WOAH Reference Laboratory Reports Activities 2023
Activities in 2023
This report has been submitted: 11 juin 2024 13:46

Laboratory Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of disease (or topic) for which you are a designated WOAH Reference Laboratory:</th>
<th>Varroosis of honey bees (infestation of honey bees with Varroa spp.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address of laboratory:</td>
<td>66 Ward Street, Wallaceville, Upper Hutt 5018, NEW ZEALAND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tel:</td>
<td>+6448945600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail address:</td>
<td><a href="mailto:richard.hall@mpi.govt.nz">richard.hall@mpi.govt.nz</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website:</td>
<td><a href="https://www.mpi.govt.nz/science/laboratories/national-animal-health-laboratory/">https://www.mpi.govt.nz/science/laboratories/national-animal-health-laboratory/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name (including Title) of Head of Laboratory (Responsible Official):</td>
<td>Dr Joseph O'Keefe, Animal Health Laboratory Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name (including Title and Position) of WOAH Reference Expert:</td>
<td>Dr Richard Hall, Principal Scientist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which of the following defines your laboratory? Check all that apply:</td>
<td>Governmental</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOR1: DIAGNOSTIC METHODS

1. Did your laboratory perform diagnostic tests for the specified disease/topic for purposes such as disease diagnosis, screening of animals for export, surveillance, etc.? (Not for quality control, proficiency testing or staff training)
   No

TOR2: REFERENCE MATERIAL

2. Did your laboratory produce or supply imported standard reference reagents officially recognised by WOAH?
   No
3. Did your laboratory supply standard reference reagents (nonWOAH-approved) and/or other diagnostic reagents to WOAH Members?
   No
4. Did your laboratory produce vaccines?
   Not applicable
5. Did your laboratory supply vaccines to WOAH Members?
   Not applicable

TOR3: NEW PROCEDURES

6. Did your laboratory develop new diagnostic methods for the designated pathogen or disease?
   No
7. Did your laboratory validate diagnostic methods according to WOAH Standards for the designated pathogen or disease?
   No
8. Did your laboratory develop new vaccines for the designated pathogen or disease?
   No
9. Did your laboratory validate vaccines according to WOAH Standards for the designated pathogen or disease?

No

**TOR4: DIAGNOSTIC TESTING FACILITIES**

10. Did your laboratory carry out diagnostic testing for other WOAH Members?

No

11. Did your laboratory provide expert advice in technical consultancies on the request of an WOAH Member?

Yes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME OF THE WOAH MEMBER COUNTRY RECEIVING A TECHNICAL CONSULTANCY</th>
<th>PURPOSE</th>
<th>HOW THE ADVICE WAS PROVIDED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NEW CALEDONIA</td>
<td>Advice in regard to longitudinal study of honey bee health</td>
<td>Email; phone calls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHINESE TAIPEI</td>
<td>Advice in regard to varroa detection methods</td>
<td>Email; online meeting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOR5: COLLABORATIVE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL STUDIES**

12. Did your laboratory participate in international scientific studies in collaboration with WOAH Members other than the own?

Yes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of the study</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>PURPOSE OF THE STUDY</th>
<th>PARTNERS (INSTITUTIONS)</th>
<th>WOAH MEMBER COUNTRIES INVOLVED OTHER THAN YOUR COUNTRY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>eDNA detection of Varroa destructor in honey bee colonies</td>
<td>6 months</td>
<td>To trial an eDNA method for the detection of Varroa destructor in honey bee colonies, for possible use in early detection activities</td>
<td>CSIRO, University of Canberra, Agriculture Victoria, James Cook University</td>
<td>AUSTRALIA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

13. In exercising your activities, have you identified any regulatory research needs* relevant for WOAH?

No

**TOR6: EPIZOOLOGICAL DATA**

14. Did your Laboratory collect epidemiological data relevant to international disease control?

No

15. Did your laboratory disseminate epidemiological data that had been processed and analysed?

No

16. What method of dissemination of information is most often used by your laboratory? (Indicate in the appropriate box the number by category and list the details in the box)

a) Articles published in peer-reviewed journals:

