

Bees - How many can I have at my property?

The number of bee hives (excluding native bees) you can have is dependent on the size of your property and is regulated by council's local law. Beehives in residential backyards must be managed to ensure bees don't become a nuisance to neighbours.

If you are seeking an approval for an additional animal, please talk to a Council Officer in the first instance, before lodging any application. Council is reviewing it's keeping of animal provisions in its local laws (rules for keeping animals).

If you are keeping bees, you must register as a biosecurity entity with Biosecurity Queensland. When you're registered as a biosecurity entity, you'll receive a unique Hive Identification Number (HIN) to mark your hives.

Don't know the size of your property or want to know more about getting a permit for additional animals? Contact council on 07 3205 0555 for assistance.

For information on other animal types please visit www.moretonbay.qld.gov.au

For more information on hive registration and hive marking, and beekeeping in Queensland please visit www.business.qld.gov.au/industries/farms-fishing-forestry/agriculture/niche-industries/beekeeping

Bees excluding native bees		
Property size	How many bee hives can I have?	
	As of right	With approval by Council
Properties of 599m ² or less	0	0
Properties of 600m ² or greater, up to 800m ²	0	1
Properties of 801m ² or greater, up to 2,000m ²	2	No Additional
Properties of 2,001m ² or greater	10	No Additional

Primary Producers

Prohibitions and the requirement for an approval for the keeping of animals do not apply to animals maintained or kept for the purpose of primary production.

Primary producer

(a) means a person primarily engaged in the occupation of a —

(i) dairy farmer; or

(ii) wheat, maize or cereal grower; or

(iii) cane grower; or

(iv) fruit grower; or

(v) grazier; or

(vi) farmer, whether engaged in general or mixed farming, cotton, potato, or vegetable growing, or poultry or pig raising; and

(b) includes a person engaged in primary production.

Minimum standards for keeping animals

Animals must be kept in accordance with the requirements of any code of practice approved by resolution of the local government.

If you own or keep 1 or more beehives, you must comply with the requirements of the *Biosecurity Act 2014* including identification and movement records and be registered with Biosecurity Queensland as a biosecurity entity:

When you register as a biosecurity entity, you'll receive a unique Property identification code (PIC) for stock, birds/poultry or a unique Hive identification number (HIN) to mark your beehives.

Minimum standards for keeping particular animals

The minimum standards for keeping particular animals are identified in the table below:

Species or breed of animal	Minimum standards for keeping particular animals
Bees excluding native bees	Bees must be kept in a manner so as not to create a nuisance to any person on an adjoining property; and The owner must ensure that bees are kept in accordance with the Code of Practice for urban bee keeping in Queensland and the <i>Apiaries Act 1982</i> .