
 <p>ORANGE CITY COUNCIL</p>	Standard Operating Procedure	
	Beekeeping Equipment and Honey Containers	
	File No: SOP 06	
<p><i>I approve the use of this Standard Operating Procedure:</i></p>		
<p>Name: Wayne Davis</p>		<p>Position: Manager Waste Services and Technical Support</p>
<p>Signature: </p>		<p>Date: 14/02/2018</p>

Revision Status:

Change History

Date	Details of Change	Version No.
19/11/2013	Document created	draft
31/03/2014	Draft approved	Version 1
17/08/2015	Draft approved	Version 2
01/09/2016	Draft approved	Version 3
14/02/2018	Draft approved	Version 4

PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to describe the procedure to be followed in the identification and management of bee keeping equipment or timber containing evidence of bee activity found within waste streams entering the facility and bee activity within logs prior to processing.

It is noted Beekeeping is also known as “Apiculture”.

There are many various items of equipment used in the collection and production of honey which have the potential to enter waste streams. Some of these items can be easily identified while others may take a more detailed examination, refer to **References** for more information on identification.

WORK PROCEDURE

Inspection of waste and removal of beekeeping equipment and used containers

- 1) All incoming waste loads entering the Ophir Road Site will be inspected at the weighbridge for beekeeping equipment. If any equipment is detected it will be rejected and the person advised to seek alternative means of disposal. A record of all rejections of bee related material is to be taken at the time of rejection as per details requested on record sheet (refer **Form 6.01 – Rejected Apiculture Product Register**). A hand out providing alternative disposal options is to be provided to the driver (refer **Form 6.02 – Disposal of Apiculture Equipment Handout**).
- 2) Waste being unloaded at the baling facility is to be inspected for beekeeping equipment and containers which had contained honey or bi-products.
- 3) If beekeeping equipment is identified as waste is being unloaded or sorted in the baling facility, it is to be placed in the designated MGB and taken to the weighbridge for burial onsite ASAP.
- 4) A record of all bee related material found within the waste stream and actions taken are to be recorded as per details requested on **Form 6.03 – Found Apiculture Product Register**.
- 5) Used honey containers are to be placed in the designated MGB and taken to the MTF for recycling.

Inspection, segregation and processing of logs greater than 250 mm diameter

- 1) All logs between 250 mm & 500 mm diameter are to be visually inspected for bee activity prior to processing.
- 2) Logs over 500 mm diameter are to be split and inspected.

- 3) All pieces of timber found containing evidence of live or dead bees, larvae and/or colonies must be placed in a segregated location and processed separately.
- 4) Infected logs along with any infected processed material must not be transported to the ERRRC it is to be disposed of at the Ophir Road facility or another Council approved site.

Record Keeping and Reporting

- 1) Records must be kept for:
 - a. All feral colonies (alive or dead) found in tree logs, recorded as rejected or found waste on **Form 06.01 - Rejected Apiculture Product Register** or **Form 6.03 – Found Apiculture Product Register** respectively.
 - b. Processing, storage and disposal records for all infected material
- 2) If any bee keeping equipment, containers, or infected timber is found within the waste stream at the ORRRC, this is to be noted on the ORRRC Daily Checklist (refer **SOP 15**) as well as **Form 06.03 – Found Apiculture Product Register**.
- 3) Each time a beekeeping related product or infected log is identified **Form 06.01 – Rejected Apiculture Product Register** or **Form 6.03 – Found Apiculture Product Register** (as appropriate) is to be sent to the Manager Waste Services and Technical Support.
- 4) The Manager Waste Services and Technical Support is to notify the members of the OWP Apiculture Committee and additional representatives at DPI when apiculture products are identified within the waste stream. The following people are to be notified:

Orange Waste Project Apiculture Committee Members:

- Dr Bernie Dominiak – bernie.dominiak@dpi.nsw.gov.au
- Mr Mal Porter – malp380@hotmail.com
- Mr Jon Lockwood – jon@goldfieldshoney.com

Representatives from NSW Department of Primary Industries:

- Dr Bernie Dominiak – bernie.dominiak@dpi.nsw.gov.au
- Dr Chris Anderson – chris.anderson@dpi.nsw.gov.au

RESPONSIBILITIES

It is the Resource Recovery Centre Supervisor's and Operator's responsibility to ensure that all incoming waste is screened, and the landfilling operations are monitored to ensure that no beekeeping equipment, containers or infected logs are transported to the ERRRC for disposal.

The Resource Recovery Centre Supervisor is responsible for ensuring the Resource Recovery Centre Operators are adequately trained in this work procedure.

It is also the responsibility of the Resource Recovery Centre Supervisor and Operators to complete the necessary documentation, including:

- **Form 06.01 – Rejected Apiculture Product Register**
- **Form 06.03 – Found Apiculture Product Register**
- **Form 15.01 – ORRRC Daily Checklist**

RECORDS

Records are to be kept using:

- **Form 06.01 – Rejected Apiculture Product Register** for products, containers or infected timber found by RRC operators screening incoming self-haul waste.
- **Form 06.03 – Found Apiculture Product Register** for products, containers or infected timber found by RRC operators found in waste being unloaded at the bailing facility.
- **Form 15.01 – ORRRC Daily Checklist** is to note the incidence of any bee related products rejected from or found at the site.

