

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE HORTICULTURE DIVISION

New Apiary Registration Period.

The Apiaries Act, 1947, and regulations thereunder were designed to enable the maximum of protection and service to be applied to the beekeeping industry for the economic production of honey and beeswax. Section 5 of the Act deals with the registration of apiaries and requires that no person shall keep bees except in an apiary registered under the Act.

Under the provisions of the Apiary Registration Regulations, 1937, I wish to advise all beekeepers in New Zealand that the currency of the certificates of registration at present on issue, expire on 31st October, 1947, after which every person using any place as an apiary must forthwith apply for fresh registration.

An endeavour will be made to post to all registered beekeepers sufficient application forms for the above purpose. In any case where these are not received, the necessary forms may be obtained from the Director, Horticulture Division, or from any district office or Apiary Instructor of the Department of Agriculture.

When filling in the application form the following points should be noted.

1. Applicant's christian names must be stated in full.
2. The following details are required:
 - (a) Name of owner or occupier of property on which apiary is located.
 - (b) Name of street or road, including number of property if available.
 - (c) Name of locality (town or borough).
3. Where an apiary is owned by one or more persons it should be registered in their joint names, and the application card signed by each applicant.
4. The cards are addressed and may be posted loose without stamps at any post office.

This compulsory registration provides the Apiary Instructor with a complete list of the beekeepers in his district, which is required to help in carrying out inspectional and instruction work.

When a change takes place in the ownership or possession of an apiary in respect of which a certificate of registration has been issued, or where an apiary is closed for any reason, the Director of the Horticulture Division should be notified and the registration certificate returned immediately for cancellation.

The attention of all beekeepers is drawn to regulation 6 (2) of the Apiary Registration Regulations, 1937, which makes it incumbent upon all beekeepers to *notify the Director in December each year of any increase or decrease made in the number of hives kept at each apiary*. This information is essential for maintaining the official register of beekeepers up-to-date, and for the efficient servicing of the beekeeping industry.

The aim of the Department of Agriculture is to make every beekeeper competent to handle the everyday problems with which he is confronted.

The Apiaries Act provides the authority for dealing with the many important matters, and enables the Government to employ experienced officers to undertake any necessary enforcement. It is obvious, however, that the administration cannot hope to cope successfully with the immense amount of work involved without the reasonable co-operation of all owners of bees. The prompt attention of beekeepers to the matter of re-registering their apiaries at the appointed time is essential.

W. K. DALLAS,

Director of the Horticulture Division.