

Impact Analysis Statement

Summary IAS

Details

Lead department	Department of Primary Industries
Name of the proposal	Amending the <i>Biosecurity Regulation 2016</i> to delist <i>Varroa destructor</i> as prohibited matter.
Submission type	Summary IAS
Title of related legislative or regulatory instrument	Biosecurity Regulation 2016
Date of issue	16 June 2025

For proposals noted in table below

No further analysis is required.

Proposal type	Details
Regulatory proposals where no RIA is required	<p><i>Varroa destructor</i>, a species of varroa mite affecting bees and impacting recreational and commercial beekeepers, is listed as 'Prohibited matter' under the <i>Biosecurity Act 2014</i>. It is an offence for persons to deal with prohibited matter.</p> <p>A key criterion for prohibited matter is that the biosecurity matter is not currently present or known to be present in the State. <i>Varroa destructor</i> has now been confirmed in the Lockyer Valley Regional, Somerset Regional, Quilpie Regional, North Burnett Regional and Brisbane City Council areas and is expected to spread into wild European honey bee populations. Therefore, it no longer meets the requirements of prohibited matter under the Biosecurity Act.</p> <p>Regulatory amendments are required to formally declare that <i>Varroa destructor</i> is not prohibited matter for the purpose of the Biosecurity Act. This will allow the movement of potential varroa mite carriers within Queensland, thus reducing the burden on beekeeping businesses and aligning with other infested jurisdictions.</p> <p>Given the rapid spread in New South Wales, its presence in Queensland, it is reasonable to amend the regulations to declare <i>V.destructor</i> no longer prohibited.</p> <p>Queensland will remain a varroa mite biosecurity zone. Under section 94EE of the <i>Biosecurity Regulation 2016</i>, the presence of varroa mite is notifiable.</p>



	<p>Relevant industry stakeholders were consulted over the course of the emergency delisting process.</p> <p>The proposal, to declare that <i>Varroa destructor</i> is not a prohibited matter, is deregulatory (removes regulation) and does not increase costs or regulatory burden on business or the community. This proposal is not subject to Regulatory Impact Analysis under the Better Regulation Policy.</p>
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*Refer to [The Queensland Government Better Regulation Policy](#) for regulatory proposals not requiring regulatory impact analysis (for example, public sector management, changes to existing criminal laws, taxation).

Signed

Rachel Chay

Acting Director-General

Department of Primary Industries

Date: 13/6/2025

Anthony Perrett MP

Minister for Primary Industries

Date: 15/06/2025