



Victoria Government Gazette

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Livestock Disease Control Act 1994

Section 29(1)

ORDER DECLARING A CONTROL AREA IN RELATION TO VARROOSIS

I, Rosa Crnov, Chief Plant Health Officer, as delegate of the Minister for Agriculture, make the following Order under section 29 of the **Livestock Disease Control Act 1994**, having the suspicion that it is reasonably necessary to prevent, control or eradicate the exotic disease, Varroosis.

Part 1 – Preliminary

1. Objective

The objectives of this Order are –

- (a) to declare the area specified in this Order to be a control area to prevent, control and eradicate the exotic disease, Varroosis, in bees; and
- (b) to specify the prohibitions, restrictions and requirements that are to operate in the control area.

2. Citation

This Order may be referred to as the Varroosis Control Area Order 2024 (No. 01).

3. Authorising provision

This Order is made under section 29 of the **Livestock Disease Control Act 1994**.

4. Commencement and duration

This Order commences at 12.00 am on 19 January 2024 and has effect until 11.59 pm on 15 February 2024.

5. Definitions

In this Order –

affected livestock means the class of livestock specified in clause 7(1) of this Order;

affected livestock products, fodder and fittings means the class of livestock products, fodder and fittings specified in clause 7(2) of this Order;

control area means the area described in clause 8 of this Order;

destroy means all processes and actions to isolate, destroy and dispose of affected livestock or affected livestock products, fodder and fittings by an inspector to prevent, control and eradicate Varroosis from those beehives;

movement means any movement except movement within a premises;

permit means a permit issued by an inspector under section 30(2) of the Act;

pollen means any pollen used for feeding bees, other than pollen used for human consumption;

processed honey means any honey that has undergone extraction, filtering (to remove wax cappings and dead bees), decanting into clean containers and packaging in a facility which is inaccessible to bees;

processed wax means any wax that has undergone melting, filtering (to remove bees, brood, debris), rendering, packing into clean containers and packaging in a facility which is inaccessible to bees;

the Act means the **Livestock Disease Control Act 1994**.

SPECIAL

6. Effect on other Control Area Orders

This Order does not affect the operation of the Order made by the Minister for Agriculture, being the Minister responsible for the administration of the Act, titled ‘Declaring a Control Area for the Prevention, Control and Eradication of Varroosis in Bees’, published in Victoria Government Gazette S 262 on 25 May 2023.

7. Application of Order

- (1) This Order applies to the class of livestock of bees.
- (2) This Order applies to the following classes of livestock products, fodder and fittings –
 - (a) all livestock products produced by bees (excepting drone semen, processed honey, processed wax and propolis for human consumption);
 - (b) fodder in the form of pollen; and
 - (c) fittings that have been used in relation to bees or beekeeping.

8. Control area

The following area is declared to be a control area for the purpose of preventing, controlling or eradicating the exotic disease, Varroosis –

- (1) The **General Control Area**, as shown in blue on the control area map, is the area comprising the following regions of the State of Victoria: Loddon Mallee; Grampians; Barwon South West; Hume; Gippsland; and Melbourne.
- (2) The prohibitions, restrictions and requirements specified in Part 2 of this Order apply to the General Control Area.
- (3) In this clause, **control area map** means the map included in Schedule 1.

9. Interaction with other instruments

- (1) In the event of conflict between this Order and any Quarantine Notice(s) issued under section 110 of the Act in respect of any premises, place or vehicle in the control areas and for the purposes of preventing the spread of the exotic disease, Varroosis, the Quarantine Notice(s) prevails.

Part 2 – General Control Area – prohibitions, restrictions and requirements in relation to the General Control Area

10. Prohibitions on movement of affected livestock or affected livestock products, fodder and fittings

- (1) A person must not move or cause the movement of affected livestock, or affected livestock products, fodder and fittings into the General Control Area from any Australian State or Territory.
- (2) Subclause (1) does not apply to a person if they have been issued a permit and the movement of affected livestock, affected livestock products, fodder and fittings into the General Control Area is in accordance with the conditions of the permit.

11. Management of affected livestock

- (1) The owner of affected livestock in the General Control Area, on the direction of an inspector, must present the affected livestock to one of the following persons, for inspection, for samples to be taken, testing conducted or for any treatment considered necessary to control, eradicate or prevent the spread of Varroosis –
 - (a) an inspector; or
 - (b) a person nominated by an inspector in a direction given to the owner of the affected livestock.
- (2) An owner of affected livestock or affected livestock products, fodder and fittings in the General Control Area must, on the direction of an inspector, carry out any inspection, treatment, or any other action the inspector considers to be necessary to control, eradicate or prevent the spread of Varroosis from a hive.

- (3) An inspector may destroy, or order the destruction of, any affected livestock or affected livestock products, fodder and fittings in the General Control Area if an inspector reasonably suspects it poses a risk to the control, eradication or prevention of the spread of Varroosis.

12. Vehicles in contact with affected livestock, or affected livestock products, fodder and fittings

- (1) An owner or person in apparent control of any vehicle that has been in contact with affected livestock must, on the direction of an inspector, carry out or make the vehicle available for inspection, treatment, or any other action the inspector considers to be necessary to control, eradicate or prevent the spread of Varroosis.

Dated 17 January 2024

ROSA CRNOV
Chief Plant Health Officer

SCHEDULE 1



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