

Biosecurity and GIA Focus Group meeting August 2022

Australian varroa incursion

ApiNZ met with their Australian counterparts last week about the varroa incursion over there and have offered our support and to run a webinar for their beekeepers.

MPI Biosecurity Surveillance

MPI gave an update on the surveillance project for small hive beetles. Small hive beetle traps have now been sent to the 100 beekeepers who have volunteered to participate in the trial. The project is proceeding well and MPI is considering expanding it at the end of the current trial.

Update on foot and mouth disease preparedness

MPI gave the group an update on preparedness for foot and mouth disease as the recent foot and mouth disease (FMD) outbreak in Indonesia has prompted increased interest in New Zealand's plan to keep FMD out. NZ is currently free from Foot and Mouth and has never had a case. The risk of a case remains low as NZ has a robust layered biosecurity system.

The requirements for passengers arriving in New Zealand from Indonesia have been tightened, and containers and mail arriving from Indonesia are now subject to tougher checks. MPI has also stopped allowing travellers to bring in personal consignments of any meat products from Indonesia.