Good morning all

Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding to the multiple enquiries you have raised in relation to this matter. We have been awaiting confirmation of the requirements of the Border restrictions Direction (no.8) https://www.health.qld.gov.au/system-governance/legislation/cho-public-health-directions-under-expanded-public-health-act-powers/border-restrictions/july10, which commences and 12 noon today (10/07/2020), prior to providing a response. I will try and address the enquiries that have been raised in the multiple emails in this single response.

Please note that we can only provide advice relating to the movement of freight drivers returning to Queensland. You will need to seek advice from NSW and VIC with respect to any requirements associated with entry to these states.

Under the Border restriction Direction (No.8), there are no longer specific requirements for agribusiness and commercial fishing employees. From 12 noon on Friday 10 July the Queensland border is now open and entry restrictions are limited to those who have been to a COVID-19 hotspot, had contact with a confirmed case, are a cleared case or have symptoms consistent with COVID-19.

Despite this easing of restrictions, please note that every person entering or proposing to enter Queensland must provide a valid Queensland Border Declaration Pass – this includes freight drivers – this is a change for previous requirements.


The two snips below show the likely responses to the questions that will be asked.

* In the last 14 days have you been in a COVID-19 hotspot (currently the entire state of Victorian)?
  - Yes
  - No

* Please select your situation
  - Queensland is your usual place or residence
  - You are moving to Queensland to make it your usual place of residence
  - Entering Queensland to comply with or give effect to a Court or Tribunal Order
  - Entering Queensland to fulfill shared parenting arrangements
  - Entering Queensland to participate in or assist with State or Commonwealth law enforcement investigation
  - To perform an essential activity
    - Entering Queensland via air to transfer directly to another flight to directly leave Queensland
    - Your sole purpose for being in a COVID-19 hotspot was to transit through an airport
    - You are a student at a boarding school or higher education institution entering to Queensland to receive instruction, or a parent or guardian accompanying a student who is a minor
    - Enter Queensland to avoid serious injury or escaping an immediate risk of serious harm
    - None of the above
Please note that these Queensland Border Declaration Passes are only valid for 7 days. A new pass will need to be applied for every 7 days or if a person’s circumstances change. Please note that paper application forms are available at Queensland border entry points if drivers are unable to access online application forms.

As the almond pollination activities will require the persons transporting the beehives to travel to a COVID-19 hotspot, the following requirements of the Border restrictions Direction (no.8) should be noted:

Any person, who is transporting freight to, from or through Queensland under a commercial freight operation and any other person in the vehicle who is essential for the delivery of the freight, must as far as practicable, remain isolated from the general public in their vehicle or accommodation until the person departs Queensland or for 14 days, whichever period is shorter. When the drivers re-enter Queensland after travelling to a hotspot, they must:

1. keep and retain written records of close contacts for a 14-day period commencing on their date of arrival in Queensland, or, if they remain in Queensland for a period of less than 14 days, for that period; and
2. provide the records to an emergency officer (public health) if directed by an emergency officer (public health) or to a contact tracing officer; and
3. minimise contact with the community for a period of 14 days; and
4. to the extent reasonably practicable, practice physical distancing including by remaining at least 1.5 metres from other people.

For the purpose of the requirements above, a person is a close contact of another person if they are in the company of the other person: within an enclosed space for a period of 2 hours or longer; or within 1.5 metres of the other person for a period of 15 minutes or longer; and the records that are required to be kept are the name and phone number and email address of the close contact and the day, time and location at which the close contact occurred; or if the name and phone number or email address are not known or it is not reasonably practicable to obtain them, the day, time and location at which the close contact occurred.
I trust that this information is of assistance, please note that Queensland Border restrictions are subject to change at short notice. You are recommended to monitor the Queensland Government Border restrictions website for updates: https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/current-status/public-health-directions/border-restrictions.

Should you have any further enquiries please do not hesitate to contact the Queensland Health Covid-19 Compliance team.

Kind regards

Heidi

Queensland Health acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land, and pays respect to Elders past, present and future.