



6 July 2022

Dear Neighbour

Re. Notification of the presence of bees and compatible farming practices to protect honey bees

As you may already know, thousands of honey bee hives are delivered to pollinate almond orchards across Australia every year.

Honey bees are an essential part of almond production as they transfer pollen between different almond varieties to cross-fertilise flowers and set nuts. Depending on the season, property location, variety, management practice etc. the pollination period can start late July and extend into September.

Honey bees are very sensitive to pesticides and for this reason, we modify, or discontinue our usual spray programs (mid-July to mid-September) to protect bees during their short stay in our orchard.

As you are a valued neighbour, we are letting you know how the honey bees may affect you.

Firstly, bees could fly to your property in the search of extra food or water for their hives. This is more likely to occur in the afternoons when pollen and nectar have already been collected from the viable almond flowers. We trust the bees will not be a nuisance however if they are causing concern, please ring me _____(mobile).

Secondly, bees in almond orchards may be affected by the sprays used on your property especially when spray drift and/ or inversion layers occur. We ask if you can help us by reviewing your spray programs and farming schedules and consider potential risks to bees during the pollination season.

I am more than happy to answer any questions you might have on this and to provide suggestions and recommendations on alternative bee-friendly sprays, application methods, and timing.

I will follow up with a reminder on the above just before the first bees arrive on farm in July. In the meantime if you have any questions please contact me on _____(mobile).

We look forward to hearing from you and working with you to keep all bees safe, healthy and active this pollination season.

Regards