

RIVERSIDE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

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New Changes to Apiary Laws

Effective January 1, 2019 AB2468 enacted legislation for apiary registration as follows:

California Food and Agricultural Code Section 29070

(a) Any person relocating a colony of bees from a registered apiary in one county to another county, where the apiary is not registered for the current calendar year, shall notify the destination commissioner within 72 hours of the first movement. The notification shall include all of the following:

(1) The name and address of the apiary operator or his or her designated representative.

(2) A telephone number where the apiary operator or his or her designated representative may be reached.

(b) The apiary operator or his or her designated representative shall provide locations of each colony upon request by the commissioner of any county.

(c) Subsequent movement into the destination county shall not require further notification to the commissioner if, when the apiary operator removes the last colony from the county, he or she notifies the commissioner of that final movement within 72 hours.

California Food and Agricultural Code Section 29070.5

Any apiary operator or his or her designated representative relocating a colony of bees within a county where the apiary is currently registered shall notify the commissioner of the movement.

California Food and Agricultural Code Section 29313

Effective January 1, 2020, AB 2468 provides the county agricultural commissioner the authority to impose an administrative civil penalty for violations of certain requirements pertaining to registration and identification of apiaries and relocation of bee colonies.

Please contact our office if you have any questions regarding the new legislation.

Ruben J. Arroyo

Riverside County Agricultural Commissioner / Sealer of Weights and Measures