

Standards Focus Group October Meeting Summary

The Standards Focus Group met in October and covered a full agenda of key topics for our sector. These included:

- Potential solutions to honey adulteration concerns
- Discussion on the performance of the Manuka honey definition
- MPI's next steps in response to consultation on the domestic application of the Manuka honey definition
- Issues relating to market access, including: changes to Indonesia's OMAR, ongoing discussions with China on honey verification, changes post BREXIT, how MPI prioritises market access requirements
- PA reporting and plans for additional testing
- C4 Sugar testing and how future research might help address market access concerns
- ISO honey standards and how New Zealand can be best represented on this group.

Key actions from the meeting include

- Publish key MPI contact details in the NZ Beekeeper magazine to assist members with their enquires
- Establish a sub-committee to work with MPI on traceability
- ApiNZ to continue to work with MPI to progress key market access requirements
- ApiNZ to work with MPI to help establish sector priorities for future work

The next meeting is scheduled for early in the first quarter of 2019, with the date to be confirmed to coincide with some key work from MPI