



2016 Small Hive Beetle Management Strategy

**Animal Health and Welfare Branch
November 19, 2015**

Guiding Principles

Small Hive Beetle (SHB)

- Ontario's SHB status is evolving
- Anticipate SHB to spread
- SHB is a manageable pest

Management Strategy

- Must be achievable & implemented prior to the 2016 pollination season
- Requires a balanced and coordinated response from both OMAFRA & industry



Objectives

1. Minimize the impact of SHB to beekeepers
2. Mitigate the spread of SHB in Ontario
3. Minimize disruption of economic activity for beekeepers & growers who require pollination services



Management Strategy

Movement Plan



- **REQUIRED:** Beekeepers are required to submit a general movement plan for SHB-positive yards to OMAFRA
- May also be required for high-risk operations that are not SHB-positive
- Focus on strategic movement of colonies and risk mitigation



BMP – Documented Plan

- **REQUIRED:** Beekeepers are required to submit a BMP plan
 - Documenting strategies implemented to mitigate the impact of SHB at the operation level & to reduce the spread of SHB



Yard Registration

- **REQUIRED:** Beekeepers are required to register all yards or locations where bees are kept (excluding temporary pollination yards)
- Under the *Bees Act*, beekeepers are obligated to report SHB

Management Strategy



Pre-Movement Inspections

- OMAFRA may inspect SHB-positive yards prior to movement to a non SHB-positive site (e.g. domestic pollination) as needed based on risk
- Inspections may be random or based on elevated risk



Traceability & Biosecurity

- OMAFRA will work with industry to develop programs, education and extension
- Encourage adoption of CFIA biosecurity standard
- Better documentation for traceability purposes



Regulatory Response

- OMAFRA maintains the ability to enact regulatory actions under the *Bees Act* or *Animal Health Act* at any time for:
 - detainment,
 - treatment or
 - destruction of non-compliant or high risk hives/yards

OMAFRA's Next Steps

- Communicate SHB management plan to provincial governments, Canadian Food Inspection Agency & Ontario beekeepers
- Review the Essex County quarantine zone
- Continued collaboration with industry

