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HEALTH & CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Directorate D – Animal Health and Welfare
Director

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To:	CVOs of all MS, Iceland, Norway, and Switzerland + Permanent Representation of all MS, Iceland, Norway, and Switzerland	Fax:	Preset
From:	Bernard Van Goethem	Telephone:	(+32-2)295 3144
Number of pages:	1		
Subject:	Update concerning the detection of the small hive beetle (<i>Aethina tumida</i>) in the State of Hawaii, USA		

Message

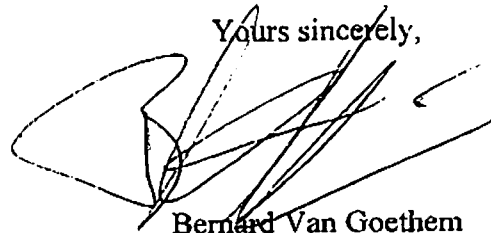
Further to our previous fax sent on 06/05/2010, the United States Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) have sent us additional information concerning the detection of small hive beetle (*Aethina tumida*) in the State of Hawaii.

To date, the infestation of small hive beetle (SHB) is limited to three beekeepers and a swarm trap in five locations on the island of Hawaii. Broader surveys conducted with other beekeepers on the East side of Hawaii have all proven negative. The affected locations are at least 100 km from most hives belonging to the three major queen breeders: Kona Queens, Hawaiian Queen and Big Island Queens.

In March 2010, Hawaiian State officials inspected 10% of the hives and found no evidence of SHB in all apiaries inspected. On 4 May 2010, State officials inspected 10% of the hives at 3 locations for Kona Queens through visual inspection and by following the National Honey Bee Pest and Diseases protocol and found no evidence of SHB. On 6 May 2010, State officials inspected 7 additional apiaries on the western part of Hawaii and no SHB was detected. State officials also established a bait trap in all seven locations using wax, pollen packs, rotting fruit and apple cider as attractants. Visual inspection of rotting fruit in the area was conducted with no evidence of small hive beetle to date. Surveys will continue over the coming days on the island of Hawaii.

We are in regular contact with APHIS and will provide additional information as it becomes available. We intend to raise this issue at the Pesticides SCFAH on Tuesday 11 May and again at the SCFAH planned for 1-2 June.

Yours sincerely,



Bernard Van Goethem

cc: L. Terzi, E. Poudelet, M. Scannell, E. Strickland, P. van Geldorp, G. Marechal, P. Bernorio

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