



UPDATE: 19 September 2023

Small hive beetle

INFORMATION FOR RETAILERS

Biosecurity Tasmania is investigating the confirmed detection of two small hive beetles (SHB). Both specimens were found as part of Biosecurity Tasmania's extensive monitoring program – this is an example of our world class biosecurity system working. Biosecurity Tasmania has taken swift and decisive action, working alongside beekeepers, industry and the community to undertake thousands of beehive and trap inspections. These detections do not mean that SHB is established in Tasmania.

As a precautionary measure to help protect Tasmania's bee population and both the honey and pollination sectors, Tasmania's Chief Plant Protection Officer declared a General Biosecurity Direction, which establishes a 5km Bee Movement Restriction Area (Restriction Area) around the detection site, and restricts the movement of bees, bee products and used beekeeping equipment within, into and out of the zone.

How do the restrictions impact me?

As a retailer, this means you cannot purchase bee products, including honey, from local producers inside the Restriction Area unless it complies with the conditions listed in the General Biosecurity Direction.

More information about the General Biosecurity Direction can be found at www.nre.tas.gov.au/biosecurity-tasmania/current-biosecurity-alerts. Any questions on this should be directed to Biosecurity Tasmania on 6165 3777.

Information on the moratorium

Biosecurity Tasmania has placed a moratorium on the opening of beehives, harvest of honey and honeycomb, and movement of bee products and beekeeping equipment for beekeepers that are in the 5km Bee Movement Restriction Area as declared in the General Biosecurity Direction. The moratorium will remain in place until Biosecurity Tasmania is confident there are no small hive beetles in the area.

All beekeepers within the Restriction Area are asked to avoid opening hives during this period. Use this interactive map to view the Restriction Area: [Bee Movement Restriction Area interactive map](#).

More information is available at www.nre.tas.gov.au/SHB

