



# APICULTURE

## NEW ZEALAND

### **Biosecurity & GIA Focus Group Meeting – Update 22 March 2018**

The ApiNZ Biosecurity & GIA Focus Group met in Wellington on 22 March 2018 to consider the next steps regarding an industry GIA (Government Industry Agreement).

The Focus Group discussed the survey results which show strong support from survey respondents for the apiculture industry to be a GIA signatory and for ApiNZ to represent the industry. They also discussed next steps, including communicating the results to all ApiNZ members and the broader industry, principally through the NZ Beekeeper Journal and ApiNZ website. The Group felt it was important to share the results and any relevant communications with industry, including questions and answers.

The Manager GIA Secretariat attended part of the meeting briefly, updating the Group on progress with the GIA, noting that it now has 18 members, and 16 signatories including MPI. With new signatories expected to sign in the short term, it is expected that around 90% of the primary sector will be represented by GIA. This reinforced the Focus Group's view that the apiculture industry needed to be part of the GIA, particularly with the cross over effect pollination brings to other sectors.

The Group talked about next steps now that the survey has been completed and agreed that the next step is to work on our application to the Minister of Agriculture to become a GIA signatory.

### **Import Health Standards**

The issue of honey imports from the Pacific Islands came up for discussion and it was agreed that we need to seek assurance from MPI that compliance with these standards is being monitored.