Ref: CTO 2014 119 [G] **Bee Products: Importing Bee Products**

CTO direction to biosecurity inspectors for the clearance of bee products.

Pursuant to section 27(1)(d)(iii) of the Biosecurity Act 1993 I, Marnie Thomas, Manager Animal Imports, Ministry for Primary Industries (under delegated authority), give the following directions for honey powder to be given clearance in accordance with the following measures, different from those in the applicable import health standard Specified Processed Bee Products:

The following information relates to the Chief Technical Officer Direction 2014 119 to Biosecurity inspectors for the clearance of bee products from all countries and replaces CTO Direction 2014 118.

Replaces Clause 2.6
The Import Health Standard for specified bee products from Australia was suspended in 2009. Bee product imports into New Zealand from all countries are regulated using this import health standard.

Replaces Clause 5.1
The following products require a permit to import:
5.1.1 Bulk untreated bee products not packaged in consumer-ready packaging and containing more than 2% honey, pollen, propolis or royal jelly for further processing at a suitable transitional facility
5.1.2 Medical preparations containing more than 50% honey by weight

Guidance: Samples of honey and other bee products imported for evaluation and subsequent destruction at transitional facilities fall under the import health standard for biological specimens, BIOPRODIC.ALL available at http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/imports/plants/standards/bioprodic.all.htm

Replaces Clause 6.3
It is the importer's responsibility to ensure that any documentation presented in accordance with the requirements of this import health standard is clearly legible. Failure to do so may result in delays in obtaining biosecurity direction and/or biosecurity clearance or rejection of consignments.

Replaces Clause 7.2
Refined beeswax may be given biosecurity clearance provided that the product is:
i. From Niue, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga or Tuvalu and accompanied by a Zoosanitary Certification issued by the veterinary authority of that country certifying that
   a) the beeswax comes from that country; and
   b) the country is free from European Foulbrood caused by *Melissococcus plutonius*.

Or

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ii. From any other country and accompanied by a manufacturer's declaration[1] that identifies the product and certifies that the beeswax has been heated to at least 60 degrees Celsius for 2 hours and clarified.

Guidance: The beeswax may be in blocks which are not commercially packaged but it must be clear to an Inspector that the Manufacturer's Declaration relates to the consignment of beeswax.

Replaces Clauses 7.3.2 ii

The product must be:

a) In manufactured packaging clearly indicating that the total amount of honey, bee pollen and/or royal jelly in personal consignments is no more than 2% of the total product weight; or
b) Accompanied by a manufacturer's declaration[1] certifying that the product contains no more than 2% honey; or
c) A personal consignment of nougat; or
d) Accompanied by a manufacturer's declaration[1] certifying that the product contains no more than 50% honey and that the bee product ingredient has undergone one of the indicated heat treatments[2]; or
e) Accompanied by a manufacturer's declaration[1] certifying that the bee product has been immersed in an ethanol solution of at least 40%; or
f) Accompanied by a permit to import; or
g) Honey powder in any proportion may be given clearance provided that the consignment is accompanied by a manufacturer's declaration[1] certifying that the honey powder has undergone one of the indicated heat treatments[2]

Replaces Clause 7.4.2 iii

The product must be:

a) Packaged in consumer-ready packages for direct retail sale; or
b) In manufactured packaging clearly indicating that the total amount of propolis in *personal consignments* is no more than 2% of the total product weight; or
c) Accompanied by a manufacturer's declaration[1] certifying that the product contains no more than 2% propolis; or
d) Accompanied by a manufacturer's declaration[1] certifying that the propolis has been extracted from or immersed in ethanol solutions of at least 40%; or
e) Accompanied by a manufacturer's declaration[1] certifying that the propolis has undergone one of the indicated heat treatments[2]; or
f) Accompanied by a permit to import.
    i. Bulk propolis for further processing must be directed to a bee-proof transitional facility under the standard MPI-STD-TFGEN, Annex F (General transitional facility for Uncleared Goods, applying to Clause 5.8 of the Standard for Transitional Facilities for Uncleared Goods (http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/files/regs/stds/bnz-std-tfgen.pdf). Bulk untreated propolis must be held in an insect proof area as detailed in the facility manual/quality system. The bulk propolis must be encapsulated at the transitional facility listed on the permit. The outer layer of those capsules must not contain any substance that is attractive to bees- including, but not limited to sugar, fruit, honey, pollen or royal jelly.

