

(3) You must inform us immediately, but no later than 24 hours after detection, if restricted organisms escape from the facility

(d) *Release from containment apiary or facility.* (1) After rearing the restricted organisms in an approved containment facility or apiary through at least 4 months of active reproduction with no evidence of nonindigenous parasites or pathogens or of undesirable characteristics, you may submit a request to us for the release of the bees. The request must include:

- (i) Inspection protocols;
- (ii) Inspection frequencies;
- (iii) Names and titles of inspectors;
- (iv) Complete information, including laboratory reports, on detection of diseases and parasites in the population;
- (v) Complete notes and observations on behavior, such as aggressiveness and swarming; and
- (vi) Any other information or data relating to bee diseases, parasites, or adverse species or subspecies.

(2) Mail your request for release to the Permit Unit, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 133, Riverdale, MD 20737-1236, or fax to (301) 734-8700.

(3) When we receive a complete request for release from containment, we will evaluate the request and determine whether the bees may be released. Our evaluation may include an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act. We may conduct an additional inspection of the bees during our evaluation of the request. You will receive a written statement as soon as circumstances allow that approves or denies your request for release of the bees.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 0579-0207)

Subpart D—Transit of Restricted Organisms Through the United States

§ 322.22 General requirements.

(a) You may transit restricted organisms from any region through the United States to another region only in accordance with this part. For a list of restricted organisms, see § 322.13(a).

(b) You may ship restricted organisms only aboard aircraft to the United States for transit to another country.

(c) You may transload a shipment of restricted organisms only once during the shipment's entire transit through the United States and only at an airport in the continental United States. You may not transload restricted organisms in Hawaii. In Hawaii, the restricted organisms must remain on, and depart for another destination aboard, the same aircraft on which the shipment arrived at the Hawaiian airport.

§ 322.23 Documentation.

Each shipment of restricted organisms transiting the United States must be accompanied by a document issued by the appropriate regulatory authority of the national government of the region of origin stating that the shipment has been inspected and determined to meet the packaging requirements in § 322.24.

§ 322.24 Packaging of transit shipments.

(a) Restricted organisms transiting the United States must be packaged in securely closed and completely enclosed containers that prevent the escape of organisms and the leakage of any contained materials. The container must be sufficiently strong and durable to prevent it from rupturing or breaking during shipment.

(b) In addition to the requirements in paragraph (a) of this section, each pallet of cages containing honeybees transiting the United States must be covered by an escape-proof net that is secured to the pallet so that no honeybees can escape from underneath the net.

(c) The outside of the package must be clearly marked with the contents of the transit shipment, *i.e.*, either "Live Bees," "Bee Germ Plasm," or "Live Bee Brood," and the name of the exporting region.

§ 322.25 Notice of arrival.

At least 2 business days prior to the expected date of arrival of restricted organisms at a port in the continental United States for in-transit movement,