

[ **DEPARTMENT ORDER NO. 02, S. 2018, February 09, 2018** ]

**GUIDELINES ON THE IMPORTATION OF QUEEN AND ESCORT BEES**

*Adopted: 11 January 2018*  
*Date Filed: 09 February 2018*

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 292 (1987), Section 5, Act No. 3639 (Animal Quarantine Act of 1929), Presidential Decree No. 1433, also known as "Plant Quarantine Decree of 1978", and DA-Administrative Order no. 09 Series of 2010 and consistent with the Terrestrial Code of the Office International des Epizooties or World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), the following guidelines are hereby issued for strict compliance by all:

Chapter 1 -Preliminary Provision

**Section 1. Definition of terms and phrases** - For purposes of this Order, the terms and phrases hereunder listed shall be understood to mean, as follows:

1. ***Acarapis woodi*** - known as tracheal mites because they infest the tracheal system of bees
2. ***Accredited microbiologist*** - a person who has passed the examination given by the Philippine Academy of Microbiologist and has conducted and published papers on bee pathology
3. ***Aethina tumida*** - small hive beetle infesting populations of the honey bee - *Apis mellifera* and *Apis cerana* and bumble bee, *Bombus terrestris* colonies. It also infests tropical fruits.
4. ***Africanized honey bee*** - a hybrid strain of *Apis meliifera* introduced into Brazil in the mid - 1950 and distinguished by aggressive traits such as the tendency to mass swarm and sting with great frequency.
5. ***American foulbrood (AFB)*** - is disease of a larval and pupal stages of the honey bee *Apis meliifera* and other *Apis* spp., caused by the bacterium *Paenibacillus* larvae.
6. ***Animal*** - refers to vertebrate and invertebrate species whether domestic or wild (exotic or indigenous) animals which maybe food producing, companion, aquatic, laboratory including birds, worms, bees and butterflies. The term excludes human and no-mammalian aquatic species

7. **Apiary** - a bee yard, or a place where beehives are kept
8. **Apiculture** - the art and science of raising bees
9. **Approved** - means officially approved, accredited or registered by the Bureau of Animal Industry
10. **Backyard / hobbyist beekeeper** - one who keeps bees for pleasure or below 200 colonies occasional income
11. **Bumble bee** - any member of the bee genus *Bombus*, in the family Apidae
12. **Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI)** - by virtue of Act 3639, BAI was created as the country's competent authority to investigate, study, and report the cause of dangerous communicable animal diseases and the means and prevention, and in general to promote the development in the livestock industry. It is also tasked to determine the disease status of livestock of the exporting country.
13. **Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI)** -specifically National Plant Quarantine Services Division (NPQSD), by virtue of Presidential Decree No. 1433, promulgating the Plant Quarantine Law of 1978, thereby revising and consolidating existing plant quarantine laws to further improve and strengthen the Plant Quarantine Service of the Bureau of Pant Industry.
14. **Bee pathologist/ microbiologist** - refers to a licensed pathologist/ microbiologist concerned with diagnosis of bee diseases and identification of causal pathogens
15. **Beekeeper** - a person who keeps bees
16. **Brood** - refers to the embryo or egg, larva, and the pupa of the bees present in the comb
17. **Carrier** - includes any sort or craft or other artificial contrivance used, capable of being used has means of transportation in land, water or air
18. **Chalk brood** - a fungal disease of bees caused by *Ascosphaera* spp.
19. **Colony** - an aggregate of several thousand worker bees, drones and a queen bee living together in a hive or in any other dwelling as one social unit
20. **Comb** - is the beeswax structure of the cells where the queen bee lays eggs and the workers deposit honey and pollen. It is part of the beehive where a new brood is raised by the colony.
21. **Colony Collapsed Disorder (CCD)** - a recently described multi-factored phenomenon leading to global extensive losses of bee colonies
22. **Commercial beekeeper** - one who operates sufficiently large number of colonies (at least 200 colonies of *Apis mellifera*) so that his entire time is

devoted to beekeeping

23. **Competent authority** - the BAI is the agency mandated by law, having responsibility and competence for ensuring and supervising the implementation of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) measures or other standard codes.
24. **Disease** - means the clinical and/or pathological manifestation of infections such as American Foul Brood, European Foul Brood and Chalk Brood
25. **Disinfection** - a process of cleansing beekeeping tools and associated equipment and facility to destroy infectious and parasitic agents of bee diseases either with the use of chemicals or irradiation
26. **Entomologist** - a person specializing in the study of insects and their relatives
27. **Escort bees** - bees that accompanies the queen bee in the cage, nurse bee
28. **European foul brood** - a disease of the larval and pupal stages of the honey bee *Apis mellifera* and other *Apis* spp. caused by the non-sporulating bacterium *Mellisococcus pluton*
29. **Hive** - a man-constructed home for bees
30. **Mites** - are parasites of larvae, pupae, and adult bees
31. **Nucleus Colony** - or nuc, is essentially a smaller hive, sometimes in a smaller box, consisting of bees in all stages of development, as well as food, a laying queen and enough workers to cover from three to five combs.
32. **National Veterinary Quarantine Services Division (NVQSD)** - is a division of BAI mandated to prevent and control the entry of dangerous and communicable animal diseases into the country, and govern the transport/shipment of animals, animal products/ by-products, meat and meat products/ by-products, and all other products of animal origin for agricultural or industrial use.
33. **Nosema** - is an adult honey bee disease caused by microsporidian, single-celled protozoan *Nosema* spp. Spores develop exclusively within the epithelial cells of the ventricular of the adult honey bee. It affects thousands of colonies, resulting to less production of honey.
34. **Office International des Epizooties/ World Organization for Animal Health (OIE)** - is the intergovernmental organization responsible for improving animal health worldwide. It is recognized as a reference organization by the World Trade Organization (WTO) and for the year 2017 had a total of 181 Member Countries, including the Philippines.
35. **Potential pest** - shall compromise certain species of animal that are liable to become agricultural crop pest such as insects, monkeys, rodents, bats, finches, rabbits, snails and other forms of animal life capable of causing