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23rd March 2010

To whom this may concern

Re:- Regional Forest Assessment- South Western Cypress State Forests.

My family has been operating our apiaries in the Western Riverina of New South Wales, for approx the last 50 years.

At the moment, our bee sites are within State Forests areas. We use these areas on a yearly basis for a variety of honey and pollens for our bees. Some of these unique honeys come from Grey Box, Mugga Iron Bark, Yellow Box, Green Mallee and Hill Gum. These eucalyptus trees are established within the Cypress Forests.

These varieties are close to the growing almond industry. In the later months of July, our bees pollinate almond trees, for a mere three weeks.

To maintain strong healthy hives, we require an array of eucalyptus and wattle undergrowth to maintain strong healthy bees.

In early to mid August, we relocate our bees from the almonds, to Cypress Forests locations. To pollinate canola for nearby farmers. The Cypress Forests provide a warm environment, to shelter our bees from the cold, south westly winds.

The main locations our bee sites are located as follows Ardlethan, Berry Jerry, Blow Clear, Buddigower, Currawananna, Hiawatha, Little Blow Clear and Wyrra.

Many thanks for your consideration, support and understanding of our industry.

Yours sincerely

*Laurie J Kershaw*

Laurie J Kershaw  
Partner