

## Assistance guide for beekeepers – Varroa mite

Last updated: 5 July 2022

NSW DPI is currently carrying out an emergency response to the recent detection of Varroa mite and is working with the NSW honeybee industry.

For the latest information on the Varroa Mite emergency, visit [www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/varroa](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/varroa)

This is a summary guide of various assistance available to impacted beekeepers to support them through the emergency response.

### Industry support

Assistance	Details	Contact
Exotic Plant Pest Hotline	(9am to 5pm, 7 days a week) to report a hive locations or Varroa Mite detection	<a href="http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/varroa">www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/varroa</a> 1800 084 881
Australian Honeybee Industry Council (AHBIC)	For industry support and information.	E: <a href="mailto:ahbic@honeybee.org.au">ahbic@honeybee.org.au</a> <a href="https://honeybee.org.au/">https://honeybee.org.au/</a>
NSW Apiarists' Association Inc	For industry support and information.	E: <a href="mailto:info@nswaa.com.au">info@nswaa.com.au</a> <a href="https://nswaa.com.au/">https://nswaa.com.au/</a>
Amateur Beekeepers Australia	Provides support, information, and resources for amateur beekeepers.	<a href="https://www.beekeepers.asn.au/">https://www.beekeepers.asn.au/</a>

## Advice and support

Assistance	Details	Contact
Rural Financial Counselling Service	<p>A free and impartial financial counselling service to help with financial planning and applying for assistance.</p> <p>Note: This service supports primary producers and small business.</p>	<p>Badar Masud Rural Financial Counsellor M: 0439 956 165 P: 1800 344 090 E: <a href="mailto:hunter@rfcsnr.org.au">hunter@rfcsnr.org.au</a> <a href="http://www.rfcsnr.org.au">www.rfcsnr.org.au</a></p>
Farm Household Allowance	<p>Farm household financial assistance. Note: Do not self-assess eligibility</p>	<p>Farmer Assistance Line P: 132 316 <a href="http://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/disaster">www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/disaster</a></p>
Office of the NSW Small Business Commissioner	<p>Small Biz Connect is a personalised and highly subsidised business advisory program for small businesses in NSW, including agribusinesses.</p>	<p>P: 1300 134 359 <a href="https://www.nsw.gov.au/topics/business-advice-and-support/about-business-connect">https://www.nsw.gov.au/topics/business-advice-and-support/about-business-connect</a></p>
Bank Support	<p>Major financial institutions may offer relief for their customers.</p>	<p>Contact your bank or financial institution to discuss how this current event may be impacting your business.</p>
Insurance	<p>Insurance Council of Australia can be contacted with any questions, complaints or concerns about insurance</p>	<p>P: 1800 734 621 <a href="https://insurancecouncil.com.au/consumers/help-in-disasters/">https://insurancecouncil.com.au/consumers/help-in-disasters/</a></p>

## Health and wellbeing

Assistance	Details	Contact
Emergency mental health support		Call 000
NSW Health	<p>Mental Health Line – NSW 24/7</p> <p>You can call this number if concerned for someone</p>	<p>P: 1800 011 511 <a href="https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/mentalhealth/Pages/default.aspx">https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/mentalhealth/Pages/default.aspx</a></p>
Rural Adversity Mental Health Program (RAMHP)	<p>RAMHP provides a range of information services to individuals, communities and service providers to link people to the help they need.</p> <p>All beekeepers can access this service</p>	<p>Matthew Milne RAMHP Coordinator, Maitland <a href="mailto:Matthew.Milne@health.nsw.gov.au">Matthew.Milne@health.nsw.gov.au</a> P: 0437 989 044 <a href="https://ramhp.com.au/">https://ramhp.com.au/</a></p>

Assistance	Details	Contact
Central Coast Local Health District - Mental health Disaster Recovery Team	Provides free specialist mental health support, assessment and referrals for individuals impacted by a disaster.	P: 02 43 202952  You will be put through to a team member for support
Mental health and wellbeing assistance	Lifeline	P: 13 11 14
	Beyond Blue	P: 1300 224 636
	Mensline	P: 1300 789 978
	Kids Helpline	P: 1800 551 800
Online resources	Head to Health	<a href="https://www.headtohealth.gov.au/">https://www.headtohealth.gov.au/</a>
	Beyond Blue	<a href="https://www.beyondblue.org.au/">https://www.beyondblue.org.au/</a>
	Podcast about disasters, trauma, and mental health.	<a href="https://www.crrmh.com.au/get-help-now/self-help-resources/podcasts/disasters-trauma-mental-health/">https://www.crrmh.com.au/get-help-now/self-help-resources/podcasts/disasters-trauma-mental-health/</a>

## Charity support

Assistance	Details	Contact
Rural Aid	Rural Aid is an active supporter of the honeybee industry. Commercial beekeepers may be eligible for assistance and a free, confidential counselling service	<a href="https://www.ruralaid.org.au/">https://www.ruralaid.org.au/</a> P: 1300 327 624  Mental health & wellbeing line- 1300 175 594 (Mon to Fri, 9-5)
The Salvation Army	Financial, material, emotional and spiritual support to communities.	P: 13 72 58  <a href="https://www.salvationarmy.org.au/need-help/disasters-and-emergencies/">https://www.salvationarmy.org.au/need-help/disasters-and-emergencies/</a>
St Vincent de Paul	Assistance with food & groceries, clothing, blankets & essentials. Bill assistance, interest free loans for household items & referral to other crisis providers.	P: 13 18 12  <a href="https://www.vinnies.org.au/findhelp/view/119">https://www.vinnies.org.au/findhelp/view/119</a>

the information upon which they rely is up to date and to check the currency of the information with the appropriate officer of the Department of Regional NSW or the user's independent adviser