Each time a beekeeping product or infected log is identified, **Form 06.01** or **Form 06.03** (whichever is appropriate) is to be sent to the Manager Waste Services and Technical Support.

REFERENCES

WAP 010 – Beekeeping Equipment

Used Beekeeping Equipment

Used beekeeping equipment is any fitting, utensil, apparatus or implement that is used, or has been used, for the purposes of, or in connection with beekeeping, or in processing, handling or storing apiary products which include but are not limited to: beeswax, honey, cut comb honey, comb sections, honeydew, bee collected pollen, propolis or royal jelly, supers, frames, hive lids, floorboards, queen excluders, feeders, division boards, honey tins, buckets, drums and IBC's or any other substance considered to be an apiary product including slum gum.

Included in this definition is any cavity which has contained bees. This includes but is not limited to: bird nesting boxes, buckets, tyres and cavities in construction waste (e.g.: in a wall).

Used honey containers are defined as being any receptacle that contains or has contained honey in consumer ready packaging.

It is accepted most used honey containers will be commercial retail packs, although some could be from hobby beekeepers or farmers markets, and may include non-conventional packaging.



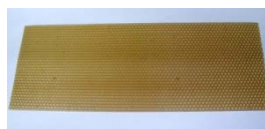
Hand operated Extractor (plastic or metal)



Motorised Extractor



Extractor Buckets



Beeswax Foundation



Frames



Split Frames



Box Frames



Storage tanks



Boxes



Gloves



Suits



Scraper



Hive Tool



Bee Brushes



Smoker



Strainer



Excluder Cleaner



Steel Excluder (also in plastic)



Honey comb



Pollen



Royal Jelly



Honey Containers



Bees Wax



Slumgum

Beehives in and on timber



Beehive inside timber



Beehive inside timber



Beehive inside timber



External Beehives



External Beehives



Entrance
External Beehives



REJECTED APICULTURE PRODUCT REGISTER

Certified Correct (signed)

Note: This original form is to be kept by the Resource Recovery Centre Supervisor at the ORRRC and a copy sent to the Manager Waste Services and Technical Support each time an apiculture product is rejected from the ORRRC.

No dumping of any honey bee equipment, products or remains at Orange City Council Waste Facilities

We apologise for the inconvenience of refusing beekeeping equipment or beekeeping products or waste containing evidence of bee colony remains at waste management facilities in the Orange City Council area.

Why can't beekeeping equipment and or products be disposed at Orange City Council tips?

This is being done to minimise the risk of spreading honey bee diseases, and in particular, American Foulbrood Disease (AFB) to bee colonies, feral or managed, in the flight range of these facilities.

What is American Foulbrood Disease (AFB) and why is it a concern?

AFB is caused by a spore forming bacteria that kills the young developing honey bees. The spores are consumed by the bee larvae via their food (honey and pollen). When many spores are fed to very young bee larva they become infected resulting in their death. With each larvae dying from AFB, a huge number of spores are being produced resulting in high spore levels and therefore high infection rates of the developing larvae within the hive. This results in the death of the hive as fewer young bees develop through to adults. A hive that has died out because of AFB can then be robbed by bees from other hives spreading the disease to other colonies.

Honey bee equipment and products can be infected with AFB spores which if honey bees have access to can potentially spread the disease to other colonies.

AFB is an expensive burden on the apiary industry through lost production, equipment and time in monitoring and eradicating the disease. The only legal way to deal with AFB in NSW is to burn, bury or irradiate infected hive material.

How can I get rid of my beekeeping equipment/products?

The type of beekeeping equipment/products will impact the disposal method chosen.

Burning

Beekeeping equipment and products, logs with cavities containing bee combs etc can be burnt in a pit to prevent any honey and wax flowing away and then cover with a minimum of 30 cm of soil to prevent any bee access to the material.

If burning **all fire restrictions must be followed** and permits obtained if required.

Deep burial

Deep burial is another option available for disposing of equipment.

Recycling

Metal beekeeping equipment can be recycled. These items should be cleaned and free of any honey or wax prior to delivery to scrap metal recyclers including galvanised drums, honey tins, queen excluders etc., to minimise the possible spread of AFB.

Other Waste Management facilities

Waste management facilities in other council areas may still accept bee equipment. You should ring and check prior to delivery. The risk of possible disease spread still needs to be considered. You should inform the tip of the nature of the goods and ask if it can be buried immediately on delivery.

Irradiation as an alternative

Irradiation is available if the equipment is still useable but you think there is an AFB risk involved. Equipment can be irradiated by Steritech (see web page <http://www.steritech.com.au/>) and then used with confidence that AFB has been killed.

Further Information

For further information, please contact:

Dr Doug Somerville
Technical Specialist Honeybees
NSW Department of Primary Industries
Email: doug.somerville@dpi.nsw.gov.au

Ph: 02 4828 6619
Mob: 0427 311 410

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Note: This original form is to be kept by the Resource Recovery Centre Supervisor at the ORRRC and a copy sent to the Manager Waste Services and Technical Support each time an apiculture product is found in the waste stream at the ORRRC.