1


b) International conferences:

0

c) National conferences:

1

d) Other (Provide website address or link to appropriate information):

3


**TOR7: SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL TRAINING**

17. Did your laboratory provide scientific and technical training to laboratory personnel from other WOAH Members?
Yes
a) Technical visits: 4
b) Seminars: 0
c) Hands-on training courses: 0
d) Internships (>1 month): 0

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of technical training provided (a, b, c or d)</th>
<th>Country of origin of the expert(s) provided with training</th>
<th>No. participants from the corresponding country</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>FIJI</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>AUSTRALIA</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>AUSTRALIA</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>CANADA</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOR8: QUALITY ASSURANCE**

18. Does your laboratory have a Quality Management System?
Yes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quality management system adopted</th>
<th>Certificate scan (PDF, JPG, PNG format)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ISO/IEC 17025 General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories</td>
<td>Schedule to CERTIFICATE OF ACCREDITATION: for conformance to ISO/IEC 17025 General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration  Certificate of Accreditation AHL Current.pdf</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

19. Is your quality management system accredited?
Yes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test for which your laboratory is accredited</th>
<th>Accreditation body</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parasitology 1.02 Diagnostic Tests, Veterinary (c) Parasitology</td>
<td>International Accreditation New Zealand (IANZ) <a href="https://www.ianz.govt.nz/">https://www.ianz.govt.nz/</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

20. Does your laboratory maintain a “biorisk management system” for the pathogen and the disease concerned?
Yes

Our laboratory has permission under Section 52 and 53 of the Biosecurity Act 1993 (New Zealand) to communicate, and propagate unwanted organisms. Varroa spp. are officially listed as unwanted organisms in New Zealand, and our processes and procedures for handling varroa are in adherence with the s52/s3 permission. Our laboratory operates under, and is audited to the Australia/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 2243.3:2002 Safety in Laboratories. Part 3: Microbiological Aspects and Containment Facilities.

**TOR9: SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS**

21. Did your laboratory organise scientific meetings related to the pathogen in question on behalf of WOAH?
No

22. Did your laboratory participate in scientific meetings related to the pathogen in question on behalf of WOAH?
No
TOR10: NETWORK WITH WOAH REFERENCE LABORATORIES

23. Did your laboratory exchange information with other WOAH Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen or disease? Yes

24. Do you network (collaborate or share information) with other WOAH Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen? Yes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NETWORK/DISEASE</th>
<th>ROLE OF YOUR LABORATORY (PARTICIPANT, ORGANISER, ETC)</th>
<th>NO. PARTICIPANTS</th>
<th>PARTICIPATING WOAH REF. LABS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Varroosis (infestation of honey bees with Varroa spp.)</td>
<td>Participant; discussion with experts from the other WOAH Reference Laboratories for Varroosis (infestation of honey bees with Varroa spp.) on 18 December 2023</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>WOAH Reference Laboratories for Varroosis at: ANSES (French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health &amp; Safety) ALSO, National Reference Laboratory for Bee Diseases, Friedrich-Loeffer-Institut, Germany.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

25. Did you organise or participate in inter-laboratory proficiency tests with WOAH Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen? No

26. Did your laboratory collaborate with other WOAH Reference Laboratories for the same disease on scientific research projects for the diagnosis or control of the pathogen of interest? No

TOR11: OTHER INTERLABORATORY PROFICIENCY TESTING

27. Did your laboratory organise or participate in inter-laboratory proficiency tests with laboratories other than WOAH Reference Laboratories for the same pathogen? No

TOR12: EXPERT CONSULTANTS

28. Did your laboratory place expert consultants at the disposal of WOAH? No

29. Additional comments regarding your report: Yes

Our WOAH Reference Laboratory designation was made in June 2023.