Replaces Clause 7.4.3 ii

The product must be:

a) Encapsulated (completely covered by an edible substance that does not contain sugar, fruit, honey, pollen or royal jelly, such as gelatin or wax) and packaged in consumer-ready packages for direct retail sale; or

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[1] A manufacturer's declaration is prepared by the manufacturer on letterhead paper, dated within the last 12 months and signed by the quality manager or equivalent.

[2] A treatment in which the core temperature of bee product has reached:

i) 65°C for a minimum of 8 hours; or
ii) 70°C for a minimum of 1 hour and 48 minutes; or
iii) 80°C for a minimum of 22 minutes; or
iv) 82°C for a minimum of 20 minutes; or
v) 90°C or more for a minimum of 5 minutes; or
vi) 130°C or more for a minimum of 1 second.

b) Accompanied by a manufacturer's declaration[3] stating that the product contains no more than 2% honey, pollen or royal jelly; or
c) In manufactured packaging clearly indicating that the total amount of honey, bee pollen and/or royal jelly in *personal consignments* is no more than 2% of the total product weight; or
d) Accompanied by a manufacturer's declaration[3] certifying that the bee product ingredient has undergone one of the indicated heat treatments[4]; or
e) Accompanied by a permit to import.

i. Bulk bee products for further processing must be directed to a bee-proof transitional facility under the standard MPI-STD-TFGEN, Annex F (General transitional facility for Uncleared Goods, applying to Clause 5.8 of the Standard for Transitional Facilities for Uncleared Goods (http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/files/regs/stds/bnz-std-tfgen.pdf). Bulk untreated bee products must be held in an insect proof area as detailed in the facility manual/quality system. The bulk product must be encapsulated at the transitional facility listed on the permit. The outer layer of those capsules must not contain any substance that is attractive to bees- including, but not limited to sugar, fruit, honey, pollen or royal jelly.

Replaces Clause 7.4.4 ii
The product must be:

a) Accompanied by a manufacturer's declaration[3] stating that the product contains no more than 2% honey, pollen or royal jelly; or
b) A personal consignment of commercially manufactured and packaged throat spray (limit twelve bottles per person); or
c) In manufactured packaging clearly indicating that the total amount of honey, bee pollen and/or royal jelly in *personal consignments* is no more than 2% of the total product weight; or
d) Accompanied by a manufacturer's declaration[3] certifying that the bee product ingredient has undergone one of the indicated heat treatments[4]; or
e) Accompanied by a manufacturer's declaration[3] specifying that the product contains no more than 50 percent liquid honey and that the bee product ingredient has undergone radiation treatment at a rate of at least 15 kGy. This includes products such as toothpaste, cosmetics and medical preparations that are topically applied. Products for human consumption such as cough syrup and throat lozenges may not be irradiated; or
f) Accompanied by a permit to import.

i. Bulk bee product ingredients for further processing must be directed to a bee-proof transitional facility under the standard MPI-STD-TFGEN, Annex F (General transitional facility for Uncleared Goods, applying to Clause 5.8 of the Standard for Transitional Facilities for Uncleared Goods (http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/files/regs/stds/bnz-std-tfgen.pdf). Bulk untreated bee products must be held in an insect proof area as detailed in the facility manual/quality system. The bulk product must be encapsulated at the transitional facility listed on the permit. The outer layer of those capsules must not contain any substance that is attractive to bees- including, but not limited to sugar, fruit, honey, pollen or royal jelly.

The nature of the non-compliance with the requirements in the applicable import health standard is that the previous CTOd specifies product must be no more than 50% honey but honey powder is imported on its own as a food ingredient for further processing.

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[3] A manufacturer's declaration is prepared by the manufacturer on letterhead paper, dated within the last 12 months and signed by the quality manager or equivalent.

[4] A treatment in which the core temperature of bee product has reached:

i) 65°C for a minimum of 8 hours; or
ii) 70°C for a minimum of 1 hour and 48 minutes; or
iii) 80°C for a minimum of 22 minutes; or
iv) 82°C for a minimum of 20 minutes; or
v) 90°C or more for a minimum of 5 minutes; or
vi) 130°C or more for a minimum of 1 second.

The reason for directing clearance is that the biosecurity risks associated with this CTO direction have been assessed and are managed effectively.

This direction takes effect from the date of signing and continues in effect until amended or revoked.