shallow	\$30.37	\$30.37
	10 frames	\$7.85	\$78.50
	Honey	\$71.50	\$71.50
	Wax	\$5.00	\$5.00
		Subtotal	\$185.37
10 Frame Manley super (shallow)	Super (hive body) shallow	\$30.37	\$30.37
	10 frames	\$7.85	\$78.50
	Honey	\$91.00	\$91.00
	Wax	\$5.00	\$5.00
		Subtotal	\$204.87
8 Frame full depth super	Super (hive body) full depth	\$38.25	\$38.25
	8 frames	\$7.85	\$62.80
	Honey	\$117.00	\$117.00
	Wax	\$5.00	\$5.00
		Subtotal	\$223.05
8 Frame Ideal super (shallow)	Super (hive body) shallow	\$30.37	\$30.37
	8 frames	\$7.85	\$62.80
	Honey	\$71.50	\$71.50
	Wax	\$5.00	\$5.00
		Subtotal	\$169.67
8 Frame Manley super (shallow)	Super (hive body) shallow	\$30.37	\$30.37
	8 frames	\$7.85	\$62.80
	Honey	\$91.00	\$91.00
	Wax	\$5.00	\$5.00
		Subtotal	\$189.17
Hive Accessories			
	Queen excluders	\$16.68	
	Escape boards	\$24.25	
	Pollen traps	\$27.23	
	Straps	\$12.75	
	Pallets	\$225.00	
	Small hive beetle traps	\$2.00	

Retained hive material reimbursements assumptions

- The reusable components not for reimbursement are the super hive body, lid, hive base and accessories.
- The wax, honey and frames in the supers of hives that have been euthanised are no longer usable due to contamination and the owner is entitled to reimbursement.
- Each super was full of honey and is no longer fit for consumption due to petrol being used in euthanising the colony.
- Queen, frames, worker bees, brood and honey in the bottom box are part of the nucleus colony reimbursement.

Retained hive material reimbursements			
		Single item value	Total value
Hives (bottom box)	Nucleus colony	\$290.00	\$290.00
10 Frame full depth super	10 frames	\$7.85	\$78.50
	Honey	\$117.00	\$117.00
	Wax	\$5.00	\$5.00
		Subtotal	\$200.50
10 Frame Ideal super (shallow)	10 frames	\$7.85	\$78.50
	Honey	\$71.50	\$71.50
	Wax	\$5.00	\$5.00
		Subtotal	\$155.00
10 Frame Manley super (shallow)	10 frames	\$7.85	\$78.50
	Honey	\$91.00	\$91.00
	Wax	\$5.00	\$5.00
		Subtotal	\$174.50
8 Frame full depth super	8 frames	\$7.85	\$62.80
	Honey	\$117.00	\$117.00
	Wax	\$5.00	\$5.00
		Subtotal	\$184.80
8 Frame Ideal super (shallow)	8 frames	\$7.85	\$62.80
	Honey	\$71.50	\$71.50
	Wax	\$5.00	\$5.00
		Subtotal	\$139.30
8 Frame Manley super (shallow)	8 frames	\$7.85	\$62.80
	Honey	\$91.00	\$91.00
	Wax	\$5.00	\$5.00
		Subtotal	\$158.80

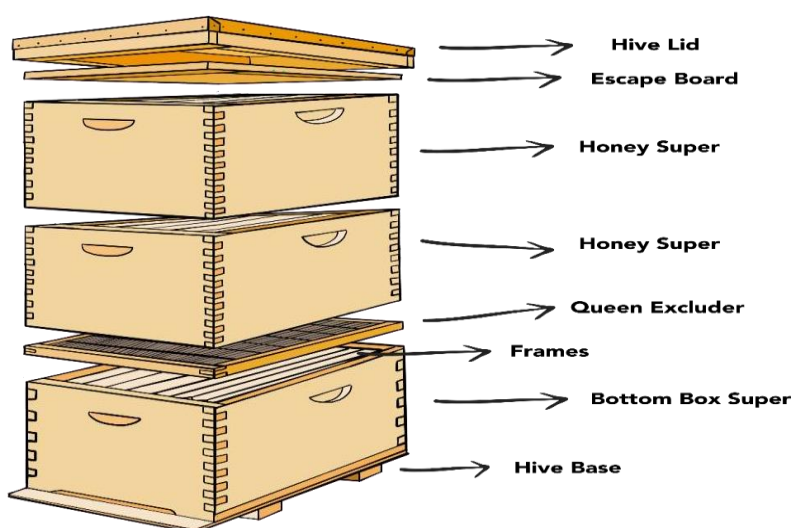
Foregone honey reimbursements assumptions

- The value of products forgone will be determined using the average price for the value for honey in one full super, per hive.

Each hive or colony euthanised is entitled to the reimbursement of honey foregone minus expenses (net income).

Future honey production reimbursement			
Honey foregone		Single item value	Total value
	1 Full depth Super of honey	\$117.00	\$117.00

Components of the beehive



More information

For more information on the Varroa mite response and this reimbursement program, visit www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/varroa